

SHUG EC Conference Call Minutes

August 7, 2015

Executive Committee members present: Souleymane Diallo, Claire White, Jen Niedziela (minutes), Morten Eskildsen, Tyrel McQueen, Brad O'Dell, Eugenia Kharlampieva, Brad Lokitz, Yang Ren, Yang Zhang

Volker Urban (Biology and Soft Matter Division (BSMD) Director), Thomas Proffen (Neutron Data Analysis and Visualization (NDAV) Director), Laura Morris Edwards (User Office), Rob McQueeney (Deputy ALD for Neutron Sciences).

Next scheduled meeting: Sept. 11

1) Previous minutes and agenda: June minutes approved. July meeting agenda accepted.

2) Updates from NScD management:

- a) Slides from management were distributed prior to the meeting; no questions from the EC.
 - b) Beam is back on for the 2015B run at the SNS as of 8/14. HFIR will run until 8/18, then off until 10/6.
 - c) There is lots of activity with triennial review; trying to outline focus areas, alignment of software and sample environment strategies.
 - d) Facility science plan will be available in October.
 - e) Science productivity reports:
 - i) Intended to normalize reporting of science impact, staffing, benchmarking against other facilities, and downtime in order to plan upgrades and prioritize funding allocations to projects. There are commitments to 9 projects identified as having the best return on investment; projects are being overseen by K. Herwig in the instrument and source division; decisions on priorities are driven by a steering committee.
 - ii) Projects are large scale; some are intended to be conducted during the IRP replacement. Projects include background/collimation on NOMAD, rebuild of the magnetism reflectometer sample area, upgrade of the GPSANS collimator box, SEQUOIA vacuum upgrade, 15T magnet, EQSANS sample area rebuild, POWGEN rebuild (detector stands, collimator, detector additions, rebuild of sample vessel).
 - iii) Part of directorate initiatives to allocated \$10M for improvements; intended that this exercise will be completed yearly in order to prioritize work.
 - iv) A website outlining this process is available internally to SNS staff; will present this to the user community at the SHUG User Meeting; need input from the user community on developing plans.
 - f) The instrumented target (vibration sensors) will be installed after the replacement of the current target.
 - g) SHUG EC members are needed for call-in/on-site with the BES review meeting.
 - i) Boris and Eugenia will be on-site
 - ii) Tyrel will call in via BlueJeans.
- 3) Status of EC recommendations:**
- a) Training of postdocs and graduate students – issue of having positions at the facility for extended periods of time.

- i) Rob: This is a recognized issue, the recommendation is appropriate. There is a core group of universities with mechanisms to have graduate students that spend extended periods at the lab; JINS may be a mechanism for this in the future. Alan Tennant has been appointed the director of JINS, and there are ambitions to establish collaborations with external universities to provide graduate students opportunities to be on site.
 - ii) There are 5 graduate students on-site this year through the SC-GRF program.
 - b) Recommendations to be posted to the SHUG website along with response from NScD management – Rob to check with Paul on this.
- 4) Coffee Breaks:
 - a) Mainly staff concerns that were represented at the HFIR; discussion tabled to next meeting.
- 5) Beamline awards:
 - a) List ready for posting; will be posted to the website this month. Laura has forms and lists, and just needs to finalize verbage; this will be part of the user meeting website.
- 6) Coffee breaks:
 - a) One held at HFIR; 15-20 people in attendance.
- 7) User meeting:
 - a) Claire updating about the SHUG meeting:
 - i) Claire been inviting, most people have accepted. Alan hasn't responded to invitation to be a plenary speaker. Additional names were discussed for the plenary speaker slot, as well as an invited speaker for Materials and sustainability.
 - ii) Need to clarify the purpose of the town hall.
 - iii) EC Election nominations to be accepted during the meeting; nominations complete by the end of the meeting.
 - iv) Websites for the UM & STS are linked, but everything is completely separate.
 - v) Websites are nearly final, need approved verbiage and agendas.
 - b) Possibility of panel discussions for Sample Environment and Data Analysis and Visualization session.
 - c) Morten updating about STS meeting:
 - i) Meeting will run Tuesday afternoon to Thursday afternoon.
 - ii) First teleconference with planning committee held, announcement of the meeting is ready, grand challenges speakers being identified.
 - iii) Next teleconference will discuss details on breakouts.
 - iv) Preamble from STS science case will be posted to the STS website.
 - d) Logistics for both meetings:
 - i) Toni looking for food options for both meetings.
 - ii) Area lodging and things to do should be available on both meeting websites.
 - e) Tutorials will be held prior to the user meeting. There will be one on Saturday (Introduction to Mantid), and there will be four workshops on Sunday (Mantid & Python, Intro to SpinWaveGenie, Force Field refinements for QENS, SASView).
 - i) Website to allow user to select tutorial.
 - ii) We will screen against ORNL candidates to ensure that remote people have first service on the tutorials.
 - f) Student support will not be available.
 - g) General note that if there is a government shutdown, this may all have to be suspended.

Meeting ended – next meeting September 21, 2015 at 1PM to discuss user meeting.