

CRAG Minutes for the meeting held on 15th January 2010, 1300- 14:00, in G17 Pearson Building

In Attendance: John Brodholt (Chair), Clare Gryce (acting Secretary), Thomas Wallenda, William Hay, Nik Kaltsoyannis, Andrew Martin, Ian Eames, Ben Waugh, Jeremy Yates, Bruno Silva

Apologies: Eric Fraga.

1. Approval of Minutes of last meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the December 2009 meeting, which had been previously distributed, were approved by the group.

It was agreed that Clare Gryce should check the minutes for the November 2009 meeting – still unconfirmed – and then publish them online.

2. Review list of actions

The list of actions from the last meeting was reviewed and the list updated (see Table below).

3. Review of usage statistics and reports

The usage statistics for the month were reviewed by the Group.

It was noted that the excessive wait times for jobs requesting 253-256 cores is owing to the current policy that these jobs be scheduled to run within a Computational Unit.

The group agreed that the wait times for all other job classes were appropriate.

The group noted that a proportion of jobs requesting 4 cores only need the RAM for these cores.

The group noted that the fairshare implementation is currently tending to result in FFO ('first in first out') scheduling behaviour.

It was noted that the jobs for one user who has used a high proportion of available core hours (D Hulme) is not associated with a Consortium. See Action 39.

The group agreed to monitor wait times at future meetings.

4. Review any requests received for resource reservations/additional resources

The Research Computing Manager reported that the request previously submitted by J Tennyson was granted, via email, before the break. No report has been received from the users since and the jobs appeared to have run without issue.

The group discussed the request previously received from R Kleta. It was reported that the Consortium Leader has initiated a dialogue with the group and that members of the Research Computing Support team have also met with them to discuss their proposal.

It was agreed that any future requests must be submitted and handled with reference to the guidance at http://www.ucl.ac.uk/research-computing/information/resource_allocation/#requests

There were no new requests.

5. Service status reports (Legion, Unity, Condor) from RC Manager

A verbal report on the Legion Upgrade project was provided.

It was reported that a number of minor works to improve the Unity user environment are taking place in January.

It was reported that the plans for the Condor Myriad roll-out are progressing within IS, with preliminary testing having been completed.

6. Review of resource allocation policy regarding wall clock times

It was agreed that there should be a full review of the current resource allocation policy at the next meeting.

7. 'Pro forma' for submission of requests for additional resources

It was agreed that this should be the first item on the agenda for the next meeting.

8. AOB and main topic for next meeting

It was suggested that the next meeting should also review the standing agenda and meeting duration.

*Clare Gryce
Research Computing
Information Services Division
1st February 2010*

LIST OF CURRENT ACTIONS

Shaded (closed/completed) items will be deleted in the next version

	<u>Actions</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Owner</u>
10	HEP and RC to decouple the running of the middleware from Legion and run this from HEP Central.	In progress (see new Action 38)	CG/BW
10a	MoU between CRAG/RC and HEP to be agreed.	Pending	CG/BW
18	MoU between CRAG/RC and Miracle project to be agreed on confirmation of funding.	Pending	CG
26	Implementation of job cleanup scripts. Certain codes Require Openmpi 1.2.8 and 1.3.3 to be installed. Have test codes MOLPRO2009, cp2k and mocassin ready to use this	Superseded by events, no longer required – agreed to close.	CG
29b	Statistics to be provided on the number of available nodes for each month (System Availability)	Done	CG
30	Web information about list of applications available on Legion to be updated, to include applications waiting to be installed, and any items that have been 'prohibited'.	Pending	CG
30a	Python and Numpy to be installed as modules on Legion	Agreed to close – both available as loadable test modules.	CG
31b	A monthly summary of how many users used the systems (i.e. number of active users), with names, should be provided.	Pending	CG
31c	A monthly list of the Top 20 Legion users and their % usage should be provided.	Done	CG
31d	Monthly Condor usage statistics should be provided.	Pending	CG
31e	Monthly data about wait time vs core usage should be provided.	Pending (in December works list)	

31f	Evidence to be provided that wait times are not excessive and that fairshare is indeed working on Legion	Statistics reviewed – no further action required at present (CRAG to monitor). Agreed to close.	CG
33c	RAM usage by jobs on the Unity Altix 4700 to be monitored and reported to CRAG each month.	Pending	CG
34	% usage of jobs using 61 – 256 cores to be broken down to two categories.	Done	CG
35	Monthly data showing a histogram of number of users vs % use of machine, to be provided.	Pending	CG
36	Monthly data showing the median job size per Consortium, be provided.	Pending	CG
37	More detailed information be provided to users regarding actions they may take in response to wait times experienced	Pending	CG
38	Remove soft limit of 128 simultaneously running LCG jobs and implement small prioritisation of LCG jobs.		CG
39	Daniel Hulme to be advised to join Mathematics Consortium; CRAG to facilitate.		JAY