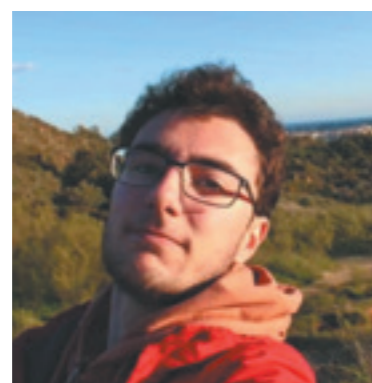


FUTURE TALENT PROGRAMME FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



Photos
Left; Ilaria Bortolotti, Università di Roma La Sapienza/GARR, Italy

Middle; Jorge Mendes, UTAD, Universidade de Trás os Montes e Alto Douro/FCT/FCCN, Portugal



Bottom; Melchor Alejo Garau Madrigal, University of Málaga/RedIRIS, Spain

TNC18 Welcomes a New Generation of IT Students

What better event than TNC to introduce future innovators to our community? This year GÉANT's Future Talent Programme (FTP) continues, in close collaboration with NRENs, to enable IT students to take centre stage at TNC18. 15 bright IT students were nominated by eight European NRENs to submit their best ideas and follow a training course, provided by GÉANT Learning and Development (GLAD), to prepare for the great occasion.

Nominations and support from NRENs

This year an increased number of NRENs embraced the FTP and fully supported their students' quest for TNC18. The selected students were given the opportunity to participate in the Lightning Talk Challenge or in the Poster Pursuit. Both initiatives, aimed at offering finalists the opportunity to experience TNC for the first time and introducing them to the international R&E community. The TNC18 Programme Committee was impressed with the calibre of all nominations and topics submitted by the following European NRENs: AMRES, BELNET, FCT FCCN, SWITCH, GARR, RedIRIS, RESTENA and SURFnet.

Trained and coached by professionals

All candidates were trained via e-workshops by professional coaches and community experts. Nadia Sluer, Technical Training Coordinator for GÉANT, said: "The e-workshops are a fundamental and mandatory part of the programme; their aim is not only to boost the confidence of finalists, but also to equip all future talents with the soft skills needed in their future careers."

Up-skilling Europe's IT workforce: GÉANT Future Talent Programme

Irina Mikhailava, Head of GÉANT Learning and Development (GLAD) explains: "At GÉANT, we believe it is crucial to engage, foster and develop future IT professionals. This sentiment holds true now, more than ever, as the sector undergoes a period of considerable growth. We set up the GÉANT Future Talent Programme to demonstrate our commitment in the up-skilling of Europe's future IT workforce. The FTP is the gateway for young professionals to the European and global networking community. It offers them an opportunity to grow and develop their skills through free webinar series. Furthermore, it rewards learning by offering free admission to prestigious international events to those individuals whose work is recognised by an independent panel."

The GLAD team designs and executes the programme and provides coaching and learning to talents across the community with engaging activities that are additional to their academic studies.

This approach enables NRENs to play a major role in developing young people's skills and inspire their fresh thinking. By participating in the FTP, NRENs can strengthen relationships with their member institutions, motivate high quality students and get them excited about their work with stimulating opportunities to look forward to.

FTP at TNC18:

- 5 Student Lightning Talks accepted
- 4 Student posters accepted
- 9 New topics proposed
- Student lightning talks: 11 and 12 June.
- Poster presentations: 11, 12 and 13 June - during the afternoon breaks

Topics

Lightning Talks

Hey network, what's going on? - Virtual assistants for networks
Rüdiger Birkner, ETH Zurich/
SWITCH, Switzerland

Back to the future: let's bring schools to XXI century!
Ilaria Bortolotti, Università di Roma La Sapienza/GARR, Italy

Efficiency is the way to go: get to know Enki
José Pedro Guerra Brito,
Universidade de Trás os Montes e Alto Douro / FCT/FCCN, Portugal

Empowering student involvement in campus network deployment
Antonio Angel Cruzado
Castillo, University of Málaga / RedIRIS, Spain

mySense - AI and Big Data for agroforestry applications
Jorge Mendes, UTAD, Universidade de Trás os Montes e Alto Douro / FCT/FCCN, Portugal

Posters

V-Labs: autonomous provisioning of virtual environments using PaaS approach
Simone Feretti, INFN Sezione di Roma Tor Vergata / GARR, Italy

SCORes: A dynamic cache system for e-Science applications
Davide Michelino, Università di Napoli Federico II - INFN Sezione di Napoli/GARR, Italy

Network installation upgrade, done with students?
Melchor Alejo Garau Madrigal, University of Málaga / RedIRIS, Spain

Privacy-Friendly Threat Detection Using DNS
Gijs Rijnnders, Eindhoven University of Technology / SURFnet, Netherlands

FTP e-workshops

To help students prepare for TNC18 submission, GLAD organised the following FREE live webinar series

Public Speaking Skills

Trainer and coach: Barbara Rogoski, Successfulspeaker.com

Visualisation Skills

Trainer and coach: Lennaert Jonkers, DevelopMinded

The content of this course has also been made available as free e-learning material at the GÉANT e-Academy at <https://e-academy.geant.org/moodle/>

GÉANT EMERGING NREN PROGRAMME - ENRICHING THE COMMUNITY

This year TNC witnesses the launch of the Emerging NREN Programme, a new initiative by GÉANT - modelled on a similar successful initiative carried out by NORDUnet in the last few years - aimed at bringing professionals from European and global emerging NRENs to TNC18 and integrating them into the vibrant international R&E community.



Emerging NRENs from around the world were invited to nominate representatives to take part in the programme: 10 female and 8 male participants from 18 organisations in 16 countries were successfully selected to attend TNC18. Veronika Di Luna, International Relations Officer for GÉANT, highlights the salient elements of this initiative:

"The programme's objectives are simple and straightforward: to integrate global Emerging NRENs into the TNC community, to encourage participation from field operatives in preference to senior management and, in particular, to stimulate new synergies and stronger connections between individuals across different organisations and organisational levels.

Every participant has been paired with GÉANT or NREN personnel according to common professional interests to facilitate relationship building. We actively encouraged submissions of Lightning Talk proposals, provided specific assistance and coaching throughout the process and, were thrilled to learn that 4 Lightning Talks, all presented by female participants from Africa, made it through to the Lightning Talks Plenaries.

We are pleased with the uptake of this programme and hope that the community will reap the benefits of future stimulating collaborations generated by initiatives like this."

Photo
Veronika Di Luna, International Relations Officer, GÉANT