# Research Computing Advisory Committee
## Minutes June 13, 2022 (taken by Erik Deumens)

**Present:** Paul Avery, Nikolay Bliznyuk, Erik Deumens, Gail Keenan, Guillaume Labilloy, Damon Lamb, Lauren McIntyre, Rafa Munoz-Carpena, Massoud Rouhizadeh, Plato Smith, Douglas Spearot, Bruce Vogel

**Updates**
- **HiPerGator and ResVault**
  - HiPerGator and ResVault have been operating normally the past month.
- **HITRUST certification of HiPerGator**
  - The ITN process has selected Frazier & Deeter to perform the assessment.
  - They started work at the end of May. A workshop explaining the process is held today. It will be recorded and we will share the link with the committee.
- **UFIT Research Computing staff changes**
  - Three searches will be posted this week: one to replace Thomas Samant at the sys IV level, and two to replace Charlie Taylor at the sys III level.
  - Another staff member has chosen to leave RC for ISO.
  - This will impact the ability of RC to perform all the work that needs to be done.

**Discussion**
- Prof. McIntyre requests that maintenance activities are posted on the main website, now that the stop light is gone, even when no issues are expected. That way users have an idea what is going on if something does go wrong.
- A lively discussion ensued about the need for support staff for research computing with the number of open positions.
  - Also the needs for broader IT support was called out. This is a problem that has been present since the OneIT initiative started in 2018. The situation has been exacerbated by the hiring of 500 new faculty in the past few years and now another 100 new faculty as part of the AI initiative.
  - As a result, Prof. Lamb reports that UF infrastructure support is considered dysfunctional by many faculty and they seek to do the computation elsewhere. RC is considered strong, but IT support for research outside of the scope of RC is not.
  - Erik reports that several discussions have been had at various levels about the problem, which is most intense in health colleges.
  - RC has been authorized to hire staff to offer a possible improvement by providing billable services. The precise service level agreement around these services is being defined. The draft will be shared with this committee.

Next meeting will be on July 25, 2022 from 1:00 – 1:50 pm. The meeting will be Zoom only.