Research Computing Advisory Committee
Minutes May 8, 2017 (taken by Erik Deumens)

Present: Peter Barnes, Ana Conesa, Erik Deumens, Alberto Riva, Plato Smith, Jack Stenner

Discussion IPv6 addressing

UF has developed a plan/policy to govern the address allocation for the IPv6 network protocol.
- Erik provides an overview of the history of IPv6 and the need for UF to provide this infrastructure.
- The international collaboration around the Large Hadron Collider include the CMS experiment that has many collaborators at UF. They are moving towards IPv6 as the standard for their worldwide network.
- The UF network infrastructure as well as the statewide network operated by FLR already support the protocol. HiPerGator is ready to operate using both the older IPv4 and the new IPv6 in dual mode.
- The only obstacle is assignment of addresses, which is why this proposed policy needs to be put in place.

The committee discussed some technical details and urges the approval process to move forward.

Discussion HiPerGator Challenge

Planning for the HPG Challenge has made significant progress in the past two months. Details are recorded in a separate working document. A brief summary is as follows:
- The proposed process is well-known across the world as a "hackathon". A group sets a goal and finishes a project in a short time. The HPG Challenge is special in that it has a larger scope and takes a semester, instead of a weekend. Students travel around the world, funded by numerous sources, to participate and gather "points". UF students were #1 in the US in 2016. This connection was provided by Prof. Juan Gilbert.
- Paul will find out more details about the "point system" so that we can fit the challenge in properly.
- The first year we will work with UF students. Then we will reach out to other institutions, like UIUC, Purdue, Indiana, Clemson, and see if there is interest to make this a national event.
- Ana Conesa pointed out that there is a similar competition in biology, called iGEM, where teams are challenged to invent a new device. The structure is similar, but is focused on wet-lab activities rather than computing.
- We will investigate how we can provide credits to participating students, so that time can be freed for the activity. This can be done with special courses such as special topics, individual research, etc.

Organization
- Next meeting will be on Monday June 5, 2017 in the usual conference room NPB 2304 from 1:30 – 2:30 pm.