Team 16: **The Husky Cows**
Northeastern University and Williams College

What is the name of your team and why did you choose it?
Our team name is The Husky Cows. This name is a combination of our school's mascots. As our group is composed of both members and advisors from Northeastern University and Williams College, we thought it would be appropriate to incorporate an element from both institutions into our team name. Northeastern University's mascot is Paws the Husky and Williams College's mascot is Ephelia the Purple Cow.

Why do you think your team will have an edge in the event?
In previous years, one of the things that have made our team unique was our use of AMD processors in our competition cluster. While this year's change to Cyclecloud means that we are unable to physically spec out and build our hardware, we are looking forward to using AMD CPUs for CPU-only workloads.

Because our team spans across two different institutions, each one of our team members offers a unique perspective. Combined, we have an extensive amount of industry experience through internships and co-ops. This has helped to provide lots of practical knowledge of software development and working with Linux systems.

What have you done to prepare that makes your team unique?
Since the start of the competition, we have held regular tutorial meetings to make sure that our team is prepared to work within an HPC environment. In addition, our access to the MGHPCC Discovery Cluster has allowed us to solidify our approach, tune our workloads, and allowed us to only use our cloud spend for porting over our workloads. These two aspects have helped us build a strong team.

What are you most looking forward to in the competition?
Our team's unifying goal is to advance our knowledge of HPC. Much of this has been through the hands-on experience with compiling and optimizing our workloads on the Discovery Cluster. Because many of the applications that we are working with are common HPC workloads that solve specific issues (such as CESM or GROMACS), we are also eager to figure out how to deploy these workloads on the cloud.

We are also looking forward to interacting with other students from other institutions during this competition as well. As most of our team members have never been to SC, we hope to interact extensively with the rest of the conference.

What time zone is your team competing from?
Our team will be competing from the Eastern Daylight Time Zone. All of our team members will be in Massachusetts during the competition.

What do your team members do for fun?

Outside of university work and SC, our team members like to stay active through yoga, hiking, cycling. A number of our team members also enjoy cooking and baking.

If your team had a theme song, what would it be?
I'm Shipping Up to Boston by The Dropkick Murphys

Can you share an interesting fact about your team?
The collaboration between Northeastern and Williams as a Student Cluster Competition team is one of the first. It is also Williams College's first time at SCC!