



Stanley C. Ahalt, PhD

Director of the Renaissance Computing Institute

Stan Ahalt became director of the Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in September 2009. He leads a team of research scientists, software and network engineers, data science specialists and visualization experts who work closely with faculty research teams at UNC, Duke, NC State and with partners across the country. RENCI's role is to provide enabling cyberinfrastructure to these research collaborations, which often means working on the challenges of data management, sharing, integration and security.

Dr. Ahalt is also a professor in the UNC Computer Science Department and directs the Biomedical Informatics Core of the North Carolina Translational and Clinical Sciences Institute (NC TraCS), UNC's CTSA award. In this role, he leverages the expertise and resources of RENCI to foster clinical and translational research across the UNC campus.

Dr. Ahalt's primary foci in the recent years have been on two major data science initiatives: The National Consortium for Data Science (NCDS) and the iRODS Consortium. The NCDS is a private-public partnership of leaders in academia, industry and government formed to address the data challenges of the 21st century and advance data science. The iRODS Consortium, which includes the Max Planck Society as a key founding member, is an effort to establish a community to sustain

the popular integrated Rule-Oriented Data System, developed at UNC and UC San Diego. RENCI leads the effort to develop iRODS as an enterprise-quality solution, complete with rigorous testing and a robust, feature-rich code base. Dr. Ahalt is also principal investigator for the Water Science Software Institute project, which is developing a strategic plan to develop an institute that will build and support a cyberinfrastructure for managing, sharing and using water science data.

Dr. Ahalt was executive director of the Ohio Supercomputer Center (OSC) from 2003 to 2009 and a professor in the department of electrical and computer engineering at The Ohio State University for 22 years. He is a member of Microsoft's Technical Computing Advisory Committee, the Council on Competitiveness High Performance Computing Advisory Committee, and an extramural member of the National Cancer Institute's Advanced Biomedical Computing Center Oversight Committee. Dr. Ahalt serves in the Boards of the Arizona State University Advanced Computer Center, and National Lambda Rail.

Dr. Ahalt holds a Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering from Clemson University and master's and bachelor's degrees in electrical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.