Scientific Computing Steering Committee Meeting
Conference Room B Bldg 50
MEETING MINUTES

Minutes for Thursday, February 9, 2012:

Attendees: Richard Dubois (chair), Amber Boehnlein, Amedeo Perazzo, Len Moss, Imre Kabai, Stuart Marshall, David MacFarlane, Rob Cameron, Jen Gill (Recorder)	
Absent: Ashley Deacon, Thomas Erikson	
Guests: Robert McGreevy. Lance Nakata, Antonio Ceseracciu	

Action items from current meeting:

Date	Action Item	Responsibility	By When
2-9-12	No action items this meeting		

Action Items status from previous meetings:

Date	Action Item	Responsibility	By When	Status
1-12-12	Ask your constituents to test RHEL 6 in a batch farm and report results back to Len Moss	All SCSC members	2/9/12	Completed
1-12-12	Contact Imre Kabai if you have someone in your group who can be involved in the mobile devices roadmap	All SCSC members	immediate	Completed
1-12-12	Contact Amber Boehnlein if you or anyone in your group is interested in a possible cloud solution for GPUs	All SCSC members	immediate	Completed
1-12-12	Let Amber Boehnlein know if you and others in your group would be interested in further demonstration and a technical forum for GlusterFS	All SCSC members	immediate	Completed

Agenda items:
News: Richard Dubois:
- Richard mentioned the upcoming Mathematica Seminar to be given by Wolfram on Feb 23rd
- David MacFarlane made an announcement about Amber assuming leadership of PPA-SCA, as subsequently announced to the Directorates on the 10th.
- Computing division retreat Recap: Strategic Planning for computing Division
    - Driven by Sandy Merola to put a plan in place for the incoming CD Director
    - One outcome: put together a fast-track list of items to clean up that will have high impact and low output of effort.
    - A fast-track follow up meeting will take place on Feb 21 to hone the list to a top ten list
    - Each group presented a "heat map" of their area and its weaknesses or areas needing improvement. (Jen has attached an example of a heat map in the confluence page)
    - Main topics for the meeting were how to improve efficiency and process.
- 3 Candidates have been asked back for the Computing Div Director Position, with follow-up interviews in March.

- A cyber Security Task Force will be put together to assess lab risk and costs associated with clean-up/maintenance

IT Sub-Council Update: Rob Cameron
Per a meeting attended by Rob, here are some issues brought up to be reviewed by the ITSC
- Setting short and long term priorities in IT
- Document Control, management and resource control
- Assessing what does and does not work in the computing division
- OPA's involvement in looking at the services in IT and analyzing necessity
- Conference Support: who owns this? Communications seems to have it but does not want it, so it is constantly passed around the lab to various groups who do not want ownership. The discussion in this meeting did not resolve the issue.

Guest Speaker: Robert McGreevy
Just prior to the SCSC meeting, Robert had given a seminar in the Kavli building. Here are some post-comments:
- You need to evolve your community but you also need to lead them
- Digital identifiers and mantid were topcs we should look into.

Update on Scientific Computing Projects: Len Moss
- Len brought up status updates that can be found in the link on the SCSC share page. Some highlights:
  - ➤ Globus on line is completed
  - ➤ NSFv4 is restarting under Amedeo
  - ➤ The ERP project may need to use Sci comp and traditional IT resources, exact number is not yet determined. It is felt that SC should have some input if only to monitor the future of how SC will be affected by the new ERP structure.

Shared Storage Presentation: Lance Nakata
- Lance presented information on how to revamp the current storage set up, and how various departments can contribute to this shared storage. He has been looking at a way to revamp a current 535 rack system down to 44 racks with the same capacity.

Network Re-Architecting Project update: Antonio Ceseracciu
- Finished formal requirements for this project
- Survey completed, 24 of 30 responded, 14 actually completed the survey
- Survey highlights: a wired network is more important that a wireless network, response time and availability are the most desirable aspects of a network.
- A second survey will be out soon
- New meeting structure: they are now having focused meetings with one or two topics instead of a large amount, as the audiences tend to vary. The next meeting will focus on scientific computing and storage.
- There is a network roadmap confluence page, Antonio can send the link if you are interested.