Resources & Services

- As of May 2, 2005, Andre Kerstens will be a member of the Professional Staff of the UTEP College of Engineering. Andre "will provide technical support to engineering and computing faculty in the areas of software and computer system management. Specifically he will assist faculty in the design, development and deployment of computing solutions including but not limited to the analysis, installation and configuration, technical integration, custom development, testing and staff training for research projects." "THANK YOU" to the HiPCAT members with who I discussed this possibility and who helped Andre and I specify the duties of such a staff member.

- Dr. Pavel Solin, Department of Mathematics, UTEP received $200,000 to purchase a high-end computing system; Pavel works in the area of numerical methods. He has evaluated several systems and will be making a decision soon. ("THANK YOU" to those who are passing on advice w.r.t. This procurement.) What is exciting is that Dr. Solin is interested in sharing this computing facility with other faculty on campus, much the same as Pat Teller has done with Top Gun (UTEP's p690 system). We spoke of the possibility of housing the system in IT since Ken Pierce, Director, IT, is eager to work with computational researchers on campus.

- Pat Teller submitted another IBM SUR grant proposal recently. If granted, UTEP will receive an IBM p550, a 16-processor POWER5-based SMP system. She also received approximately $500,000 to purchase equipment to further her research. Currently she is getting a quotation for a 4-processor POWER5-based SMP system that will be used for experimentation w.r.t. performance monitoring and tuning methodologies and processor virtualization. In addition, if the SUR grant proposal is successful, she will use this rest of this money to augment that system.

Research & Development

- Phil Smith, Jerry Perez, Michela Taufer, and Pat Teller continue to work on an course module, which when finished, will be distributed to TACC (Jay and Kent) for review and comment. Discussion has begun with Barbara Fossum at TACC w.r.t. identifying funding possibilities for this effort.

- Pat Teller was awarded a DoD grant (starting June 1) to continue work in the area of using statistical techniques to provide application programmers with information (gathered from analysis of performance event counts and communication traces) to help them tune the performance of their codes.

Education & Outreach

- Dr. David Bailey, LLNL, will visit UTEP at the end of April. Dr. Michela Taufer is hosting him. David will give two talks: one in the Department of Computer Science and one in the Department of Mathematics.

- Two UTEP undergraduate students applied for the DoD's PET Summer HPC Institute.
• Seetharami Seelam, Ph.D. candidate, will intern at IBM's TJ Watson Research Center; he will be working on HPC performance tools.

• Diana Villa, Ph.D. candidate, will intern at IBM-Austin; she will be working on HPC performance tools w.r.t. processor virtualization.

• Pat Teller will give a talk next week at the Salishan Conference on High-Speed Computing (sponsored by Los Alamos, Lawrence Livermore, and Sandia National Labs.); the talk is entitled "Challenges in Scalability of Performance Tools for Petaflops Systems". She and Seetharami Seelam, Ph.D. candidate, will attend in May the IBM Petascale Tools Strategy Workshop. Seelam was awarded $500 from IBM to attend.

Miscellaneous

• Pat Teller is SC06 Finance Chair and a member of the 2005 ICS Program Committee.