Research Computing Advisory Committee
Minutes Aug 3, 2020 (taken by Erik Deumens)

Present: Paul Avery, S. Balachandar, Nikolay Bliznyuk, Hai-Ping Cheng, Erik Deumens, Aria Eshraghi, Richard Hennig, Damon Lamb, Lauren McIntyre, George Michailidis, Rafa Munoz-Carpena, Parisa Rashidi, Melissa Rethlefsen, Alberto Riva, Plato Smith, Douglas Spearot

Updates
- The UF-NVIDIA partnership was announced on July 21st. Press release https://news.ufl.edu/2020/07/nvidia-partnership/
    - The HiPerGator AI cluster powered by NVIDIA will be an NVIDIA DGX A11 SuperPod with 140 DGX A100 nodes with 17,000 AMD EPYX Rome CPU cores and 1,120 NVIDIA Ampere A100 GPU cards
    - All nods are connected by two massive InfiniBand fabrics: one for MPI between nodes and the other to connect nodes with vary fast DDN AI400 storage with 4 PB capacity.
    - UF already has 2 DGX A100 nodes to prepare for the arrival of cluster in October November timeframe.
- The HiPerGator 3.0 ITN was completed Fri 8/7/2020. Lenovo has been selected as the vendor.
    - The system will be delivered in two phases.
    - Phase 1: October delivery has 28,000 AMD EPYC Rome 2.25 GHz cores with 8 GB RAM/core.
    - Phase 2: March delivery has 8,700 AMD EPYC Milan cores 3.3 GHz cores with 8 GB RAM/core.
- UFIT RC has been authorized and funded to hire
    - 5 people to support the AI initiative
    - 1 person to support building a consulting effort
    - With 1 open position, we will be hiring 7 new people in the coming weeks and months.
- The new /blue file system is in production and all data of active groups has been migrated. Inactive groups will be processed over the next 6 months. The old data remains on /ufrc as a copy available for fixing any problems with migration that may appear in that time.
- The required training that will be part of the new-account process has been developed and is being reviewed. We expect it to be in production with the start of the fall semester.
- A new mailing list has been created to keep investors in Research Computing resources up to date with information like what is shared with the RCAC today.

The above announcements were discussed in depth.

Next meeting will be on September 14, 2020 from 1:30 – 2:30 pm. The meeting will be Zoom only. An invitation will be sent.