

Scientific Computing Steering Committee Meeting

Ballam Meeting Room B 84

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes for Wednesday, September 7, 2011:

Attendees: Richard Dubois (chair), Len Moss, Imre Kabai, Amber Boehnlein, Amedeo Perrazzo, Arno Candel, Stuart Marshall, Ashley Deacon, Randy Melen, David MacFarlane
Absent:
Guests:

Action items from current meeting:

Date	Action Item	Responsibility	By When
9/7/2011	Sign off Scientific Computing charges on the Recharge report	Richard Dubois	9/9/11
9/7/2011	Identify personnel to work with Ashley Deacon on a Globus Online project	Amber Boehnlein	9/9/11

Action Items status from previous meetings:

Date	Action Item	Responsibility	By When	Status
8/22/11	Discuss how projects should be reviewed	Amber and Richard	Next meeting	completed
8/22/11	Rank your top ten "Forward Going" projects from Shirley Gruber's list, and send your list to Richard Dubois for compilation. A resulting list will be shared on or prior to the next meeting.	ALL SCSC members	8/24/11	completed

Agenda items:

News:

- Recharge Report reviewed: Len Moss. It was noted that the numbers from last cycle have been changing this cycle due to rebalancing. Richard was given an action item to sign off on the Scientific Computing charges by Friday, September 9th. It was noted that it took Len Moss about 75 hours to manually produce the report!
- Computing division Org changes: for a very short time, Randy Melen is acting CIO, and this is scheduled to change to an interim CIO on Tuesday, September 13th. A req for a new CIO is under development.

Closing out Recommendations on CD Sci Comp Projects: Imre Kabai

- Imre posted a list of the top 10 ranked projects based on SCSC input, as well as a survey of other scientific computing divisions.
- A discussion ensued on how to vet the list, and what to do about the ranking of the top 10 projects going forward. Much of the discussion involved which projects could be done quickly for a "quick win" and could be replaced by more time consuming projects from the list. Amber will coordinate the list prioritization, which will be aided by the creation of project descriptions, to optimize how hard and what can be done in parallel.

- The top ten vote getters were: taylor revamp; lifecycle management; single sign-on; git; batch accounting; nfs4 evaluation; standardize central printer support; groundwork monitoring; Lustre 2.x evaluation; LSF 8.1 upgrade.

IOS Development Issues: Randy/ Amber

- The Lab is looking at a site licence for iOS app development, potentially in conjunction with campus. For this meeting, the IOS issues encompass the development of applications for non-conventional computing systems such as androids, iphone, ipads, that would collaborate with applications at SLAC.
- A discussion ensued regarding the security of the apps and information they may contain, and who should be responsible for that security. It was felt by some members of the SCSC that this should not be the responsibility of Scientific computing.
- It was suggested that this might be a discussion more appropriate for the IT sub-council.
- It was further suggested that when a new CIO comes in, it may be recommended that the IT Enterprise Architect gets involved in this, by looking at how other labs are handling this issue, getting best practices and engaging with cyber security and various stakeholders.

Data Access: Ashley Deacon

- Ashley discussed an article in which he had been involved regarding Globus on-line and there is current development of this app to allow interface and data exchange between the Synchrotron and home labs.
- Ashley asked the SCSC: does Scientific computing at SLAC want to be involved in prototyping this interface? If so, who should pilot this? Amber was tasked to put together a committee to look in to SC involvement in this project.
- Ashley indicated there is a manuscript written up regarding this, with an offer to help SLAC personnel use and develop the interface.
- Amedeo Perazzo and Stuart Marshall have offered to be part of this team.

Projects for Storage and Computing Strategies: Amber

- Amber spoke briefly about how the start of this project will mean gathering high level requirements via a survey to cover storage, cycles and networking. Then task forces will be assembled to recommend possible with various experts from CD and the science directorates participating, and including Stanford participants and people from other labs. This will start in the next month or so.

Next Meeting: September 22, 2011 (Amber will be absent)