

**Minutes for the ITC-Research Computing Management Meeting  
October 5, 2007 at 9:00 AM  
2015 Ivy Road, 1st Floor Conference Room**

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

Attending: Aron (for Joe S), Alice Hamp, Jim, Lori (for Mark), Robin, Tom, Tim T

Chair: Tim T. Recorder: Alice Howard

Note: (*Italics indicate agenda item*; normal font, the meeting notes.)

I. Connection Question: chair forgot to ask...

II. Corrections to [minutes from last meeting on July 30, 2007](#)? None.  
(Click to review the [agenda from this meeting](#))

III. Old Business:

- *Impending Cluster rollout and retirement*
  - *Elder transition went very smoothly.*
  - *Athena retirement – was fine -- without even a whimper.*
- *Tim/RCS staff will do review of other institutions queuing and cluster purchase programs in preparation for public forum on queuing policies – note: we should do the forum before Thanksgiving or next semester. [Katherine has gathered some information](#) while at [BioMed HPC Conference](#) in Boston.*
  - *Complaints from Hossein Haj-Hariri (hh2b), Donald A. Jordan, Jr (dj8n) in Mech/Aero in mid-August: Not heard from them since – might have been related to the HPC bootcamp.*
- *Linux Clusters: Cedar, Dogwood – no issues, etc.*
  - *Cluster upgrades, depending on when next version of ROCKS released (RHEL 5 out): RHEL 5 not out yet, and no indication when coming – so no update plan.*
- *Retiring/removing Sun Ultra60s from E225. Complaint from one faculty (Ben Calhoun) & resolution – EE helped with resolution.*
  - *Update on setup of SunBlade 150 & Ultra60 for RCL? No update – these are old systems, likely just surplus– Robin will look for some newer desktop boxes.*
  - *Linux workstations (two or three) at RCL? These to be purchased and tried with a public login, Tim to coordinate with Hamp on specs for computers and setup.*
- *VT-UVa IT Collaboration?*
  - *HPC Bootcamp: Interest in having one during J-Term; Mike, James, TimT and Tom willing to help; we have been asked to give “Intro to Unix” short course too.*
  - *Gaussian use by UVa researchers at VT – TimT is talking to them.*
- *Retiring solaris.license.*
  - *Update: not announced. When we do it, we will treat it like the retirement of aix.license. ITC-Transistions CDP notified?*
- *Oak cluster upgrade - testing applications under Solaris 10. Went smoothly.*



## IV. New Business:

- *Gaussian on teak.itc update on Gaussian procurement and on teak?*
  - *Could we use the VaTech agreement? Is theirs for source code?* Mike Warrick in Procurement working with contact at Gaussian who thinks he's going to be able to write a contract that will be acceptable to owner of Gaussian and us.
- *Time for our next "condo cluster" planning - what, when, policies about procurement.*
  - *Request from Economics dept.* – they are interested in some kind of hardware purchase and also interested in having some dedicated access.
  - All agree that will offer dedicated/restricted access (with 80% rule) and possibly try pre-emptive queuing for these nodes.
- [CSAC request to Tom](#) *for report on current cluster use vis-a-vis PBS queue use/analysis.*
  - Tom looked at PBS queue logs before and after bootcamp – found 8 users requesting significant numbers of processors – would any of these be candidates for TeraGrid? Tom will get in touch about getting accounts – but we lack institutional incentives for researchers to work this way.
  - Hamp has identified a couple of users that regularly blow out swap – moving them to Elder.
- *Item in announcement of Ariel Gomez's not being re-appointed said as one of his achievements, ...the creation of a Advanced Research and Technology building ...enhancing select interdisciplinary research collaborations (to be completed March 2008):* No update.
- *Computational Science Speaker Series information.*
  - *First speaker is Larry Smarr, Monday, Oct. 15, noon, in Harrison-Small.*
- *Input to the drafts by the Commission on the Future of the University?* No.
- *Should we migrate our document from "ResNotes" web site?*
  - Yes, to intranet.itc – and have it open to ITC, but not indexed for searching.
- *Operating Agreements: notification of attending? rotation of chair and note taker? Others?* Think on it.
- *Any news, information from E-School? SURA? CSAC brownbags? UCIT? Other organizations?*
  - Tom suggested making CSAC notes available to ResComp group.
- Any other Items?
- **Completion and review promises and requests from this meeting.**

## V. Adjourn by 10:30 and next meeting

- Next Scheduled Meeting of ITC ResComp Standing Committee: Monday, October 29th, 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](#)

NOTE: (*italics indicate agenda item*, regular text the meeting notes.)



**Go to: [ITC Research Computing Committee Home Page](#)**

