

Research Computing Advisory Working Group

Minutes Apr 27, 2026 (taken by Erik Deumens)

Present: Chris Barnes, Nikolay Bliznyuk, Clint Collins, Gogce Crynen, Erik Deumens, Matt Gitzendanner, Damon Lamb, Rafa Munez-Carpena

Updates

- **Searches**
 - o We hired one RSE and are now searching for three more RSEs.
 - o UFIT RC has an offer out to the 3rd regulated research computing facilitator; we hired two in the fall of 2025 and they are performing excellently.
- **HiPerGator hardware**
 - o We received 360 RTX 6000 Blackwell GPUs in 45 nodes. Due to supply-chain issues the fiber optic transceivers are not here yet.
 - o These GPUs fill the gap between L4 24 GB RAM and B200 180 GB RAM with 96 GB RAM option. They are also good to build digital twins with.
 - o The demand for B200's is very high. We are experimenting with an automatic process to detect allocated B200 that are idle for a long time to notify people and help make workflows more efficient. These GPUs are too expensive to leave idle.
- **CMMC L2 certification**
 - o CMMC (Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification) Level 2 certification of HiPerGator-RV is ongoing. This is required for UF to receive contracts with CUI data.
- **Agentic AI tools**
 - o New AI tools come out at rapid pace. With new agentic capabilities they are hard to track and impossible to contain. We are building an awareness and training program to educate users to use these tools that can have unexpected and disastrous side-effects. Expect the first events in May.

Discussion

- Google NotebookLM is very useful for teaching, but UF's license has low limits. UFIT says the limits cannot be raised within the UF contract, even if you are willing to pay.
- NaviGator AI has limitations that are not easy to overcome. We will investigate.
- Faculty, staff, and students need more and clearer guidance on the use of tools like OpenClaw, ClaudeCode, VSCode, Positron.
- Any model or tool with China origin is banned in the State of Florida and cannot be installed on HiPerGator or any UF owned and operated computer.

Next meeting will be on June 8, 2026 from 2:00 – 2:30 pm. The meeting will be Zoom only.