

Research Computing Advisory Committee

Minutes Nov 23, 2020 (taken by Erik Deumens)

Present: Paul Avery, Nikolay Bliznyuk, Ana Conesa, Erik Deumens, Richard Hennig, Guillaume Labilloy, Lauren McIntyre, George Michailidis, Rafa Munoz-Carpena, Parisa Rashidi, Plato Smith, Douglas Spearot, Jack Stenner

Updates

- Deliveries of components has started.
 - o Power to rows 7 in data center was activated Nov 19-20.
 - o HiPerGator 3.0 phase 1 was delivered and will to put in row 7 Tuesday Nov 24
 - o Week of Nov 30 people from Lenovo and from Nvidia will lay cables for HPG 3.0 and HPG AI, respectively
 - o HiPerGator AI racks will arrive starting Dec 4.
 - o There will be a second power down of the data center to activate rows 8, 9, 10, 11 for HPG AI.
 - o Both systems will be available for early user access sometime in January 2021.
- Training materials will be developed together with NVIDIA as part of the Deep Learning Institute (DLI). A full training plan is being developed.
- There are 7 open positions in RC; we have found good candidates for 4, who have accepted, 2 are negotiating, one position did not get candidates that met the requirements and will have to be reposted.

Discussion

- Will training be required to use the new HiPerGator 3.0?
 - o No, HPG 3.0 will just be faster and bigger. Only if you want to start using AI, will some training on these tools be needed.
- Do faculty know about the training?
 - o They should know by now about the AI initiative. But no details have been given about the options because they are still being developed.
- Is the basic mandatory training available?
 - o Yes, it is. See https://help.rc.ufl.edu/doc/New_user_training The mandatory part is not automated yet.
- Training for specific modules is available, including some more technical ones of interest to IT people supporting researchers. We will package such training to make it more convenient to share and access.

Next meeting will be on January 18, 2021 from 1:30 – 2:30 pm. The meeting will be Zoom only. An invitation will be sent.