

## 1SHUG-EC Conference Call: Wednesday, February 8, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST

### Attendees (online):

ORNL: Hans Christen, Lisa Debeer-Schmitt, Janell Thomson, Travis Williams, Jaime Fernandez-Baca, Naresh Osti

External: Rebecca Dally, Igor Zaliznyak, Ben Frandsen, Mingda Li, Peter Gilbert, Yulia Zaikina, Yun Liu, Rana Ashkar

### Discussion items:

1. Hans Christen is retiring from ORNL at the end of April. We thank him for his contributions over the past several years.
2. Proposed amendment to SHUG bylaws to limit number of SHUG-EC members from a given institution to two. This could be put to vote at the SHUG town hall at the user meeting.
  - Currently, ORNL can have up to three members, so this amendment would be changing that policy.
  - The concern that led to this idea was the observation that the most easily recognized names on the SHUG-EC ballot are often the people working at neutron facilities. Therefore, there is the potential of over-representing facilities and under-representing the general user base. The purpose of this amendment is to ensure this imbalance doesn't happen, without specifically calling out facility scientists and saying we don't want their participation.
  - Decision: We will put to vote an amendment to limit SHUG-EC members from a single institution to two.
  - Suggestion: we do not include the student/postdoc position in the limit.
  - **Action item (Ben):** Draft a proposed amendment (one sentence) and post to slack channel for workshopping.
3. User Meeting (Theme: Expanding the reach of neutron scattering):
  - Keynote speakers have been invited, all 4 have accepted (small amount of uncertainty still surrounding Norm Wagner).
    - Collin Broholm, quantum materials
    - Sossina Haile, energy/functional materials
    - Norm Wagner, polymers/colloids/complex fluids
    - Raquel Liebermann, bio/life science (must present on Wednesday due to scheduling conflicts)
  - **Action item (Janell):** Official invitations should be sent to keynote speakers ASAP
  - Four themes for the parallel session:
    - Quantum materials
      - Moderator: Ben. Other organizers: Mingda, Rebecca, Igor.
    - Energy and functional materials
      - Moderator: Yulia. Other organizers: Mingda, Naresh, Igor.
    - Polymers, colloids, and complex fluids
      - Moderator: Yun. Other organizers: Rana, Naresh.
    - Biology and life sciences

- Moderator: Amy. Other organizers: Rana.
  - **Action item (Ben, Yulia, Yun, and Amy):** Work with the other organizers for your theme to decide on 6 invited speakers (use threads on Slack). Send the invitations and update the planning spreadsheet when they accept or decline.
  - Note: ORNL will cover travel for keynote speakers and organizers, but not for parallel session invited speakers.
  - Decision was made to use the open time slot to hold parallel town halls on sample environments and instrumentation. The sample environment and instrument teams will also be invited to prepare a poster to be displayed during the morning.
  - **Action item (Janell):** Reach out to sample environment steering committees to see if they want to participate in the parallel town hall session and/or prepare a poster.
4. Update on the Breakthrough Symposium
- Invited speakers have been confirmed
  - Discussion regarding the timing of the symposium
    - Decision: Aim for second half of April or early May.
  - **Action item (Yun):** Communicate with invited speakers to converge on date.