

CSMD Staff Meeting – January 20, 2009

Attendee: Barney Maccabe, Lora Wolfe, Nancy Wright, John Turner, John Drake, Rich Graham, Al Geist, Jack Wells, George Ostrouchov, Neena Imam (for Jacob Barhen), Robert Harrison, Jeremy Smith, Ed D’Azevedo, Jeff Vetter, Daniel Pack, Ursula Henderson

- * Barney will be on travel next week: Monday to DOE workshop on Nuclear Science (<http://extremecomputing.labworks.org/nuclearphysics/index.stm>), Wednesday to Denver, Thursday and Friday visiting Sandia and retirement party at University of New Mexico.
 - * Barney was at DOE last Wednesday for Fred Johnson's retirement party. He met with program managers. One new concept is “Rigorous Confidence Measures for Decision Making”. This is more than verification and validation (V&V), uncertainty quantification (UQ), or sensitivity analysis. It may also involve quality of data, presentation and analysis. Ultimately it is support of decision making. Sandy Landsberg and Steve Lee have just visited Sandia and see Sandia's math program (David Womble, Bruce Hendrickson) as very strong. Barney is trying to invite them to visit ORNL in April.
 - * Daniel Pack has added links to division seminar and invited speakers http://www.csm.ornl.gov/csmd_seminar.html
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 - * Barney will be giving a presentation to RAMS faculty about overview of research activities in the division. He'll reuse slides from Jeff. Barney is also looking for new slides.
 - * Lois is out sick, and Lora will be on jury duty. Nancy Wright suggests looking into clerical pool to hire temporary help (say 1 or 2 days a week).
 - * Nomination packages for Significant Event Award (SEA) due this Friday, January 23, 2009.
 - * PADS discussion should be completed by end of January. New performance plan should be in EPM before end of January.
 - * Barney is planning to have an all hands meeting in February, date not confirmed yet.
 - * Daniel Pack is going through the report from the last safety audit to see (or make sure) the findings have been addressed.
- [Ed: For Bldg 6012, we have a power strip with extra long cord in the library meeting room since using an extension cord with a power strip was a finding. Daniel will get a 5 gal bucket to safely hold used light bulbs. A rack computer in the machine room has to be moved away from the main power panels (need at least 36in clearance). There is still a lot of "junk" (old equipment) in the machine room. Daniel will look into who owns the "junk" and what can go to salvage.]
- * The "research enclave" wiki and code repository will be reconfigured to use XCAMS for managing passwords and user accounts.
 - * Daniel Pack is looking for highlights to send to program managers. Sandy Landsberg uses the highlights to promote the program.

- * John Turner is still looking to hire a postdoc.
- * Jeremy Smith has been awarded about 40M hours of computing resources as part of INCITE, early access, NSF Kraken, NERSC. He will use the time for molecular dynamics (GAMESS) modeling related to ethanol production and biofuels.
- * Jeff Vetter's group looking to hire someone with expertise in parallel runtime I/O and compiler optimization.
- * NSF site visit for full acceptance of Kraken around mid February.
- * Line Pouchard has been using the Assessment and Commitment Tracking System (ACTS) to track milestones that the division has to achieve. Our group's only milestone is the development of MADNESS to run efficiently on the high performance machines. The division will get a black eye if ACTS determines some of the milestones are not achieved, but there are no merits if they are met. Al Geist suggests putting milestones that are very very likely will be met.
- * Several engineers from Boeing visited NCCS (Boeing has an INCITE award) on Tuesday. Judy, Sreekanth, Ahmed, and Ed gave short presentations.