

## SHUG-EC Conference Call: Tues. Jan. 21, 2020

Present at ORNL:

Adam, Jaime, Eugene, Janell, Hans

Online:

Olivier, Adrian, Martin, Jarek, William, Ally, Danielle, Jay

Document approval:

- Minutes from Dec. 2019 conference call: approve
- Agenda for Jan. 2020 conference call: approve

### 1. SHUG-EC updates

- Welcome to our four new general members: Adrian, Daniel, Geneva, and Danielle.
- Daniel was elected as the SHUG-EC vice-chair and Adam will remain the secretary.
- The new SHUG-EC meeting time will be from 4 – 5 PM on the second Tuesday of the month.

### 2. NSD updates and associated discussion

- HFIR cycle 485 finished on Sunday at 1 PM. There was a one-week unplanned outage in the middle of the cycle due to an electrical issue. Cycle 486 will begin on Thurs. Jan. 30 and end on Feb. 23. After a long, planned outage, cycle 487 will begin on April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- SNS has been running well at 1.4 MW with minimal issues. NScD is planning to follow the operation schedule that is posted online.
- A webinar will be presented before the 2020-B proposal deadline of Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> that will focus on instrument improvements at HFIR.

### 3. Scientific Computing and Software Engineering (SCSE) Group data reduction and analysis update

- Several positions posted for both software engineers and computational instrument scientists. There are many great applicants for these positions.
- SANS data reduction software is complete, and the SCSE group is now moving on to neutron imaging and engineering materials tasks. Most feedback about the SANS software is currently being collected through the user surveys.
- Jiao Lin has departed from this group and his position will not be backfilled, since this expertise already exists elsewhere in the lab. Jay will try to connect interested users to these ORNL staff members.

### 4. SHUG-EC on-site meeting

- We discussed the pros and cons of scheduling the SHUG-EC on-site meeting at various times throughout the year. An early meeting would help the SHUG-EC get to know one another better, while a later meeting would allow us to discuss NScD's response to our

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2019 on-site report and issues that our brought up by the user community at the ACNS. We are leaning towards a compromise by possibly scheduling this meeting at the end of the current university semester.

### 5. Proposal types and user program concerns

- Proof-of-principle proposals exist, but users are probably not very familiar with them
- NScD has been involved in discussions about how to grant hot science experiments rapid access to beamtime, but this practice is generally discouraged because judging the scientific impact of various projects can be quite subjective
- Experiments impacted by equipment or neutron source failures are partially or completely rescheduled on a case-by-case basis depending on how much useful data was already collected.

### 6. SHUG-EC user engagement ideas

- Start organizing virtual town halls through Skype, BlueJeans, or another online platform

### 7. Next conference call: Feb. 11, 2020, 4 PM