

Research Computing Subcommittee – report to Research Coordinating Council, Sept. 2005

First formed as joint subcommittee of RCC and CSAC (Computer Services Advisory Committee), then formal subcommittee of TOC (Technology Oversight Council).

Current Membership

1.	Randy Gaines	IT Services
2.	Vitit Kantabutra	Engineering
3.	Cyndy Kelchner	IRH
4.	Skip Lohse	Anthropology
5.	Ben Nickell	Mathematics
6.	Ralph Norton	Office of Research
7.	James Bigelow	Pharmacy
8.	Dave Coffland	Math, Science & Tech Education
9.	Ken Trimmer	CIS, Business
10.	Deb Easterly	Office of Research

Focus of RCS is to provide a voice for research computing users:

- a. **Define/Develop Constituency:** Identify the existing community of research computing users, cultivate them and encourage a culture of collaborative research computing and resource sharing.
- b. **Identify Constituency Needs:** Research computing generally includes numerical analyses (intensive number-crunching) and data-intensive research (storage and manipulation of large amounts of data). Do other needs exist? What support do the users need/desire?
- c. Once we identify the user community, we will be better situated to address the question of **appropriate membership** for this subcommittee. Initial membership was drawn from each college plus IT Services and Office of Research, but we may change membership to represent type of use or need. Important to keep the group to a reasonable size.

Accomplishments to date:

- Have held 5 meetings starting last March
- Invited all faculty/staff to identify themselves as interested in research computing
 - 69 respondents
- Survey to gather more details about research computing users and their needs
 - 31 respondents to online survey
 - Plan to follow up with non-respondents
- Invited representative of each Research Center / Institute to June meeting, to discuss representation options for this subcommittee. Deb Easterly will represent some, and others want to send their own representative. Still under negotiation, to keep committee size reasonable.
- Department-level survey to identify research computing resources and needs across ISU. This has just been distributed by email.