Research Computing Advisory Committee
Minutes Jan 9, 2017 (taken by Erik Deumens)

Present: Paul Avery, S. Balachandar, Peter Barnes, Hai-Ping Cheng, Erik Deumens, Richard Hennig, Alberto Riva, Plato Smith

Updates
- The FLR-SSERCA Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) on active archival storage closed on Dec 23, 206. The two vendors selected are Lenovo for a base solution and DDN for an advanced solution. Contracts are being worked out. UF will plan to implement a solution based on this ITN.

Discussion
Continued from last month on the topic of HiperGator Challenge.
- Because of the experience CISE has with SwampHacks, a successful and widely attended challenge, we asked Prof. Juan Gilbert chair of CISE for advice. He will work with us to make this work.
- Initial timeline
  o Planning between now and May 2017
  o Implement during June and July 2017
  o Hold the challenge during fall of 2017
- To get a broad input on possible ideas, organize a competition for ideas. Include students to get the ideas.
  o Maybe we need a prize to reward the best idea that is selected for the HiPerGator Challenge? What would be a good prize?
  o Hold competition in Feb 1, 2017 through Mar 15, 2017?
  o Best project selected by April 1, 2017?
- Definition of the HiPerGator Challenge
  o Must have mass appeal, not an esoteric problem
  o Preferably a challenge that is not solved, or that needs a better solution
  o Preferably with wide ranging benefit to many people and their daily life
  o Clear need for a large computer, big data, and /or high Internet bandwidth in and out
- Ideas that were discussed include deep learning applications, IBM Watson software, Amazon's "Alexa" is a second generation of Apple's "Siri", improve searching literature,

Organization
- Sanjay has not been able to attend the meetings. Paul Avery as chair will contact him and maybe ask for a suggestion of a replacement from CISE.
- Next meeting will be on Monday February 6, 2017 in a different conference room NPB 2165 from 1:30 – 2:30 pm.
- The meeting will feature a presentation by the Digital Humanities Working Group.