

**Notes for the ITC-Research Computing Management Meeting
December 17, 2007 at 10:30 AM
2015 Ivy Road, 1st Floor Conference Room**

Members: Alice, Hamp, Jim, Joe S., Mark, Mike, Robin, Terry, Tim S., Tom, Tim T.
Attending: Alice, Hamp, Jim, Joe S., Mark, Robin, Terry, Tim S., Tom, Tim T.

Chair: [Tim T.](#)

Recorder: [Alice Howard](#)

I. Connection Question: How invested are you in the well-being and success of today's meeting (and/or this group)? (On a scale where 0 = Low to 7 = High) And what's the story you're telling yourself about that?

II. Corrections to [minutes from last meeting on November 30, 2007](#)? (Click to review the [agenda from this meeting](#))

III. Old Business:

- *Update on CSAC, NSF PetaScale Track 2 meetings, and related.*
 - There was discussion about the pros/cons of UVa's possible participation – with some agreement that our needs are really for more support and education for users here so that they could be successful in accessing some of the unused national cycles – although we might well benefit from the experience of going through the proposal process. Mike is drafting a memo to go out to CSAC in January.
 - *The next "condo cluster" planning.*
Current web site: <http://itc.virginia.edu/research/itc-clusters/>
- *Public forum on queuing policies - in late January or early February.*
 - Ed & Katherine doing review of other institutions queuing and cluster purchase programs in preparation – and pulling together information from other institutions.
 - [Katherine has gathered some information](#) while at [BioMed HPC Conference](#) in Boston.
 - [Katherine's 2006 proposal PBS Service Units Proposal](#)
 - [CSAC request to Tom for report on current cluster use vis-a-vis PBS queue use/analysis.](#)
 - *Looking at what applications 8 possible TeraGrid candidates are using*
- *Linux Clusters: Cedar, Dogwood Elder*
 - Downtime for UPS switchover: may not be needed as we are idling one circuit at a time – moving it – bringing it up and back online – will probably have 2/3 moved by the end of the week. Hamp will write up something about this and the consequences for potential power outages for the Newsletter.
- *HPC Bootcamp January 7-11, start with UVa only, Intro to Unix workshop on Jan 3-4, have about 15-16 registered so far – have a classroom and making other arrangements and getting class accounts.*
- *Update on Computational Science Speaker Series: Jack Dongarra (Univ. Tennessee & ORNL) will speak on February 11; Kelvin Droegemeier (Oklahoma U) will speak on March 28.*
- *Had two meetings with A-School (Earl Mark & Eric Field) about possible HPC windows compute cluster and harvesting idle cycles from office PCs and labs & classrooms.*
 - They are going to try this on a small scale first with Lela piloting it in the A-School classrooms.
- *Tom has agreed to chair this committee for 2008*
 - *Discussion of purpose of group: is it a Big-picture & Policy group? A Nitty-Gritty operational group?*
 - There was discussion about the purpose of the group – and concluded that the major purpose for this group is to focus on Direction, the Big-picture and Policy – mixed with attention to some of the nitty-gritty operational issues – with attendance open to all research computing support staff, but not required of them.
- *Establish our Operating Agreements: Some possibilities:*
 - *notification of attending or not?*
 - *Start and end on time? Build in travel time to meeting schedule?*
 - *Meeting day and time?*
 - *End meetings with clear requests and promises for action.*
 - *Don't leave meeting with unspoken issues or concerns.*
 - *Others?*

IV. New Business:

- *Any news, information from E-School? SURA? CSAC brownbags? UCIT? Other organizations?*
- *Any other Items?*
 - Have we established a fee for linux cluster administration? On a Unix Systems' page we do list services and rates (annual, hourly) for system administration – we have had one inquiry and no takers.

- What about staffing for research support? The current position-reallocation opportunities list does not include any positions for research support – what happened to them? There was some discussion about the history for these positions – and also about their relationship to the current discussion about establishing a new ‘HPC Center’ for research support and collaboration – and also about the level at which it makes the most sense to provide support staff (i.e. centrally? at the school level? at the department level?).
- **Completion and review promises and requests from this meeting.**

V. Adjourn by 11:45 and next meeting

- *Next Scheduled Meeting of ITC ResComp Standing Committee: Monday, January 28th, 10:30 AM in ITC-2015 Ivy Road, Room #102 (First Floor Conference Room)!*
Please send suggestions, additions, corrections to: [Tim Tolson](#) or [Alice Howard](#)