

## SHUG-EC Conference Call: Fri. March 22, 2019

Present at ORNL:

Crystal, Jaime, Suzanne, Eugene, Adam, Hans

Online:

Dvora, William, Michelle, Olivier, Sudipta, Martin, Marc

Document approval:

- Minutes from Feb. 2019 conference call: approve with one change – William was present at this meeting
- Agenda for March 2019 conference call: approve

New Time for SHUG-EC conference calls

- Afternoons are better for ORNL folks and external participants from the West Coast
- ACTION ITEM: Suzanne will create a Doodle Poll so we can decide on scheduling moving forward

Facility Updates: given by Jaime and Hans

- SNS is down as of Thurs. March 21 due to an issue with systems related to the Hg target. NScD is currently troubleshooting and fixing this problem. An estimate for SNS restart will probably be known later today.
- The status of HFIR and SNS is indicated on the homepage of neutrons.ornl.gov. However, the status of the facilities over the last 24 hours is not prominent and this would be helpful to the users. ACTION ITEM: Crystal will try to get this information added to the website.
- A new email about the status of HFIR is almost ready to send out to the users. Final approvals are needed before this email can be sent out. Hopefully this email will be shared with the users later today or on Monday.
- HFIR is down to a welding issue with some of the plates of the fuel element used in the very brief November cycle. One condition to restart HFIR is developing a procedure for non-destructive testing of future fuel elements. This procedure should be in place by August and therefore the tentative plan is to restart HFIR sometime in September.
- Accepted HFIR proposals that have not run already will be the top priority once HFIR restarts. NScD should ask these users if they still want to run these proposals before running new proposals.
- The unplanned shutdown of HFIR may delay the next Be changeout by 6 months or more. The new timeline for the Be changeout has yet to be determined. This delay will not affect planning and development efforts related to the HFIR cold guide hall re-optimization.

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### Changes in user access to DOE labs

- Access requirements to DOE labs have recently changed for foreign national employees, users, and visitors. These changes are summarized on the NScD website and they will be communicated in the April user newsletter.
- Some foreign national graduate students may no longer be granted access to DOE labs due to export control issues. How can university PIs learn if this will be a problem for a given graduate student before they hire them? It is probably not appropriate for NScD to be involved in these discussions.

### Possible updates and changes to SHUG-EC bylaws

- The bylaws appear to be quite outdated in several areas and therefore need to be updated appropriately.
- Relevant questions:
  - (1) How is membership in the SHUG defined?
  - (2) How are changes to the SHUG bylaws approved in reality?
  - (3) How does the SHUG email list get updated? Answer: Members on the email list need to ask to be removed.

### Next conference call

- April 2019, Date and time TBD