CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

Attention Researchers!

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Discontinued Offering

The "Research Computing Initiative" (RCI) referenced in this article was discontinued as of January 2005. RCI accounts are no longer available. The article is being preserved only for its historical value. <editor@cns.ufl.edu>

Attention Researchers!

NERDC offers SUS faculty members free computing time through Research Computing Initiative (RCI) grants to develop projects that use the high performance features of the IBM RS/6000 SP computing complex. The RCI program is offered as a result of special pricing provided by IBM to support the enhancement of numerically intensive computing in higher education.

"It's a wonderful asset for researchers who need lots of intensive CPU time," said Marie Dence, associate director for NERDC. "It enables them to process their data relatively quickly." It also allows projects to be done that could not be done at all on smaller computers.

The uses for an RCI account are only limited by the professors' imaginations. Instructors and researchers from all departments are welcome to apply.

"We have been pleased to see that a wide variety of university departments participate in this project," said Dence. Account holders come from departments around campus: chemistry, engineering, fine arts, physics, social sciences, and others.

Those who are awarded RCI accounts will receive:

- Free computing time (upon peer review and RCI award)
- High-performance computing
- Parallel processing
- Large address spaces.

RCI account users will have access to the following, which are currently housed at NERDC:

- Parallelizing compilers
- Scientific and statistical libraries
- Internet access
- the IBM RS/6000 SP
  - AIX/6000 (IBM UNIX) Operating System
  - 4 120MHz Thin Nodes (512MB memory, 4.5GB disk)
• 6 Thin nodes (256MB memory, 4.5GB disk)
• 2 Thin2 nodes (256MB, 4.5GB disk)
• 1 Wide node (1GB memory, 4.5GB disk)
• 405GB SCSI attached RAID
• Scalable POWER parallel switch
• All nodes are connected to the TCP/IP based Internet network.

"NERDC has appreciated the privilege of helping advance university research projects by offering this service," said Dence. "The university has benefitted from many fine professional articles based on these research efforts," she continued.

RCI account holders will have access to the NERDC Support Desk (e-mail: consult@lists.ufl.edu [mailto:consult@lists.ufl.edu]), experienced parallel programming consultants, specialized documentation, seminars and workshops, as well as the NICLIST electronic discussion list.

For detailed information about RCI accounts, see NERDC document D0006, Large Scale Research Computing: RCI Guidelines and Application. Or contact Dr. Stan Dermott, Chair, RCI Allocation Committee, c/o NERDC, or via e-mail to rcichair@lists.ufl.edu [mailto:rcichair@lists.ufl.edu].

Your Comments are Welcome

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this and all UFIT documentation. Please send your comments to:

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