

High Performance Computing User Group

Terms of reference, constitution and membership

Terms of reference

- Reports to: Research Computing Advisory Group (RCAG).
- Receives reports from: ITS Research Computing Support team, a wide user base.

Role

1. Provide oversight to ensure the University High Performance Computing (HPC) system fulfils the needs of its users.
2. Review the usage of the system and the shares of the stakeholders.
3. Identify the needs of the Users.
4. Prioritise the needs appropriately given the shares of the various stakeholders.
5. Identify problems or weaknesses in the system and consider options and recommend solutions.
6. Provide clear guidance to the ITS Research Computing Support team to prioritize their work.
7. Provide recommendations to RCAG on requirements for future needs for hardware, software and support.
8. Coordinate HPC research plans and funding strategically.
9. Facilitate individual requests for HPC funding and relate this to stake holding and sustainability.
10. Two-way Communication with users.
11. Review the Training provision (including usage).
12. Ensure sharing of good practice.

Duties of the HPC User Group members

- The members will represent views from groups of stakeholders
- The group will be expected to proportionally balance the needs of the various stakeholders
- Respond by email to questions on an ad-hoc basis.

Constitution and membership

- Prof Michael Davies PVC Research (Chair)
- Dr Hazel Cox – Chemistry, Life Sciences.
- Dr Nicholas Dowell – BSMS, Psychology.
- Prof Anotida Madzamuse – Mathematics, MPS.
- Prof Thomas Nowotny – Informatics, E&I.
- Dr Antony Oliver – Genome Centre, Life Sciences.
- Prof Seb Oliver – Astrophysics, Theoretical Particle Physics, MPS.
- Dr.Fabrizio Salvatore – Experimental Particle Physics + other physics, MPS.
- Prof Martin Todd – Geography.

In attendance

- Mr Jeremy Maris – Computing Manager (ITS Client Services).

Meetings

The HPC User Group will meet approximately 4 times per year to align with the RCAG. Initial meetings will be more frequent.

The Terms of Reference were agreed at the HPC-UG meeting, 08 May 2017