

Dr. Phil Andrews
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Dear ORU Review Committee,

As the Project Director for the National Institute for Computational Sciences (NICS), I am happy to have this opportunity to give my enthusiastic endorsement to the proposal for continued funding for the Center for Information Technology Research (CITR) that you are now considering. Among the handful of university partnerships in nation who are able to compete for the kind of next generation computing facilities that the NSF has chosen NICS to build, few, if any, have the kind of asset that Jack Dongarra and his exemplary research organization represent. The software that his group creates provides the essential foundation for much of the large scale modeling and simulation that is now at the core of leading edge scientific research. Consequently, his participation in and support for the work of NICS gives us a kind of credibility that other groups long to possess.

Though remarkable research is already underway at NICS, we are still early in process of making our partnership grow into the kind of research powerhouse that it is capable of becoming. Because of the presence of NICS in East Tennessee, our future in the burgeoning field of high performance computing is rich in potential; but our ability to exploit that potential depends critically on the robust health of the CITR and all the talented human resources that Prof. Dongarra and his organization bring to our cause. It is easy, therefore, for me to recommend continuing support for CITR in 2009 in the strongest possible terms.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Phil Andrews". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Sincerely," text.