

University of Pittsburgh Senate Computer Usage Committee (SCUC)
Friday January 20, 2017

Attending: Yarger, Walton, Costantino, Jamal, Doty, Arena, Labrindis, Haw, McCall, Spring, Wisniewski.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
Call to order		
Presentation and Discussion with Ralph Roskies; Associate Vice Provost for Research Computing	<p>Introduction to the Center for Research Computing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mission is to increase the research productivity of Pitt faculty through the use of advanced computing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing Pitt community access to cutting-edge computer hardware and software for enabling transformative research, • Providing Pitt community training workshops to educate users how to utilize the computing resources effectively, • Providing extended personalized consultation for improving researchers' computational workflow and code performance through selection of better algorithms, parallelization techniques, improved use of input-output strategies, etc. <p>How to request services :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply for an allocation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://core.sam.pitt.edu/apply • Request resources beyond the startup 10K Service Units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://core.sam.pitt.edu/beyond10K • Attend a workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://core.sam.pitt.edu/registration-spring-2017 • Cluster documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://core.sam.pitt.edu/doc 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Request help<ul style="list-style-type: none">• http://core.sam.pitt.edu/node/add/support-ticket <p>CRC Hardware Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MPI-OP & MPI-IB: for applications that are parallelized using the distributed computing Message Passing Interface framework.• HTC: for high throughput computing workflows such as next-generation sequencing assembly and data-intensive analytics.• SMP: for serial jobs and programs that are parallelized using the shared memory framework.• NTA: for applications written to take advantage of non-traditional architectures such as NVIDIA GPUs and Intel Knights Landing Multi-core CPUs. <p>ARC 2017 Symposium: Urban Computing and Machine Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• When: Thursday March 2, 2017• Where: University Club• Please register: http://www.sam.pitt.edu/arc-2017/ <p>Q: Who qualifies for a CRC account? A: Faulty member who can add others including graduate students to the project</p> <p>A: Are non-traditional research groups welcome such as the Python Linguistics group? Q: Yes! The Center is actively looking for such groups.</p> <p>A: What are the advantages over the PCS?</p>	
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	<p>Q: Streamlined access and allocation, support for grants and start up projects.</p> <p>Q: Will training be part of curriculum? A: Working towards integration with schools and units including the School of Computing and Information (SCI), Honors College, Digital Humanities and CTSI. Also, PhD Program in Computational Modeling and Simulation (https://www.sam.pitt.edu/education/)</p> <p>Q: Workshop schedule? A: Available via http://core.sam.pitt.edu/registration-spring-2017</p> <p>Q: Using Read Green and Office of Communications to create messages and communicate with faculty, staff and students? A: Will do.</p>	
CSSD Report	<p>Pitt's Guest Wireless- 10 years in service and time for a re-boot. CSSD evaluating products and services including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-service bulk requests • Accommodation of up to 1000 accounts • All primary Pitt accounts can be sponsors • Quick approval process • Guest user/password notification. <p>Imap based email phase out continuing with migration starting in February 2017.</p> <p>CSSD and the Center for Teaching and Learning are conducting an environmental scan of learning management software (LMS).</p>	<p>Updates will be provided as the evaluation process continues</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is there a better solution to meet Pitt’s need?• Cross departmental assessment committee will be created <p>Q: How many classes/instructors use Course Web?</p> <p>Multifactor Identification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implementation is being accelerated and will require faculty and staff to use multifactor authentication for university services• Multifactor authentication will be required for those using the Secure Remote Access service to connect to University resources from an off-campus location. <p>Q: When Pitt accounts are compromised and shut down by CSSD, notification is dependent on the account holder contacting the Help Desk. Often, the help desk reports that information can not be given. How often does this occur?</p> <p>Q: Would an automated system phone call or text message about the account shut down be possible?</p> <p>Q: Will the Help Desk be able to provide information on how the threat was found, the source of the threat and how it was rectified?</p>	<p>CSSD creating an assessment committee and requesting volunteers including students. Open forums are planned as well.</p> <p>Update will be provided by CSSD after assessing abilities/services</p>
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New Business	<p>Outlook 365 Migration - http://technology.pitt.edu/support/office-365-email-migration</p> <p>Q: How does the University guarantee that Microsoft is not reviewing email content or harvesting use data now that Pitt no longer houses email servers?</p> <p>A: A multi-step process- the University vets and reviews all service contracts and 3rd party audits are completed to be sure that vendors are complying with polices.</p> <p>Microsoft's Trust Center (https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/trustcenter) offers detailed security, privacy, and compliance information for all Microsoft cloud services.</p> <p>Q: What happens if the University no longer uses Microsoft products or Outlook 365?</p> <p>A: Data would be downloaded and mail migrated to new solution.</p> <p>Q: Display name issues?</p> <p>A: Override display names is available.</p> <p>Q: Issues with user created aliases?</p>	Ongoing updates on Outlook 365 will be provided by CSSD

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	<p>A: Responsibility Center admins have the ability to assign additional email aliases to accounts they are responsible for. These can be in the PITT.EDU domain or in sub domains like athletics.pitt.edu or fis.pitt.edu.</p> <p>There is a separate issue where Mailman does not support email aliases for mailing lists. We are looking to see if an upgrade will solve this. In the meantime, CSSD can make aliases work with Mailman, but it is via a cumbersome process.</p>	
Call for New Business	<p>Website traffic and browser based “fingerprinting” information web site should be provided to educate the Pitt community about the concept and issues. For example: https://panopticlick.eff.org/tracker</p> <p>University Senate Spring Plenary 2017: The Role of Research Metrics in Faculty Evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• March 29, 2017 - 12pm to 3 pm• Speakers Diana Hicks and Cassidy Sugimoto and a local response panel• Further reading and various perspectives - http://www.univsenate.pitt.edu/additional-readings-and-various-perspectives• General Comments and Questions- http://www.univsenate.pitt.edu/	

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Meeting adjourned		Next meeting on February 17th
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