

Research Computing Advisory Committee

Minutes Jan 26, 2026 (taken by Erik Deumens)

Present: Nikolay Bliznyuk, Clint Collins, Gogce Crynen, Erik Deumens, Richard Hennig, Gail Keenan, Damon Lamb, Rafa Munoz-Carpena, Massoud Rouhizadeh

Updates

- HiPerGator hardware acquisitions

- Purchase orders were placed late 2025 to acquire NaviGator AI nodes
 - 2 DGX B300, 16 GPUs with 288 GB RAM, nodes to support the most advanced inferencing. They arrived and are being installed.
 - 5 nodes with 40 NVIDIA RTX6000 Blackwell GPUs also for inferencing; 2 arrived and are being installed.
- 48 nodes with 360 NVIDIA RTX6000 Blackwell GPUs have been ordered to provide support for the middle range of RAM: L4 24 GB, RTX6000 96 GB, B200 180 GB.
- The PO for new orange went out before end of December. Installation, testing, and data transfer will take place in 2026.

- Searches

- We are now searching for four RSEs.
- One offer I in the works, we are screening for 3 more.

Discussion

- Faculty writing proposals are asking about the possibility of a waiver of IDC on the UFIT RC consulting service budget. With a cost of \$95/hr the 53.5% IDC rate for research has a big impact on the budget. Reply from the UF Office of Research
 - “Since the internal rates charged to faculty do not include institutional overhead, IDC needs to be charged in proposals. All auxiliary services should be charged this way.”
- The question is raised whether ClaudeCode is available in NaviGator and whether it can be used by faculty, students, and staff. Here is guidance from the NaviGator AI team:
 - While Claude code is a very good tool, it is very Anthropic specific. There are directions on how to configure Claude Code to use LiteLLM but the problem is that there are parts of Claude Code that seem to be hard coded to use Claude models no matter how you configure it.
 - We recommend that people use OpenCode. We have directions on how to configure it here:
https://docs.ai.it.ufl.edu/docs/navigator_toolkit/integrations/opencode
- Another question is about availability of DeepSeek R1 as integrated in Perplexity AI. Erik will investigate.
- The list of models supported by NaviGator can be found here
https://docs.ai.it.ufl.edu/docs/navigator_models/
- The list shows which models run
 - LOCAL on HiPerGator, or

- CLOUD on Azure, AWS, GPC.

It also indicates which models can be used with sensitive and restricted data.

Next meeting will be on March 16, 2026 from 2:00 – 2:30 pm. The meeting will be Zoom only.