



HPHI Oversight Committee Meeting

Michaelmas Term Meeting – 23rd February 2018, 12.00pm – 1.00pm

1. Present

Professor Ed Bullmore (EB), Dr Guy Williams (GW), Professor Bertie Gottgens (BG), Dr Lydia Drumright (LD), Professor John Suckling (JS), Dr Paul Calleja (PC), Richard Bartlett (RB), Andrew Leedham (AL),

2. Apologies

Ferdia Gallagher (FD), Kevin Brindle (KB), James Brenton (JB)

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 21st November 2017 were approved

4. Matters arising

None

5. Review of Action Points

Action points from previous meeting were reviewed. Good progress was being made on most points. Point 4 regarding preparation of a cost model for HPHI and point 6 regarding a paper on how to use OpenStack for virtual servers was to be discussed later in the meeting.

6. Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference were discussed briefly. It was felt that as they were fairly straight forward reviewing them on a regular basis was not needed.

7. Review of Usage

WBIC

GW reported on WBIC. Storage had come down from 400 to 363 TB out of total of 693.

PC reminded the Committee that maximum amount of practical storage usage before the performance of the platform suffers is 90%, therefore the realistic total amount available is actually 620TB.

PC is making progress with regards to tape vs disc for storage and this should enable off-loading of some storage. PC also said that he could support this transition, and if more storage is temporarily needed, this could be arranged, as a gesture of goodwill, at no extra cost, but it would need to be cleared down afterwards.

WBIC has currently used 15TB of 208TB Nexenta storage (RFS).

JS reported on BCNI. He noted that there is still a way to go with their migration so more storage might be needed.

ACTION: JS, GW and PC to meet to discuss resources for WBIC side of things

Brenton Cluster

Up to date statistics were provided by the HPC team and tabled by AL. These showed that compute nodes were being utilised at 15% of their capacity. Whilst lustre storage was almost fully utilised.

The board heard that of the 1.4PB of Lustre storage, Caldos' group (PBCP) are currently utilising 893TB, with 300 TB additionally assigned to BG. AL mentioned that Nik Zainal's group had also been allocated 20TB. It was suggested that storage needs a cost model created with a limit to how much lustre storage a group can be allocated or utilise for free.

It was pointed out that although Lustre storage was nearly used, the compute side was only running at 15% of capacity.

PC added that storage can be added or Caldos' group could buy storage if it was decided that they should only have a certain amount of free storage.

EB made the point that the resources allocated to BG's group needs to be protected.

8. Expressions of Interest

AL and Paul Sumption had discussed creating a form for groups to complete in order to express their interest. PC suggested that the HPC team need to engage more with research groups and that he was looking at implementing a CRM to help with this. It was decided because of the usage stats on Lustre storage that there was no requirement at this time to solicit for further interested groups.

ACTION – LD agreed to talk to JB to discuss high usage of Lustre storage by Caldos' group and whether this is an appropriate use of resource.

9. Draft Minutes of the HPHI Imaging Sub-Committee on 26th January

A generally positive meeting, but there is need for another post (JS, GW and PC to discuss directly after this meeting).

10. Update on ISO certification

Project Board has been formed and a meeting date was set but was cancelled due a rethinking of Governance, which led to a change in Board structure. GW is Project lead and Vijay Samtani (CISO) is Chair.

PC reported that he would be the chair of the technical working group and that he felt UIS should make up any funding gaps in the project.

This item is now to be removed from the agenda of this committee as the Project Board is well under way. GW can give regular updates to HPHI Committee and make sure SCM cases are represented in the secure research project.

LD made the point that anything coming from CUH should go via her. The National Survey Requirement should also be taken into account.

EB asked if the University was heading for one secure research platform. RB mentioned it would make sense to move his tenants across as long as the governance models could be satisfied

11. AOB

None

12. Date of next meeting – to be arranged in Easter Term