

Joint SCA/SCS Meeting (every other Friday)

Conference Room A/B Bldg 50

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes for Friday May 4, 2012:

Agenda items:

News: Amber Boehnlein

- Richard and Amber will be meeting with PPA to discuss organizational issues. There are some supervisory changes coming, if you are affected, you already know as of the date of this meeting.
- Please start talks with your supervisors about setting goals
- Amber will be out of town at conferences often in the coming two months, please contact Jennifer Gill for her schedule if you cannot reach her.
- A reminder: the SCA calendar is visible only to SCA folks and should be maintained for recording absences from the lab:
<https://confluence.slac.stanford.edu/display/SCA/SCA+Department+Calendar+%28Vacations%2C+Travel%2C+etc%29>

State of PPA Hardware Proposal Survey: Stuart Marshall

- Steffen Luitz did a survey to get a proposal for PPA hardware. In the PPA cosmic Frontier meeting, it was noted that the survey needed updating to bolster the hardware needs list
- As predicted, the numbers for KIPAC dominate the bulk of hardware needs for PPA for the smaller experiments. Stuart believes other groups may be underestimating their current needs.
- John Bartelt will be building a spreadsheet model for hardware in Scientific Computing
- Stuart is intending to update the survey with DES (Dark Energy Search) numbers

Age Profile of Batch Machines: Richard Dubois

- Richard pulled up a chart that is posted on the SCA/SCS joint confluence page showing the ageing of batch machines in Scientific computing.
- The chart represents years of purchases (about 5-7 years are shown)
- 40% of the core machines are aging beyond 5 years now
- A discussion then ensued regarding aging machines and electricity usage, as older machines tend to be bigger energy users than newer more efficient models.
- Amber would like a policy put in place regarding lifecycle replacement so that it is not so hard to replace old technology.
- There was a question regarding how much should be replaced by Fermi and Atlas, as opposed to strictly Scientific computing.

Recap of Stanford Algorithms Class: Tracy

- Tracy gave a presentation on the free Algorithms 1 class at Stanford that included his thoughts, his highlights, and his challenges. The presentation can be found on the confluence page and is written to be very self explanatory.

Other Business:

- Amber suggests that everyone look at your goals with special attention to overall Lab initiatives and target them accordingly.
- She suggests putting someone in charge of deliverables on your projects.
- Amber also suggested that everyone have an updated CV or resume available at all times, as it is very professional and convenient to know what everyone's special skills are in SC.

Next Meeting: Friday, May 18, 2012 10 AM to 11 AM