



OPENFABRICS
ALLIANCE

14th ANNUAL WORKSHOP 2018

WELCOME
to the first ever OFA Think Tank

Sponsored by the 2018 Technical Program Committee

April 9, 2018

WHAT'S A THINK TANK???

- **A group of people convened to explore an assigned topic in a leading edge technology or idea**
- **Facilitated by knowledgeable moderators, but exploits the insights and skills of non-experts**
- **Highly interactive**
- **What it isn't –**
 - A BoF on steroids
 - A tutorial or lecture



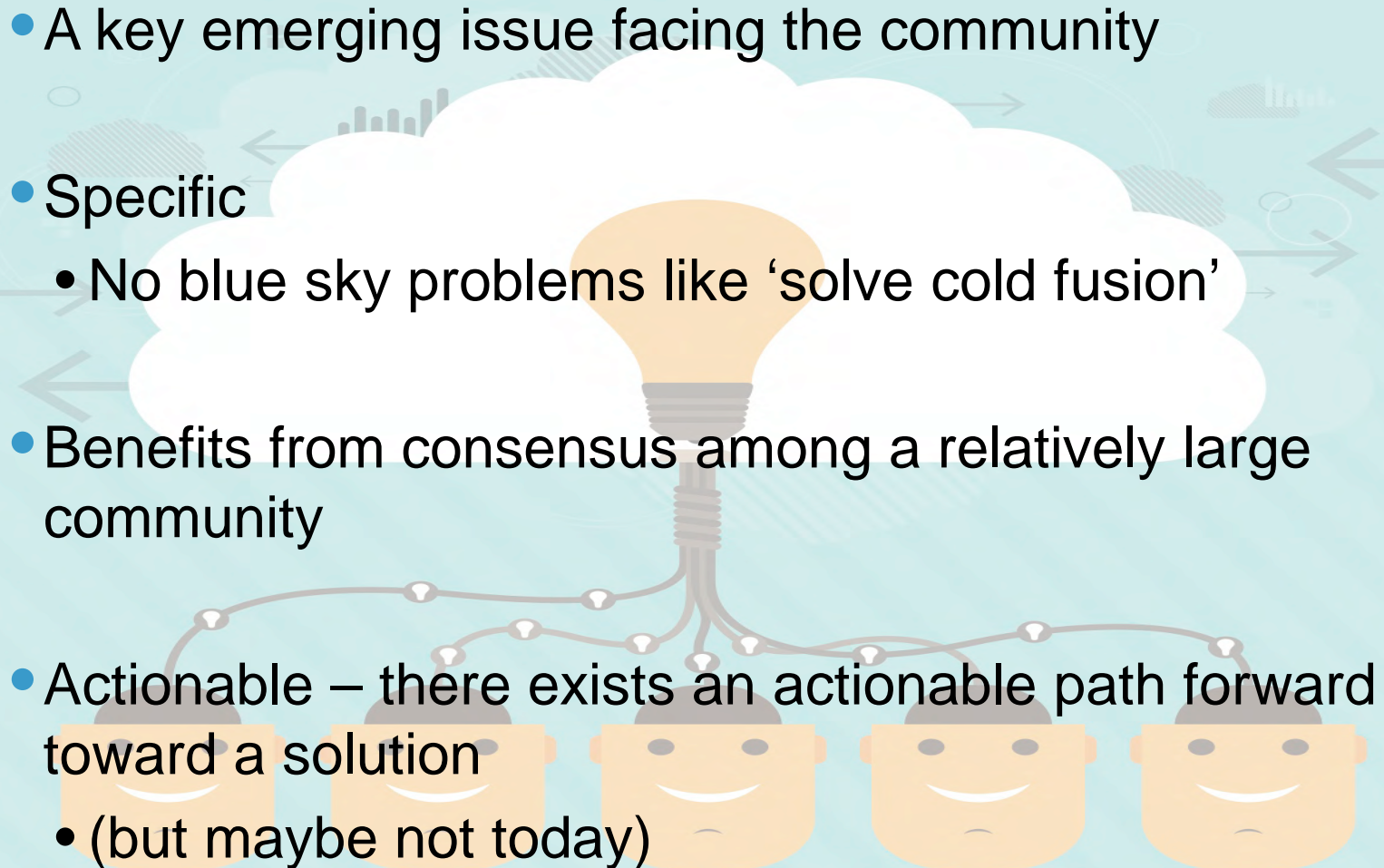
OBJECTIVES

1. Explore and illuminate leading edge issues and technologies related to networking ('Grand Challenges')
2. Describe a path forward for addressing the Grand Challenge
3. Disseminate information among workshop attendees
4. Bring the Workshop's theme – *Collaboration* – to life

Non-objective – solve the problem on the spot



"GRAND CHALLENGES"?? WHATZAT?

- A key emerging issue facing the community
 - Specific
 - No blue sky problems like 'solve cold fusion'
 - Benefits from consensus among a relatively large community
 - Actionable – there exists an actionable path forward toward a solution
 - (but maybe not today)
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METHOD

- **For this year, the Grand Challenges were defined by the TPC**
 - Includes identifying facilitators for each

- **Each Think Tank is given:**
 - A Grand Challenge topic
 - A specific assignment related to that topic
 - A request to deliver a result on Friday

PROCESS

- **Monday evening**
 - Introduce the Think Tank concept
 - Introduce the facilitators, describe the 3 Think Tanks
 - Each Workshop attendee selects one
 - Think Tanks break out into individual meetings
- **During the week**
 - Continue to meet informally
 - Members are encouraged to network together electronically, f-to-f...
- **Wednesday 3:30 – 4:30**
 - Each Think Tank has a table at the Meet the Experts session
- **Friday**
 - Each Think Tank delivers its findings and recommendations
- **Results are published on the OFA webpage**

HERE THEY ARE

Think Tank 1 - Linux Containers

- Facilitators: Doug Ledford (+ Jason Gunthorpe?)
- Challenge: Containers for RDMA are just being implemented. How must they be implemented in order to be of use to you?

Think Tank 2 - Persistent Memory over Fabrics

- Facilitators: Doug Voigt, Paul Grun
- Challenge: Some people think that Persistent Memory over Fabrics is the Next Big Deal. But is it really? If it is, what is needed to get it off the ground and to drive adoption?

Think Tank 3 - System Administration and Interoperability of Diverse Fabrics

- Facilitators: Jesse Martinez, Susan Coulter
- Challenge: How to deal with the reality of diverse fabrics in modern systems?

A FEW SUGGESTIONS TO GET STARTED

- **Everyone subscribe to the mailing lists (next slide)**
 - Helps you keep in touch during the week

- **Each Think Tank appoints a scribe to take notes**
 - These are the basis for Friday's report out

- **Begin by brainstorming on the assignment, modifying it as the group sees fit**

- **Figure out how/when/where to re-convene during the week**
 - Evenings
 - During lunch
 - Meet the Experts
 - Electronically

- **Brainstorming rules are in effect – there are no bad ideas**

LOGISTICS

▪ Think Tank 1 – Linux Containers

- Facilitators – Doug Ledford, Jason Gunthorpe
- The Mall (next door)
- http://lists.openfabrics.org/mailman/listinfo/ofa_linuxcont

▪ Think Tank 2 - Persistent Memory over Fabrics

- Facilitators - Doug Voigt, Paul Grun
- Foothills Room (across the hall)
- http://lists.openfabrics.org/mailman/listinfo/ofa_remotepm

▪ Think Tank 3 - Sys Admin and Interoperability of Diverse Fabrics

- Facilitators – Jesse Martinez, Susan Coulter
- Settlers Park (this room)
- http://lists.openfabrics.org/mailman/listinfo/ofa_sysadmin

Go Forth and Think!