

SHUG (SNS HFIR User Group), <http://neutrons.ornl.gov/users/shug/>
SHUG executive committee minutes.

Teleconference held July 5, 2011.

Attendees:

Executive Committee: Cora Lind, Greg Beaucage, Pat Woodward, Eugenia Kharlampieva, Mike Crawford

Guests: Al Ekkebus, Dean Myles

Minutes submitted for review July 19, 2011 by M. B. Stone.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Everyone – Please start thinking of suggestions for individuals for the next SHUG executive committee elections. Please send these to Cora.

ATTACHMENTS and WEBSITES of interest from the teleconference:

1. Update for HFIR and SNS (Dean)

SNS is currently in its planned summer shutdown. The accelerator ran very well during this most recent cycle at ~89 to 90 percent reliability.

HFIR had a lightning strike at a power transformer which scrambled the reactor and shut it down for 60 hours. This down-time will be made-up at the end of the current HFIR run cycle.

The directorate is approaching its DOE unique user goals (400 for HFIR and 750 for SNS). Current user numbers are 380 for the HFIR and 660 for the SNS as of 6/21/2011.

Japanese colleagues are being supported with beam-time at the HFIR and the SNS. Three of these visiting groups have performed their experiments at the facilities.

There were 66 participants of the U. S. National School on Neutron and X-ray . The directorate has found that 10% of these participants actually return for experiments at the neutron facilities.

The General Purpose (gp) SANS instrument at HFIR CG2 has had its He-3 tube detectors up and running. The instrument scientists are reporting at least an order of magnitude increase in the data rate available compared to the prior multi-wire detector. It is likely that the Bio-SANS instrument will acquire a similar detector.

The Vulcan instrument has further developed pump-probe techniques examining time-structure of a material being stressed with resolution of 200 micro-seconds.

Nomad has demonstrated that diffraction data can be acquired from a 700 micro-gram sample (0.0007 grams).

2. User Week and workshops update (AI)

Neutron Scattering User Week will be the second week in November 2011. AI will be meeting with Mike Simonson this week to discuss further details. User week will start either Monday or Tuesday during the week of November 14th, 2011. There likely will be a hard-condensed matter workshop, a SNAP workshop, and potentially another workshop.

Last year there were between 450 and 500 in attendance, when it was combined with a nano-technology workshop at ORNL.

3) Conferences/user outreach (AI)

The neutron and X-ray school was held in June 2011.

There was a course on structural molecular biology recently at SNS.

There was a workshop on analysis of SANS data recently.

There was a JINS workshop introducing new users to neutron scattering.

There was an outreach booth at the American Crystallographic Association meeting

There are four workshops in the near future to be held at Oak Ridge: A POWGEN powder diffraction workshop, a NOMAD workshop, an EQSANS workshop and a TOPAZ workshop. This is being done to expand the user community as well as testing the rigor of the instrument in the user program. This is also a way to bring prior users back to the instrument to re-examine their experimental results.

Early in the next fiscal year there will be a neutron imaging workshop in Gatlinburg in participation with colleagues from Europe.

4) Other business?

The guest house will be opening in August 2011. One of the guest house management team will be at the next teleconference.

* Next telecon date

Tuesday August 2, 2011, at 1 PM