COE Research Computing Committee

MINUTES JULY 30, 2018

ATTENDEES	Present: Adri van Duin (MNE); Jerry Ciolkosz (IT); George Lesieutre (ADR); Greg Pavlak (AE); Hui Yang (IME); Xiao Liu (BME); Xiaofeng Liu (CEE); Jing Yang (EE); Greg Madden (Sr. Advisor);	
	Absent: Conrad Tucker (SEDTAPP); Scott Milner (ChE); Christian Peco (ESM); Cibin Raj (ABE); Paul Medvedev(CSE); Sven Schmitz (Aero)	

Discussion topics:

1. UPDATES FROM GREG MADDEN

DISCUSSION	 Greg Madden is Sr. Advisor for Research Computing and Cyber Infrastructure and joins this meeting to provide updates on university-level high performance computing activities: SIMBA: replacing IBIS. Greg is reaching out to faculty to recruit members for the Faculty Advisory Panel to the SIMBA transition. The goal is to help identify what features are critical for researchers in this new financial system. If interested, please contact either Deb Meder or Greg Madden Discussion on Security of Data, specifically compliance controls for sensitive research data. ATO's (Authority to Operate) which cover permission for faculty to operate with sensitive data is a top priority at the university. Sensitive data includes Level 3 or Level 4 data including export control, NDA's, and more. Using ACI or AWS for data processing simplifies this process for faculty, as they are already equipped for sensitive data. All faculty should follow-up to determine what level data they have in order to ensure that all necessary compliance occurs. Faculty are asked to contact one of the following to discuss their research data: security@psu.edu: they will discuss with you the level of your data and advise how to proceed. Sponsored Programs can also discuss your research data security with you. Jerry Ciolkosz in COE can advise on data security.
CONCLUSIONS	 Any faculty member interested in joining the Faculty Advisory Panel should contact Deb Meder or Greg Madden. Faculty: please follow-up on data security compliance.

2. UPDATES FROM ADRI VAN DUIN (CHAIR TODAY FOR MIKE HILLMAN)

	Adri is chair of the RCCI and a co-chair of the RCC Advisory Committee. He provided the following updates:
DISCUSSION	 Reminder of the responsibility of committee members to disseminate, to their respective departments, the information discussed at this meeting. There are many changes occurring within IT and this is an important way to communicate those changes to the faculty. Thanks to Adri for stepping in today in Mike's absence.

		 Thank you to two committee members who were not able to attend today's meeting and asked someone else in to attend in their place. Thank you to those who stepped in to help.
CON	CLUSIONS	 George will email department heads reminding them of the importance of providing time for the RCC representative to provide updates at faculty meetings. Greg Madden has offered to attend faculty meetings to provide a brief update on the status of research computing and changes that are upcoming. If you would like to have Greg attend your faculty meeting, please contact him directly at gem19@PSU.EDU Update: George sent an email to department heads requesting volunteers for the RCCI Advisory Council. Two faculty members have volunteered so far, one from EE and one from AE.

3. UPDATES FROM JERRY CIOLKOSZ

DISCUSSION	 Jerry provided an update to the email transition to Office 365. Current plan is for the migration to occur in October/November. He discussed the current plan for continued support for existing email address hosted on the College Exchange email server in the new system, as well as the availability of Cisco Unified voicemail in Office 365. Initial testing indicates that the unified voicemail in Office 365 will work in the same way it currently does on the Engineering system. The web base versions of the Office 365 applications are currently accessible to faculty and staff by browsing to office365.com and then logging in with PSU credentials. Update on Administrative Rights: Jerry is very pleased with the software 'Beyond Trust' and the use of 'privilege escalation' that allows faculty more options for administrative control. Several COE departments are already using Beyond Trust and its growing popularity will result in the expansion of the number of licenses available.
CONCLUSIONS	COE faculty and staff can expect to see lots of information from IT in the next few months, as the migration to Office 365 gets closer.

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

ACTION: Susie will be scheduling the next meeting for September; a doodle poll will be sent in August.