UMD Computer Cluster Update
Erik Blaufuss- UMD

• New system admin hired
• Planned updates and changes to cluster
• RedHat 9
• New Stuff
New system administrator

• We've hired a undergraduate student to help us out with system administration tasks on the computer cluster.

• Jamel Stephens
  – Email: jstep@umdgrb.umd.edu
  – Part time, works 3-4 days a week

• He's working on:
  – New tools (monitoring, PBS, etc.)
  – Routine maintenance
Planned downtime after meeting

• We plan some downtime of the computer cluster for later this month, just a couple of days to:
  – Reorganize disk locations
    • Replace some older, slower disk hardware
    • Servers become nodes: lyra, crux, lepus, volans, pavo(?)
  – Expanded scratch partition for user data
  – Operating system upgrades.
  – New UPS system
RedHat 9?

• We plan to upgrade all our systems to RH 9.
  – Support for RH 7.3 going away later this year.
• I've heard lots of second hand information regarding problems with RH9.
  – Problems with root, library problems, etc.
  – This is your chance to contact us about issues you've had before all RH 7.3 machines are upgraded.
  – Let's work them out before the upgrade.
New Stuff

• Batch queue system for “worker” nodes.
  – CetusXX computer cluster will be getting a little bigger when some old servers are moved there.

• Jamel is working to get a web status page going
  – System loads, etc
  – Which computers are servers
  – Which computers are/aren't on the gigabit network.