

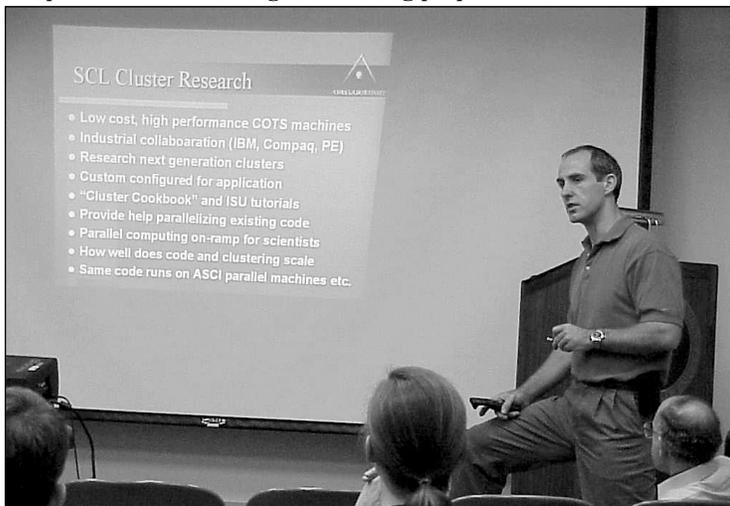
Showcasing Cluster Computing

The Center for Physical and Computational Mathematics in partnership with Ames Laboratory's Scalable Computing Lab held an informational workshop in early November to help campus groups interested in high-performance parallel computing learn more about cluster computing.

Computer clusters offer a relatively inexpensive method of achieving supercomputing performance, making it more economical for small groups to accomplish advanced simulation and modeling tasks critical to cutting-edge research in the scientific and engineering disciplines.

CPCM draws on the researchers and staff of the SCL to initiate and support cluster computing projects with ISU faculty and students across disciplines ranging from mathematics and physics to engineering and chemistry.

The cluster computing workshop hosted by CPCM Director Bruce Harmon and SCL Director Mark Gordon presented attendees with examples of clusters that have been built and are operating at ISU. It also provided information on how to gain help in parallelizing code to run on cluster networks and outlined how to gain access to the campus clusters for testing and learning purposes. ■



David Halstead, associate scientist, discusses the benefits of cluster computing.