Life as an RSE at the University of Birmingham UK

SC23: RSE in HPC Workshop
“Growing the RSE Community”

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UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Hello world!

👋 Senior Research Software Engineer

👩‍💻 Baskerville Tier 2 HPC 🛰️ Space Weather forecasts for ESA

💼 Joined the Research Software Engineering group Dec 2021

🇫🇷 3 years post-doc in France

💦 PhD in Fluid Dynamics at University of Leeds

Advanced Research Computing

- Centralised service
- HPC support for BlueBEAR, Baskerville and Sulis
- Research Software Group – RSE/RAS/RDSci
- AIS – sysadmins/infrastructure/networking
- REDG – outreach/training
- RSE career progression

  Senior RSE ➡️ RSE & Manager

  Senior RSE ➡️ Principal RSE
- ~10% FTE on enrichment activities

RSE Midlands

RSE Midlands

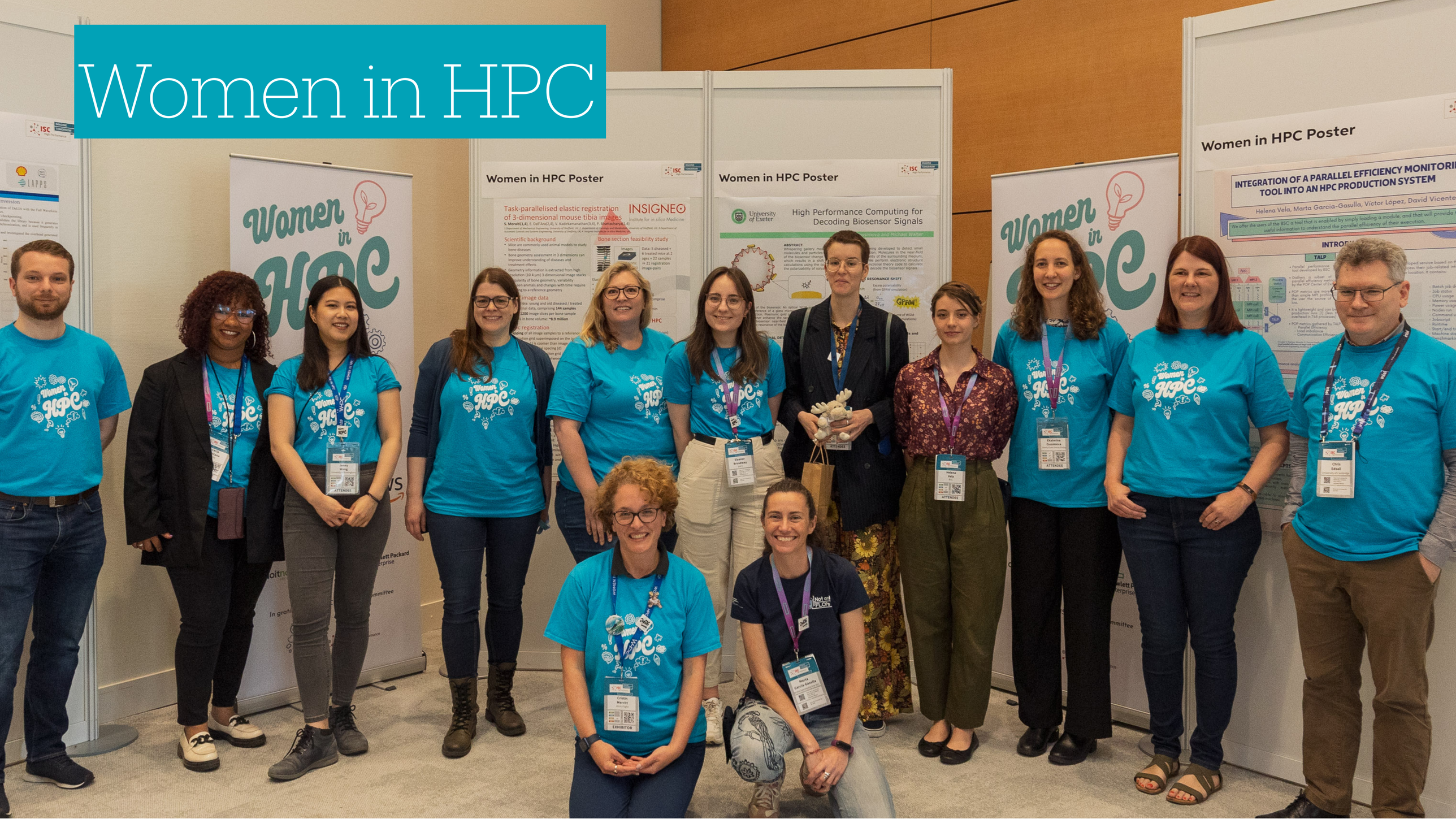
- Launched June 2022 with support from the UK RSE Society
- Keynotes from UK RSE Society and Software Sustainability Institute, lightning talks, vendor talks from Intel, Lenovo and Nvidia
- Annual meeting - Birmingham 2022, Nottingham 2023, Warwick 2024
- RSE Midlands Coding Club
  - talks on topics such as Docker, testing, pre-commit
  - National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) Takeover in June 2023

HPC-SIG

High Performance Computing Special Interest Group

- Established 2005
- Promotes use of HPC in academia through best practice in HPC provision, management and support
- Membership is largely made up of sysadmins with a growing RSE presence
- Recently elected Equality, Diversity, Inclusivity and Accessibility officer
- First steps:
  - Understand the current demographic of the HPC-SIG and identify an EDIA strategy
  - Implement a Code of Conduct and establish an EDIA Mission Statement
  - Seek out partnerships and mutual support with other orgs, such as UK RSE Society and Women in HPC

Women in HPC


Women in HPC Poster
Women in HPC Poster
Women in HPC Poster
INTEGRATION OF A PARALLEL EFFICIENCY MONITORING TOOL INTO AN HPC PRODUCTION SYSTEM
Task-parallelised elastic registration of 3-dimensional mouse tibia images
INSIGNEO
High Performance Computing for Decoding Biosensor Signals
Women in HPC

Women in HPC

- I was encouraged to apply to speak at the WHPC workshop at ISC23 by my group leader
- Financial support from my institution to attend lowered the barrier
- Mentoring scheme prior to the conference improved my confidence in public speaking and the WHPC network helped my fear of attending a large meeting without knowing anyone beforehand
- Get involved!

WHPC@SC23: 16th International Women in HPC Workshop

Monday 13 November

9am - 5:30pm

Location: 505

Building RSE organisations: how to find RSEs in your country/region and how to motivate them to join the network and engage?

- Visible role models
- Professional and financial support
- Communication
- Build resources

e.g. Ten Simple Rules to Host an Inclusive Conference