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# *Kimberly Thomas*

## *University of California, San Diego (UCSD)*

### **My role at UCSD**

I am a Research Facilitator in Research IT Services. Research ITS is a program within Information Technology Services. I work with UCSD faculty, staff, Postdocs, graduate and undergraduate student researchers to provide research IT support.

### **Computing and Research ITS**

The goal for my team is to help researchers move their research forward. As such, we offer a range of support services to our researchers in the hopes of meeting that goal, which include:

- Project workflow improvement: evaluating researcher projects to determine whether modifications may be applied for optimization to workflows and/or processes
- IT tool integration: introducing researchers to new IT tools that are within their comfort and/or experience level
- Technical troubleshooting: providing technical support with research IT-related challenges
- Training workshops and application demos: providing software training and application usage demonstrations
  - The Carpentries: workshops intended to introduce data management skills (such as SQL) and coding skills (such as Python and R) to researchers in an inclusive environment. We both host workshops and recruit instructors to be certified trainers.
- Identifying compatible IT resources and connecting researchers to those resources as offered by UCSD, regional, and national service provider partners.
  - Research Cluster: offered by Research IT as a CPU/GPU compute resource for projects that are non-instructional and data intense – a step above a personal computer, but not as powerful as an HPC resource.

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Computational Challenges

- Becoming familiar with the computational tools and applications in a way that enables me to be to provide general support and advising for researchers

What I hope to accomplish from the Summer Institute...

- Effectively communicate HPC capabilities to non-technical researchers across diverse disciplines
- Create mock projects for demonstrating how utilizing HPC resources can optimize a researcher project workflow
- Enhance my hands-on experience with XSEDE resources to more effectively support researchers at my institution as a Campus Champion