Research Computing Advisory Committee

Minutes January 8, 2018 (taken by Erik Deumens)

Present: Paul Avery, Hai-Ping Cheng, Erik Deumens, Rafa Munoz-Carpena, Alberto Riva, Plato Smith

Updates

- ResVault System Security Plan is nearly complete for authorization signature by the CIO expected next week. This will make UF compliant with NIST 800-171 required for data processed by grants with export control restrictions. Further grants may require compliance with 800-171 and the CUI classification later on this year, such as FERPA and HIPAA data.
- New hardware for \$25/TB/year will arrive next week.
- HiPerGator 3.0 plans have been accelerated from 2019 to have a target delivery date of Sept. 2018 with an initial draft configuration of 14,400 cores
- RC staff have become better at planning and executing projects, and we plan to do even better this year.
- New security flaw in computer processors has been announced Jan 3, 2018
 caused by speculative execution in modern processors to make them go faster
 without increasing the clock frequency (which makes them melt). It affects almost
 all devices in use today.

Discussion

- Security restrictions make designing workflows in ResVault more complicated than in HiPerGator. We are working with research teams to develop several useful templates so that the difference to the end user is minimal.
- A small group of software developers on campus is advocating a GitHub campus license. Many researchers are using the open GitHub to collaborate with teams spread over the world. For this larger group, the campus license has no value.
- Scientists are in need of collaborative tools to better manage their data, to go beyond spreadsheets.
- RSPACE https://www.researchspace.com is a new lab e-notebook to address the issue of collaboration for research.
 - The organization is looking for a few sites/universities to give a try. But it needs to be a real trial, not a short look.
 - Do check out the website above!

Organization

- Next meeting will be on Monday Feb 5, 2018 in the usual conference room NPB 2304 from 1:30 – 2:30 pm.