

SHUG (SNS HFIR User Group), <http://neutrons.ornl.gov/shug/index.shtml>

SHUG executive committee minutes.

Teleconference held June 2, 2009.

Attendees:

Executive Committee: Mike Crawford, Matthew Stone, , Flora Meilleur, Cora Lind, Stephen Wilson, Mark Dadmun, Igor Zaliznyak, Pat Woodward

Guests: Takeshi Egami, Al Ekkebus, Lynn Kszos, Dean Myles

Minutes Submitted to Mike Crawford and Al Ekkebus June 3, 2009 by M. B. Stone.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Entire Committee - Send requested laboratory hardware items to Mike Crawford. These will be passed on to Dean Myles, Al Ekkebus and Chrissi Schnell as suggestions from SHUG

PRIOR ACTION ITEMS NOT COMPLETED or REPORTED TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Matt Stone, Lou Santodonato, and Al Ekkebus – Matt will ask about the state of the survey about sample environment which was sent to users.
- Al Ekkebus – The executive committee would like the beam proposal evaluation process (i.e. different committee stages, committee names, and timeline) to be documented on the proposal web-site. This item was completed on June 3, 2009.
- Ken Herwig -The SHUG executive committee asked that the software overview document described in Minutes from April 2009 be presented to the SHUG for input and comments.
- Mike Crawford and Al Ekkebus – The executive committee would like to request the user comment form for SNS and HFIR users to also include a link to the SHUG web-page, a sentence about SHUG, and an invitation to register for the SHUG google group.

I. Takeshi Egami Discussing JINS

- JINS (Joint Institute For Neutron Sciences). Promote cooperation between UT and ORNL. Land belongs to the state of TN, building sponsored by the state of TN. Building located next to SNS. Promotes interaction with outside users at the SNS and HFIR. Promotes interaction among JINS and the users of the facilities.
- Some funding from DOE to help EPSCOR states (<http://www.nsf.gov/od/oia/programs/epscor/statewebsites.jsp>) with travel for experiments at SNS and HFIR
- Budget available for sabbatical leave at the JINS
- Building to be ready by March / April 2010, includes seminar rooms, conference rooms, and informal gathering places
- Want to promote new collaborations between different parties.
- Will have 8 laboratories and 70 offices.
- Eight medium size laboratories for JINS professors, as well as for the science centers which are being developed at the NSSD at ORNL. (sample preparation and turn-key characterization equipment). Not going to employ measurement staff. Would have first-come-first-served allocation of resources.
- Discussed potential web-scheduling of experimental resources at JINS.
- Lynn Kszos discussed business model for cost of office space at JINS (ORNL people pay ORNL rate, University people pay the UT rate)
- Made suggestion to let users know of activities at JINS and to start up a full website for JINS. Keep money for coffee maker and comfortable area and furniture for informal discussion area. Also when this area exists make sure users are invited for coffee and discussion (perhaps at a regular time each day?). Try to have a library computer station available for users.
- Suggestion to have available an area and resources for assistance with further data reduction after experiments are completed. Would be nice to have the local contact work with people in this role.
- Suggestion to target community with JINS hosting a school focused on data reduction and other post-experiment work.

II. Dean Myles, Lynn Kszos, Al Ekkebus – ORNL update.

- HFIR and SNS running (700 kW, stable)
- During the month of May had some issues with source stability at SNS. Resulted in reduced power
- Currently have 60 students in the neutron/x-ray school
- Power potentially up to 1 MW in June at SNS.
- New positions being created in NSSD. Adding 30 staff (beamline development, software development and support staff), 8 instrument scientists, 6-8 scientific associates, 5 post-docs in software, software development group. Software associated hires focused upon data reduction. SHUG was asked to help identify appropriate candidates for these positions.

- Adopting a 5 year model to these positions (similar to NIST, ILL, ISIS). Track early career staff into these positions
- Building out the second floor lab suite at SNS. NSSD welcomes input from SHUG regarding these facilities especially in terms of what equipment is desired. 6-8 x-ray scattering instruments hosted with CNMS, synthesis labs, biology lab, protein crystallization, furnaces, high pressure equipment, a general chemistry area and chemical handling area.
 - SHUG EC suggested EDX machine and any machines to analyze composition of sample
 - Consider having staff available for help with using these facilities.
- User housing is funded, but initial review was over-budget. Met to cut some of the items from the facility to reduce costs. Current design is being estimated for cost. Goal to construct from Nov 2009 to Jan 2011. Current design is 29 rooms with options to add 6+6+6 (up to 47). Proposed site is next to JINS. Likely 2000 users per year at SNS/HFIR by 2012. Shuttle service between housing and HFIR is committed to by management and will be provided.
- Cafeteria construction at SNS is ongoing downstairs. Completion scheduled for end of September 2009. Will provide lunch and will have vending machines available for evening meals and off hours meals. Door will always be open for vending machines.
- New website design is being contracted with a firm in Knoxville. Working on doing an awareness survey of light-source users to spread word about neutrons and find ways to attract that user base. Working on joining the EU portal to have a North American portal to search for capabilities.
- NUFO meeting June 10-12 at Argonne Natl. Lab. Mike Crawford will be there. <http://nufo.org/>
- Second target station discussion was held at ICNS meeting in Knoxville, summary is forthcoming.