

SHUG-EC Conference Call: Friday, June 10, 2022, 1:00 – 2:00 PM EST

Attendees (online):

ORNL: Janell Thomson, Naresh Osti, Travis Williams

External: Daniel Shoemaker, Geneva Laurita, Amy Xu, Adrian Brugger, Rana Ashkar, Yun Liu, Igor Zaliznyak, Rebecca Dally, Peter Gilbert

Document approval:

Minutes from May 2022 conference call: approve

Agenda for June 2022 conference call: approve

Section I: (1:00-1:40pm)

1. Community letter regarding the neutron source outage/upgrade Letter (Adrian)
 - Multiple other letters from other groups in the works; maybe NSSA should write global letter stating all the problems and that more support not substitution of funding is needed; one letter would create synergy
 - Fear about STS going online, and operating budget might not scale
 - Need to stress the urgency of situation and an easy solution is utilizing LANSCE
 - Fundamental problem is the absence of built-up escalation of budget; escalation of funding will lose scale by attrition; Europe has escalation built-in to budgets; 3% reduction for SNS next year; NCNR budget flat for last 10 years
 - letters sent by individuals to representatives might be more impactful than a single letter; put letter on website and have individuals use template and send those to representatives.
 - Letter should get out sooner than later; maybe use letter we have now for individuals and then NSSA global letter to DOE?
 - **Action item (Yun):** write email to Young Lee (NSSA) and Claire White (NUG) to bring them in loop for coordination about letter
2. Bylaw revision (everyone)
 - No major concerns for bylaw revision, but concern at ACNS Town Hall that general membership should be more broad and include more people, however should people who have never done experiments be able to contribute?
 - Mail-in proposals are not GUP proposals but they are included in SHUG membership as are students attending the summer school. Also, people who submit proposals but don't get time are included in SHUG membership so you don't currently have to have done an experiment to be a part of SHUG.
 - We should make available the chance for anyone to sign-up for newsletters whether or not they are a SHUG member
 - When sending out the bylaw revision, we should put an explanation in email about why we are choosing what we are doing
 - **Action item (Janell):** use current membership list for voting and create a voting form
 - **Action item (Yun):** send Janell final wording for bylaws
3. Software update (Igor)
 - not many users at SNS software meeting at ACNS despite lots of complaints from users; maybe SHUG-EC should organize user effort for what users want
 - currently, users say software doesn't work well (particularly with SANS data reduction), but specifics don't get relayed to software developers
 - Save this discussion for onsite talk
4. Update the SHUG "Breakthrough Symposium" status. (Daniel, Geneva, Rebecca, and Yun, and Naresh)
 - Speakers are confirmed for first MOF symposium in August 2022
 - Next step is coordinating with Janell for scheduling and outreach

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- People from science initiatives have been reaching out about doing their own symposiums; on-site visit have more conversations about how to do this in future
5. Update for the SNS/HFIR Low Temperature Magnets steering committee meeting (Rebecca)
 - Wishes from users can reach out to Rebecca for communicating needs

Section II: (1:40-2pm)

6. logistics of the on-site visit. (Janell)
 - ORNL travel people said it will cover NIST people on SHUG; Hans has followed up with Nicole Porter about this
 - Topics on agenda need to be more specific (who is coming to these meetings from ORNL side; for instrument teams do we want tours? Needs specifics for hour-by-hour)
 - Meals – is it just SHUG EC for dinner or do we want others invited from ORNL?
 - Separate online meeting with Janell, Hans, Yun, and Igor for these specifics
 - SHUG EC wants response from ORNL from last years' report before travel confirmed for on-site visit (draft in works apparently)
7. Closed door discussion for EC members only: on-site visit schedule (everyone)
 - Do we want facilities tour or not? Seems like HFIR and SNS will not be running during the visit
 - Concern is that we wouldn't get a good representation of users feelings/thoughts/experiences even if we did do tour and talk to people doing experiments. Time would be better utilized without a tour
 - If we have a specific question at an instrument that might be worth the time to go there but not a whole tour
 - **Action item (everyone):** decide on tour on slack so we can finalize schedule for on-site visit