

Research Computing Advisory Committee

Minutes Aug 21, 2023 (taken by Erik Deumens)

Present: Nikolay Bliznyuk, Chris Barnes, Philip Chang, Tajuana Chisholm, Gogce Crynen, Susmita Datta, Erik Deumens, Richard Hennig, Gale Keenan, Guillaume Labilloy, Damon Lamb, Rafa Munoz-Carpena, Parisa Rashidi, Massoud Rouhizadeh, Jack Stenner, Bruce Vogel

Updates

- **UFIT Research Computing staff changes**
 - o Five people will join RC as Research Support Engineers in offices spread over campus. Their starting dates are between Sep 1 and Nov 10.
- **HiPerGator Digital Twin infrastructure**
 - o The orders have been placed and equipment started arriving.
 - o There are several projects at UF working with RC and NVIDIA on building digital twins: strawberry field, intensive care unit, an existing UF building (Heavener Hall)
- **UFNet3 upgrade**
 - o The campus backbone has been upgraded with new equipment support 400 Gbps.
 - o The regional network for research and education (FLR) also runs at 400 Gbps.
 - o We are waiting for a switch to connect HiPerGator at 400 Gbps; it still runs at 100 Gbps.

Discussion

- **UFNet3 speed to buildings.** The backbone connects all buildings. Depending on the age and the need for connectivity, buildings are connected at 10 Gbps or 40 Gbps or 100 Gbps. The replacement cycle for equipment is 5 to 7 years. Then equipment is replaced and upgraded.
- **Access by UF to OpenAI and ChatGPT.** UF is working with Microsoft Azure to put access in place that will contain UF data to stay within UF control. The consumer ChatGPT takes your take and learns from it merging it with the data of the rest of the world.
- **MFA session expiration.** It is possible to keep your MFA key valid for 10 hours. In the first web session of the day, click the proper checkbox in the DUO screen. See documentation for HiPerGator here https://help.rc.ufl.edu/doc/SSH_Multiplexing and https://help.rc.ufl.edu/doc/Using_SSH_Keys_To_Access_HPG

Next meeting will be on September 18, 2023 from 2:00 – 2:30 pm. The meeting will be Zoom only.