

## **February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 SHUG Executive Committee Conference Call:**

### Members present:

Igor Zaliznyak  
Despina Louca  
Flora Meilleur  
Ersan Ustundag  
Leonard Spicer  
Mark Dadmun  
Andrei Savici

### Also present:

Al Ekkebus, Judy Trimble, Ken Herwig (all ORNL)

1. Igor Zaliznyak opened the meeting by proposing to increase the visibility of SHUG committee, by posting interest and pictures of each member on the SHUG web site. Next, the possible candidates for vice-chair were identified. They must not be directly associated with ORNL, be at the beginning of their term, and not the student/postdoc representative. Igor Zaliznyak will contact the respective members by email, about volunteering for the position.
2. Ken Herwig presented a summary of Neutron Scattering Science Advisory Committee (NSSAC) meeting. They reviewed two new instruments at HFIR. Flora Meilleur presented the quasi-Laue IMAGINE diffractometer and Young Lee the cold guide triple axis spectrometer (CG1). The committee recommended proceeding with full letters of intent. With respect to funding for these instruments, once the beamline is assigned, ORNL works with Instrument Design Teams (IDT). For IMAGINE (~3M USD), NSF is the main sponsor, with matching funds from universities and ORNL. For CG1 (~12M USD) there will be a combination of NSF and DOE funding. There is a need for a strong science case, and a boost from user community. The expected completion dates are 2009 for IMAGINE, and 2012-2013 for CG1.
3. Operations schedule for FY2008 and effect of FY2008 budgets was presented by Ken Herwig. First item presented was situation of science labs at SNS and HFIR. There is a modest one for bio (SANS) operating at HFIR. They are finishing a wet chemistry lab at HFIR, but with a limited capacity for now. At SNS there is a 12000 sq ft space available, with completion expected for the end of 2009. With regards to the instruments coming online, Al Ekkebus will send a schedule. Full impact of ramping up the instrumentation will be seen by user community in 2009. Currently the power on target is at 340kW, about twice that at ISIS. At HFIR CG2 and CG3 SANS, and residual stress instruments are being commissioned. There is work in collaboration with DOE to identify sources of funding for capital and users. There will be an average of 6 staff per instrument (including technical), but nominally only 3 (2 Ph.D., 1 scientific associate). Currently HFIR has about 80%. There is need for more operational staff before bringing in new instruments. Despina Louca asked about possibilities of extending SNS cycle. The next cycle will start 04/11/2008. They will bring power to 750-800 kW by the end of fiscal year. There is a need for downtime, to install new instruments. the final goal will be of 5000 hours of neutrons per year (220 days), at 1.4MW.

4. Judy Trimble presented a summary of the latest proposal call. There were over 200 proposals, for 1100 experiment days. In the period HFIR will have 3 cycles (66 days), SNS will have 75 days. Next proposal round is in MAY. The most oversubscribed instrument at SNS was BASIS backscattering spectrometer, while at HFIR there were the triple axes spectrometers. Also, the recent SANS received a lot of proposals. There is need for supplementing the reviewer pool, triple it from the current number of 100. Igor Zaliznyak proposed user feedback on instruments to be available on the proposal webpage, maybe in some form of message board. Judy Trimble informed us that the summary of feedback will be posted, as well as the satisfaction survey at the end of the cycle.

5. Al Ekkebus presented a list of workshops related to SNS/HFIR. One neutron scattering education was proposed to NSF. They expect about 50 people to attend, mostly from universities. Other meetings of interest:

- American Crystallographic Association, June 2008, Knoxville
- International Conference on Neutron Scattering, May 2009, Knoxville
- Materials Research Society
- a proposed conference in the fall, on inelastic neutron scattering

Al also presented an update regarding the annual report. The second draft is available, with printing expected in May.

With regard to the user information package, Al Ekkebus will send links to that.