Discussion topics:

1. UPDATES FROM GREG MADDEN

Greg is Sr. Advisor for Research Computing and Cyber Infrastructure and joins this meeting to provide updates on university-level high performance computing activities:

- All senior leadership in IT is now in place so there is a great deal going on. Greg states decisions will now be data driven and he talked about ways the necessary data will now be gathered.
- Chief Information Officer has tasked the RCCI committee for a recommendation of what a centrally supported, research driven organization looks like. This recommendation will be made by working in the following 5 areas:
  - Marketing: demand analysis of researcher needs
  - Researcher Case Uses: anecdotes of what researchers need but do not have
  - Document of Services Available: meetings with Research Deans, focus groups with faculty
  - Peer Analysis of Big10 schools
  - National Best Practices Document
- Open Access Committee: will draft open access policy for published work.
- Office 365 is coming for full university, target date currently December 2018.
- BOX is now FedRAMP authorized, and College researchers have recently received permission to use BOX for data transfer to and from sponsors for ITAR and NIST covered projects. OIS approval will still be required, and a separate ‘non-person’ BOX account will be needed for each project. Jerry can provide more information.
- Greg also mentioned that an important goal is to eliminate ‘informal’ data centers across campus. To this end, IBM will be conducting a review of all data centers across campus and making recommendations.
- Greg reminds everyone that his role is to be a point of contact/last resort for issues, so never hesitate to send him an email for problems, thoughts, ideas related to computing needs at the university. gem19@psu.edu

CONCLUSIONS

Greg asked the committee if it would be willing to serve as a focus group for the RCCI Committee’s data gathering. The committee agreed, so Susie will schedule a meeting of the committee in one month for a one hour ARCS focus group.

2. UPDATES FROM ADRI VAN DUIN

Adri is a member of the HPC working group and a co-chair of the RCCI. He provided the following updates:

- Current discussions center on the cost of administration for using ACI, as they are very expensive. Adri believes that ACI is progressing to the point where they will be
willing to talk about this cost issue and other issues. One reason they may be more willing to discuss cost is because of the pressure that cloud storage availability is putting on them.

CONCLUSIONS

3. UPDATES FROM JERRY CIOLKOSZ

DISCUSSION
No additional items.

CONCLUSIONS

4. RESEARCH CONCIERGE SYSTEM

DISCUSSION
While discussing needs of faculty related to research computing, Greg Madden mentioned a system that 3 colleges have recently implemented. Each college has set this up a bit differently, but overall addressing the same need. A concierge system includes a person in place in the college whose job it is to assist researchers to get set-up when they arrive at Penn State or when they receive a new grant. The concierge can help the researcher determine the best match of where to store data and who will be the administrator, whether it be ACI, local, or AWS. Greg said he believes the position can be part of IT, but that it is important for the concierge to be independent in order to be objective in selecting the best option for each researcher. It is important for the concierge to be knowledgeable in IT, Research Administration, and the Libraries.

CONCLUSIONS

5. COMMITTEE CHAIR AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

DISCUSSION
George reiterated the need for a new Chair for the committee. Good news: Mike Hillman has volunteered to chair the committee, effective immediately. Thank you Mike.
- Should each department head provide the names of two members, one as an alternate in case the department representative cannot attend?
- Discussed the purpose of this committee as taking the information provided by Greg Madden from central, Jerry Ciolkosz from IT, and Adri and others from the RCCI working groups, and passing that information on to COE faculty through the departments. Department heads appoint a member to this committee, and it is expected that the information is passed on through faculty meetings.

CONCLUSIONS

Minutes submitted by Susie Sherlock, Asst. to the Assoc. Dean for Research

ACTION: Susie will be scheduling the next meeting in one month as a Focus Group; a doodle poll will follow shortly.