

SRCF System Administrators' Report

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2013-2014

1 Recruitment

This year we have welcomed Michael Hsu, Joshua Hunt, Edward Lilley, Souradip Mookerjee and Daniel Low to the sysadmin team.

2 Hardware

Two of pip's hard drives have failed: one in July 2013, the other in January 2014. In both cases we replaced the disks promptly and there was no data loss and no downtime.

The two replacement disks are 4TB Seagate Constellations, which were generously donated by Dominic Benson and Andrew Cooper. This is a significant upgrade from the old 500GB disks. Once the remaining two disks have been upgraded to 4TB, we will be able to expand pip's filesystems to 8TB total.

3 User purge

The user purge has not happened as usual this year, as we have been unable to obtain a list of accounts which need to be cancelled from the UCS. We are investigating courses of action.

4 Hack day and control panel

There are several pieces of software used by the SRCF which are in need of maintenance, and so we have planned a meeting of the sysadmins at the end of this term to perform these tasks. In particular, one of the points which will be addressed is the control panel.

4.1 Control panel

The SRCF control panel will allow users to control some aspects of their accounts via a web interface. The idea has been around for many years, but real progress has only been made recently, with the production of a working prototype. We hope that the 'hack day' will allow us to complete the system.