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

Minutes for Thursday, May 10, 2012:

Attendees: Richard Dubois (chair), Amber Boehnlein, Ashley Deacon, Len Moss, Stuart Marshall, David MacFarlane, Cho-Kuen Ng, Rob Cameron, Amedeo Perrazzo, Randy Melen, Imre Kabai, Thomas Eriksson, Jen Gill (Recorder)	
Absent: Lex Kemper, Marc Messerschmidt, Yunhai Cai	
Guests: Teresa Downey, Norm Ringgold	

Action items from current meeting:

Date	Action Item	Responsibility	By When
5-10-12	PPA Rep to determine the retirement of the Tersk Machines	Dubois	5/20/12
5-10-12	Obtain a prioritized list depicting how power is used in an outage, and a reason for the choices for prioritization	Downey, Ringgold	5/31/12
5-10-12	PPA rep send a list of servers to be added to the outage critical list of what will be generator powered in the event of an outage.	Dubois	5/31/12

Action Items status from previous meetings:

Date	Action Item	Responsibility	By When	Status
	None from previous meeting			

Agenda items:

Help Desk Update: Teresa Downey
- Teresa's group has hired a consultant to facilitate help desk planning. This person will be on site May 21st thru 24th, and already has about 75 people to meet with.
- There was a survey that went out in advance to a number of people, only 10-20% responded to the survey. The consultant needs at least 200 responses to get proper data.
- There is a Help Desk Task Force in place and meetings are already happening and going well
- There is, of course, a SLAC space page
- The consultant is mainly tasked with delivering a 3 year help desk implementation plan, the firm being used is "Decision Consultants" and they are highly recommended.

News: Amber Boehnlein:
- Amedeo Perrazzo applied for a NERSC project and received an award for cycles
- There will be an upcoming HEP S&T Review, Amber would like to use the members of the SCSC for practice prior to the review.
- The GEANT 4 workshop focused on ASCR-HEP. Amber will be talking to some people about her experience there.
- LDRD Schedule: proposals have already been submitted, reviews will take place the week of May 14th, and the results will be determined by late June.

James Williams, New CIO attended and introduced himself
- From NASA Ames, a 14 year career there, with a science and engineering IT base
- His focus is customer centric: determine how to serve better as a mission support organization, how to add value to the lab overall.
- James' immediate goal is to manage expectations and to assess needs, he will be meeting with various groups for the first 6 weeks of his tenure to get an initial overview.
- He likes input, feedback and absolute candor
- Each attending member introduced themselves and gave a description of what they do, where they work in the lab, and the name of the directorate they represent

Invitation to present current challenges to James with computing in various Directorates or Areas:
- Richard D had a slide presentation to showcase the areas of concern in PPA, it is posted on the SCSC page.
- Stuart Marshall stated that KIPAC has a small cluster for MPI right now, and that he wants to preserve the capability as it ages.
- Cho Ng stated he needs on-site file servers for his NERSC project, and that otherwise, his computing is handled out of Berkeley.

IT Critical Services Review: Teresa Downey, Norm Ringgold
- There was a presentation on this topic, slides are on the SCSC page in the meeting agenda area
- A discussion ensued regarding what SHOULD be kept up during an outage, and what was possibly missing from the generators in the most recent outage.
- James would like a list of what are the prioritized items now, and justifications, as well as justifications from any SCSC member who had anything to add to that list.

Current Scientific Computing Project List and Status: Len Moss
- Current list and status was presented for James' benefit, and for short discussion with the members of the SCSC.

Next Meeting: May 24, 2012