



# Sciences Division Research Computing

*Where to find help with IT*

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# Background

The information technology landscape @ Harvard

Who to call, where to go

HUIT and **help@fas**

Research Computing and **rchelp@fas**

# Information Technology Landscape

- previously many, independent organizations littered the campus, every one for their own!
- Massive overspend, extremely poor quality
- Divide between the haves, and the have nots
- Research computing and HUIT are two groups pulling both \$ and talent together from 100's of departments
- “Do no harm”, make it better, economy of scale
- Simple right?...

# Harvard University Information Technology (HUIT)

- **Central** help desk (**help@fas**) is all you need to remember from these sides!
- **Run** the universal desktop program, email, directory, authentication, admin file systems, print queues, phones
- **450+** staff recent combination of FAS and UIS
- **IRIS** email program, gmail for students
- **ATG**, academic technology group – (Katie Vale)
  - Media services, iSites, course material help

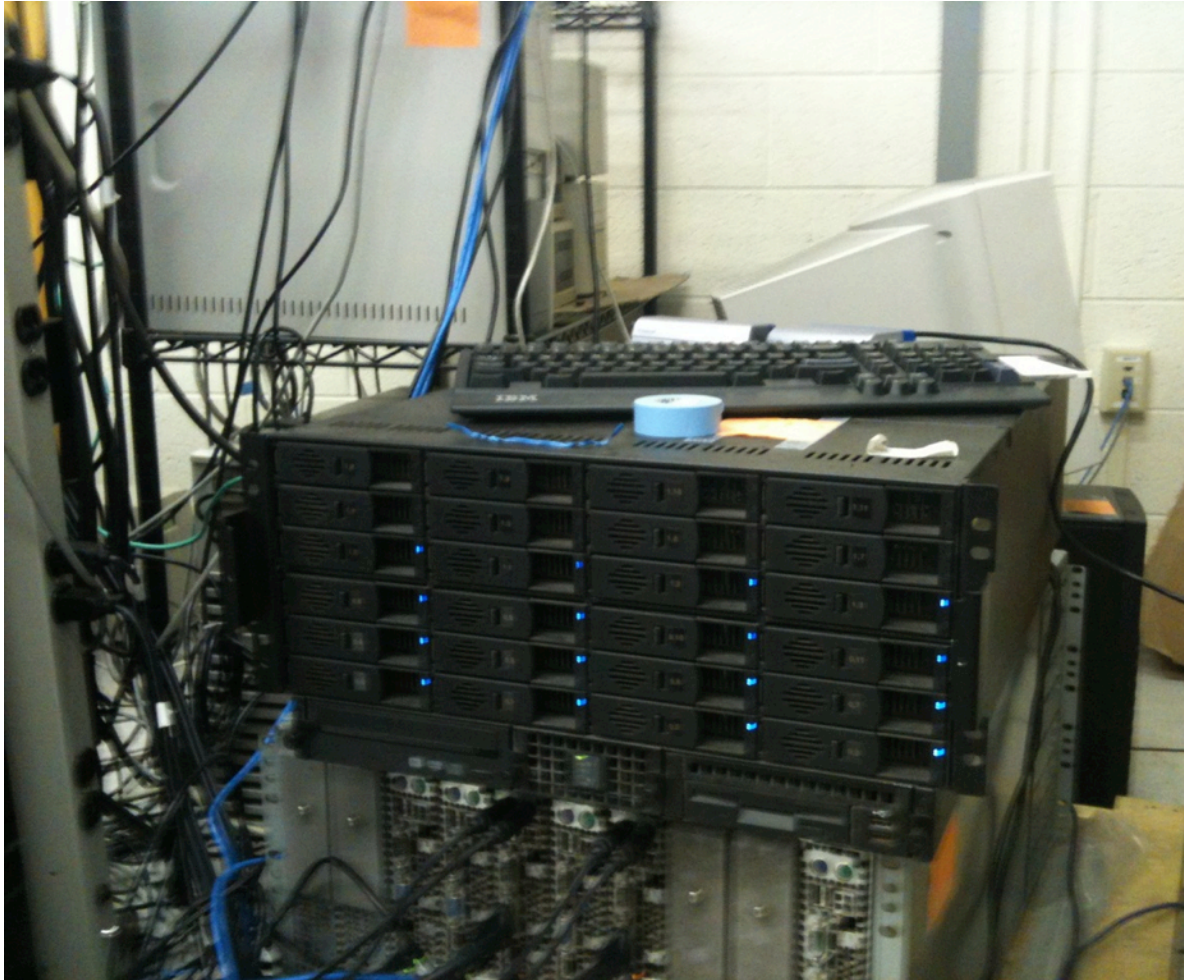
# Harvard University Information Technology (HUIT)

- CTO's office (Jim Waldo)
- CISO's office (Jay Carter) all things security
  - IRB issues, through to data policy, HESP work with RC
- UNSG (Jacques Laflamme) all things network, RC again can help here directly
- computers.harvard.edu (other purchases)
- huit.harvard.edu
  - org charts, who is who, full service catalogue

# Sciences Division Research Computing

- Grew out of *many* departmental budgets
- Was soup to nuts, email, desktop the whole lot
- Now focused on Research Computing, IT migrated out to HUIT
- We report into the divisional dean, have a faculty advisory group
- We can help with letters of support, and budgets and IT planning
- If you are not sure - give us a call, happy to help!

**Cough, splutter!**





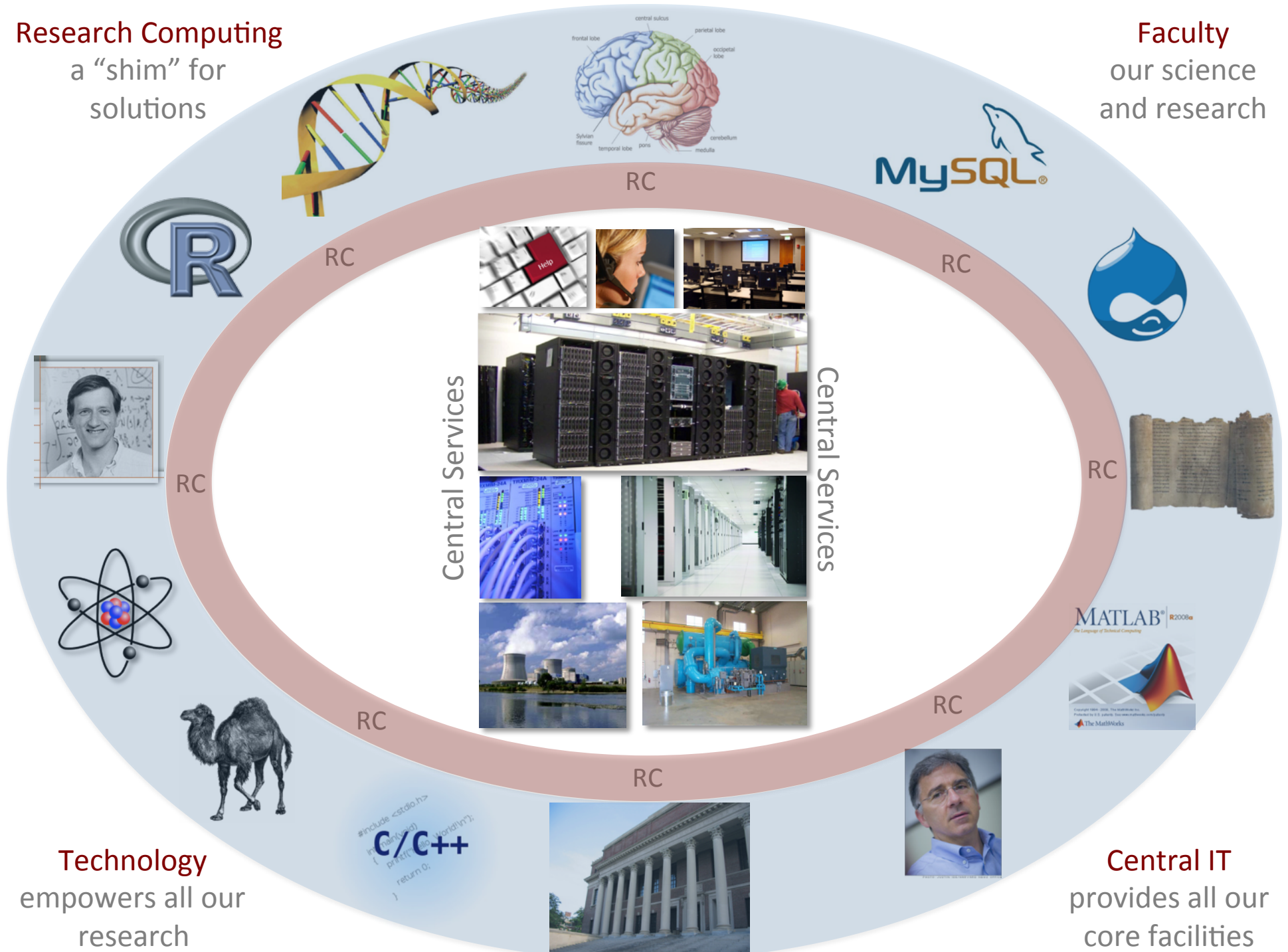
# Research Computing

## a “shim” for solutions

Faculty  
our science  
and research

Technology  
empowers all our  
research

Central IT  
provides all our  
core facilities





# Harvard Research Computing - Today

- ~14,000+ cpu and climbing
- ~3.0PB of storage also climbing
- ~500+ virtual machines
- ca. 1.3MW of research computing equipment
- 20 dedicated research computing staff
- 60% are PhD level

# The simple model

- Faculty purchase the “tin” and “silicon”
- Sysadm/domain knowledge from RC
- HVAC from RC
- Network from RC
- **\$/TB scale-out storage**
- Care feeding from RC
- Scheduling support
- Algorithm support

# I swear, if I hear this one more time...

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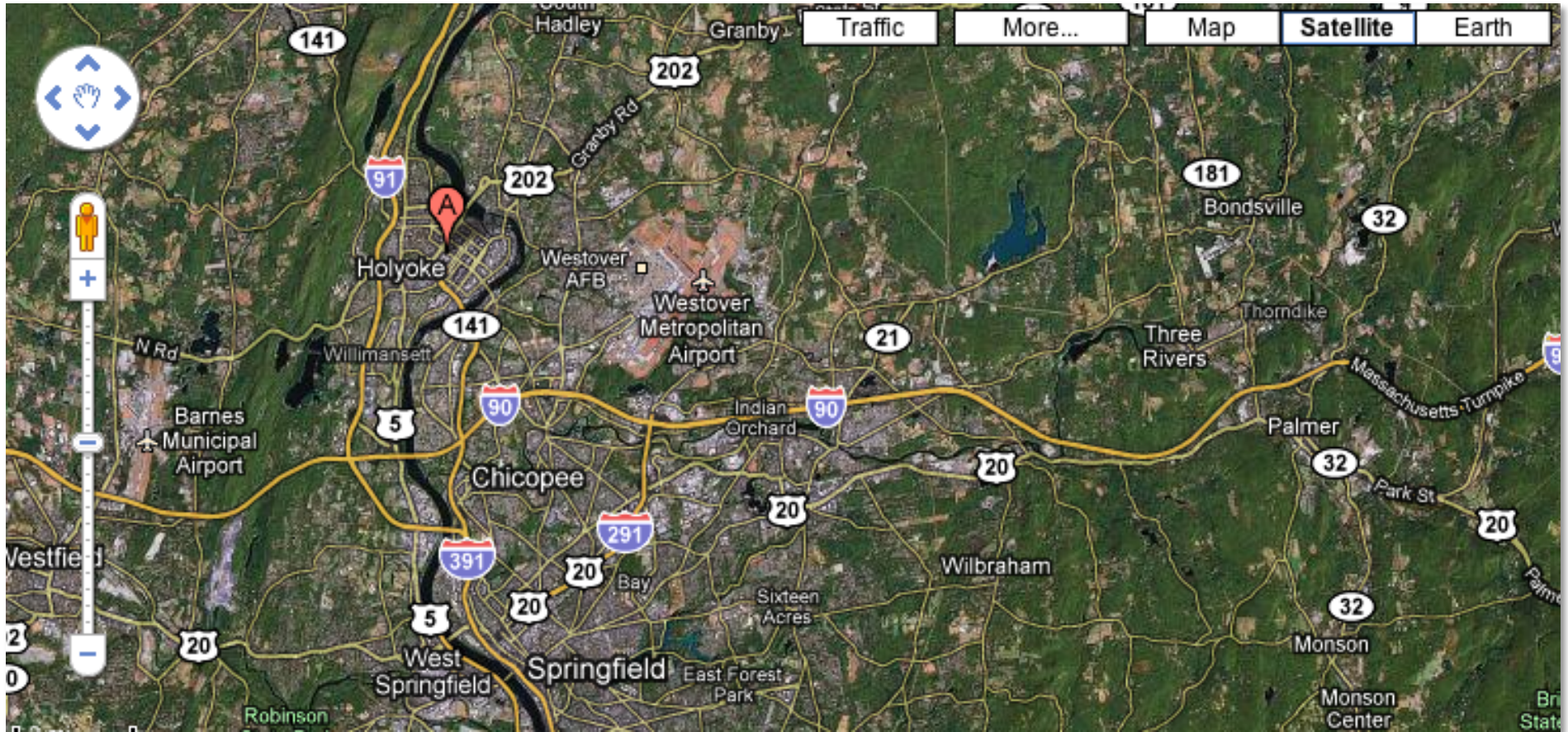
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No more power @ 1.3MW moving out to Holyoke...



Don't worry, it's just the computers ;-)

# Summary

- **help@fas**  
admin related, desktops print, mail etc.
- **rchelp@fas**  
research related, PB storage, clusters  
software for research, think genomics, HPC
- Don't worry if you pick wrong: it will reach the right folk
- If unsure copy both
- or copy me (I get lots, and lots of email, I don't mind a couple more!)

<http://huit.harvard.edu> | <http://rc.fas.harvard.edu>

[james\\_cuff@harvard.edu](mailto:james_cuff@harvard.edu) | <http://about.me/jcuff>



Questions?