

Location: University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO (UMC Conference Room 235)

SHUG EC members present: Yun Liu, Lisa DeBeer-Schmidt, Adrian Brügger, Rebecca Dally, Daniel Shoemaker, Amy Xu, Peter Gilbert

NScD members present: Janell Thomson, Hans Christen

Attendance by community at ACNS (~100?)

Agenda

- **Introduction (Yun)**
 - Reminder to community to contact SHUG EC about neutron scattering experiences, wishes for software/instrument updates, experiment with staff, proposal system, etc.
 - How to contact us: website/email or talk to any of EC members
 - Explanation of what EC does (user meetings every two years, staff services award every two years, yearly SHUG EC onsite visit, monthly SHUG EC meeting, SHUG email, community letter, etc.
 - Reminder to think about serving in EC if interested/how to join (election in November, announced in December)
 - Open for questions
 - none
- **Bylaw revision discussion (Yun)**
 - Item #1, membership: Overview of current bylaw and concerns, and proposed revision
 - Item #2, EC eligibility: Overview of current bylaw and concerns, and proposed revision
 - Open for questions
 - Question: Item #1 why would you exclude people who have not submitted proposals in the first place if they want to join?
 - Answer: current bylaws don't actually say you have to do an experiment to join
 - Question: did EC look at bylaws for other user group memberships, or e.g. the NSSA membership?
 - Answer: Looked at other facility memberships, but not NSSA. For NSSA, you give your email, and you are member. Maybe this could be a way to join SHUG.
 - Question: what is the motivation for these changes? Has anyone actually expressed concerns for these bylaw changes?
 - Answer: When we had election last year, conversation was prompted because of eligibility for EC due to pandemic; there were some concerns with people who could not do remote experiments which limited their eligibility
 - Overview of procedures for the bylaw revision
 - Other discussions related with bylaw change: proposal from NScD for bylaw change about ORNL staff members not being part of EC and SHUG EC did not pass this proposal
 - Open for questions
 - none
- **Breakthrough symposium (Daniel)**
 - Current diversity issues
 - How do we drive-up diversity numbers? Approach is to increase overall number of people using neutrons rather than try to equalize current numbers

- Breakthrough symposia is an attempt to drive-up numbers by bridging the gap between non-neutron and neutron experts by hosting specialized talks for the community within a specific field
- How symposium will be set up
- Outreach and assessment: how to get people to show up to symposiums, collect emails and keep track of who joins community after these symposia
- Asked community for ideas and to contact SHUG EC
- first talk in August on MOFs
- Open for questions
 - none
- **Report of SHUG EC on-site visit (Daniel)**
 - Reviewed SHUG-EC 2021 annual report themes and major recommendations
 - Report is public at <http://tinyurl.com/2wpwaafh>
 - Community can look at 5-year operating plan on ORNL website
 - SHUG-EC still waiting for response to report (ORNL side says it is in draft form)
 - Open for questions
 - none
- **ORNL presentation (Hans)**
 - Major projects at SNS and HFIR
 - PPU: on schedule increase power at SNS to 2 MW in Fall 2024
 - Venus: on schedule for fall 2024 operation
 - HBRR:
 - long HFIR outage for replacing the Be reflector is moving from 2025 to ~2028 (big change to cold guide hall including re-arrangement of instruments and new guides)
 - HFIR will run between 2-6 cycles per year until then
 - FY23 budget launches a project to replace the HFIR pressure vessel
 - STS
 - See Ken Herwig's presentation on Thursday
 - What do projects mean for operation schedules and proposal schedules?
 - FY operation schedule reviewed through FY26
 - HFIR and SNS 5-year working schedule posted at neutrons.ornl.gov
 - Statistics for most recent proposal calls
 - Subscription rate high and is a concern
 - User surveys
 - All suggestions from users are read and discussed. Reviewed concerns from FY20 and FY2021 and ORNL response
 - Number of people filling out surveys is low
 - Examples of recent upgrades and improvements
 - Remote experiments (users controls instrument remotely)
 - Became possible at SNS in spring of 2021
 - SNS: all instruments are now remote experiment enabled
 - HFIR: 7 instruments enable (FIE-TAX, HiDRA, WAND2, DEMAND, Imaging, GP-SANS, BioSANS, 4 in-progress (PTAX, POWDER< TAX, CTAX, 1 by end of RY (IMAGINE)
 - Instructions for user guide for remote experiments on website
 - Neutron Scattering Graduate Student Pilot Program
 - Goal is to build long-term relationships with neutron users
 - Pilot program with students arriving as early as FY23 (~4 students)
 - Applying jointly with their PhD supervisor

- Question: how is this distinct from DOE program SCGSR?
 - Answer: that pays for student at home institution, but this will pay for students to be at ORNL and this would be limited to people at US institutions, but they don't have to be US citizens
- Upcoming events
 - National School on neutron and x-ray scattering in July 2022 (deadline closed)
 - Aug 17: workshop on Vulcan data reduction and analysis
 - Bio-sans bootcamp (Sept. 7,8)
 - 5th US total scattering school (Sept. 12-16)
 - July 18-19: SHUG EC on-site meeting
- Open for questions
 - Question: Be reflector change out: approx. how much money do both cost
 - Answer: Be reflector change runs over longtime and price on order of \$100-\$200 million paid for out of operating budget which is why it won't happen in 2025 (not sufficient funding); Pressure vessel: mission needs statement from DOE gave cost range \$300-\$550 million, but that just contains pressure vessel upgrades and nothing else associated with the upgrade
 - Question: Is the money obtained for Be reflector but not for pressure vessel?
 - Answer: If funding obtained for pressure vessel, it would just cover replacement and no other upgrades
 - Question: Pilot student program: what is the maximum allowed time for students to spend at ORNL
 - Answer: No max time, want to build relationships, but 3-year project might not be ideal, e.g, because it would create too much separation between facility and academic institution; 3-12 months probably ideal (subset of dissertation). Can have multiple back and forths but not less than 3 months at a time
 - Question: In-pile beam tubes and cold-source need to be taken out for pressure vessel and Be replacement?
 - Instruments do need to be taken out and cold source will be replaced but same design