Research Computing Advisory Committee

Minutes Sep 10, 2012 (taken by Erik Deumens)

Present: Paul Avery, Peter Barnes, Reed Beaman, Robert Burne, Erik Deumens, Eric Ford, Felix Liu, Rolando Milian, Hannah Norton, Laurie Taylor

Discussion

CTS-IT introduction

Dr. Felix Liu, director of CTS-IT made a presentation on the mission, role, and projects of CTS-IT. The slides of his presentation are available to on this same web page.

The RCAC committee now has a subcommittee that will act as advisory committee to the CTS-IT organization. The committee members asked several questions about the mission and scope of CTS-IT.

For instance, one project, VIVO, collects data in a semi-automatic fashion from multiple sources. Ford pointed out that the sources of the information are not always very accurate because there is no mechanism to validate data and some sources allows self-editing; then having data that is wrong may be worse than having no data. Liu responds that this is an issue that they are aware of and work is in progress at the University to try and address this, in particular to ensure the quality of data in PeopleSoft. The process to fix this will not be quick.

The type of data in the IDR was also discussed. It contains a wide range of data, including clinical images and reference data for the Biorepository. The Biorepository is a system where tissues and samples recovered during surgery are kept, with consent from patients, for use in research.

Dr. Liu indicated that CTS-IT is still very young and that it this time he sees no need to set up a regular meeting schedule for the CTS-IT Advisory Committee. He will keep the committee informed of ongoing activities through the monthly general RCAC meetings and will call for special meetings when the need arises.

He anticipates that the CTS-IT will run into resource issues and that prioritization will be an important task for the CTS-IT Advisory Committee.

The agenda for the fall can be found at http://www.it.ufl.edu/governance/advisorycommittees/researchcomputing.html.

Next meeting will be on October 1 at 1:30 pm in NPB 2205.