openlab/Techlab Steering Group

Helge Meinhard, CERN-IT
13-Apr-2018
Kick-off meeting

Welcome

… and thanks for agreeing to serve in this group!

Purpose

- Ensure that R&D activities, most notably of openlab and Techlab, are aligned with

  - the needs of users

  - the strategy of IT Department and other R&D activities

  - each other

Expectations

- Help improve communication and information flow

- Help IT better understand priorities within and across the experiments, and set priorities accordingly

- Improve understanding of resource impacts of proposed projects

- …

Mandate

- Consider requests and proposals for resources for R&D projects in the context of openlab and Techlab, and make recommendations to IT Management on priorities

- Ensure that R&D activities are properly documented, and the results are made available publicly (as much as possible in view of potential NDAs)
    - Serve as focal point for information about openlab and Techlab activities

- Scope:
    - Activities with impact on IT personnel and/or material resources beyond core personnel already clearly assigned (e.g. the openlab core team)
    - Activities with impact on R&D systems made available to users beyond regular hardware upgrades
    - Other topics can be presented or discussed on request, for example to probe experiment priorities

Membership

- Torre Wenaus (ATLAS expt)
- Tommaso Boccali (CMS expt)
- Predrag Buncic (ALICE expt)
- Stefan Roiser (LHCb expt)
- Pere Mato (EP-SFT)

- Ian Bird (IT Management)
- Olof Barring (procurement)
- Alberto di Meglio (openlab)
- Romain Wartel (Techlab)
- Bernd Panzer-Steindel (CTO)
- Helge Meinhard (chair)
- Andrea Sciaba (scientific secretary)

Proposed Guidelines (1)

- Transparent, open working mode
  - Open sessions
  - Proposals, status reports, results
  - Slides and/or supporting documentation compulsory
  - All accepted proposals to be followed up via status reports (minimum 1/year?) and presentations of results
  - Relevant experts can/will be invited to attend

Proposed Guidelines (2)

- Avoid duplication: If proposals are followed up elsewhere (for a good reason), don't do it in this group – but ensure the group is fully informed about proposals, status reports, results
  - Pointers to documentation in a central place
- Meeting details:
  - Suggest to start with monthly meetings, and review rhythm after a few meetings
  - Venue: Not too small a room, but the IT amphi might be over the top (?) – 513-1-024?
  - Vidyo or Webcast if required
  - Fixed time slot – is Friday 09:00h generally good?

Proposed Guidelines (3)

- Documentation: Indico category

- Regular reports to IT Management (ITMM)

  - The group advises, recommends, tries to convince - it does not have decisive and/or executive power

- Fine-tune and adapt to changing landscape to ensure the group is useful

  - Changes of mandate, composition, scope etc. subject to IT Management approval

Today's Meeting

- Setting the scene
  - This presentation
  - Overviews of purpose, current activities and/or projects, pending proposals, …
    - Techlab (Romain)
    - openlab (Alberto)
- Requests and activities around GPUs
- AOB
  - Next meeting: date; ARM64 discussion