



# How To Win a Grant for a Cluster

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# How To Win a Cluster...

- Get Cluster funds included in your startup package
- (...then change jobs every 3 years)
- Find a very rich donor to buy you one
  
- *I've employed both these strategies with great success...*



# If the previous strategy fails

- Remember, NSF-CISE is not the only game in town
- Partner with the strengths of your institution
  - Demonstrating BOTH a strong research base in an application area and the ability to \*effectively\* use HPC systems is a winning combination.
- DURIPs and other Research Infrastructure programs are good targets
  - Not CRI unless you have pure CS research to do... applied research less effective here



# When you make a proposal...

- Take the time to do some design
  - Explain why \*this\* cluster is appropriate for your application area.
  - Vendors can be helpful here, but are no substitute for knowing what you want/need
  - Find an effective benchmark for your application
- Specs will change between proposal submission and purchase time
  - But be specific anyway
- Find something special about your cluster/project