Research Computing Advisory Committee

Minutes July 12, 2021 (taken by Erik Deumens)

Present: Paul Avery, S. Balachandar, Nikolay Bliznyuk, Erik Deumens, Guillaume Labilloy, Damon Lamb, Jenny Lo-Ciganic, George Michailidis, Rafa Munoz-Carpena, Parisa Rashidi, Alberto Riva, Plato Smith, Doug Spearot, Jack Stenner, Bruce Vogel

Updates

- HiPerGator 3.0 and Al Are both in production since June 22.
- At the International Supercomputing Conference 2021 on June 28, HPG AI was announced to be #22 in the top500 list and #2 in the green500 list.
 - See UF press release
- HiPerGatorRV Test and production environments are running now.
 - Migration of users from ResVault to HiPerGator RV in second half of August will require 5 days downtime.
- Orange & Blue filesystems will be expanded.
 - Blue goes from 4 to 8 PB
 - Orange goes from 3 to 6 PB
 - All hardware has arrived and is being installed and tested.
 - The final operation to make the new, expanded systems live and perform some required data migration requires down time.
 - This will be 5 days in the week of Aug 9 (between semesters)
 - ResVault will stay up during this downtime.
- Security and compliance review is still in progress
- Preparations to allow RHI (Research Health Information) on all of HiPerGator are progressing.
- IBM Hackathon will take place Sep.-Oct 2021.

Discussion

- New people were hired. Are they only working on AI?
 - Their primary focus is to set up AI training, onboarding and consulting.
 - But Al involves the whole workflow of things that researchers have been doing on HPG since 2013. Hence their work is diverse.
- Is RC operating better now? Is RC staffing adequate now?
 - The new people started working around end of December and they already made a significant and noticeable impact in the first 6 months. RC would not have been able to deliver the HiPerGator upgrades on time without them.
 - Let us evaluate throughout 2021 and report on the question of adequate staffing in spring 2022.
- HPG symposium is planned for Oct. as before. It will be virtual, as that has increased the number of participants.

Next meeting will be on Aug 16, 2021 from 1:00 - 1:50 pm. The meeting will be Zoom only. An invitation will be sent.