

SHUG-EC Conference Call: Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 3:00 – 4:00 PM EST

Attendees (online):

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

External: Geneva Laurita, Adrian Brugger, Daniel Shoemaker, Yun Liu, Amy Xu, Rebecca Dally, Peter Gilbert, Igor Zaliznyak, Rana Ashkar

Document approval:

Minutes from January 2022 conference call: approve

Agenda for February 2022 conference call: approve

1. Brief update of the status of the 10-year plan response. (Yun)
 - ORNL received SHUG EC comments and continue to welcome further feedback.
2. Discuss direct communication with the SHUG community. (Creating an email list that EC can use?) (Yun, Igor, Janell)
 - Currently, if SHUG EC wants to talk to the SHUG community, communication would need to go through Janell and emails come officially from ORNL. Idea is to create an email address so that SHUG EC can directly send messages to the SHUG community.
 - Action item (Janell): create the email, SHUG@ornl.gov; secretary to circulate/distribute future emails with chair, vice-chair, and past chair having administrative privileges. Two-tier system to distributing emails: three chairs can quickly make decisions about emails to go out, with the whole EC giving input for non-urgent matters.
3. Update the SHUG “Breakthrough Symposium” status. (Daniel, Geneva, Rebecca, and Yun)
 - Current status: in contact with ORNL staff to further project starting with neutron powder diffraction breakthrough symposium (meetings, etc).
 - Action item (Daniel, Geneva, Rebecca, and Yun): continue planning and expanding ideas (maybe inviting external speaker? ORNL for travel support?)
4. Neutron shortage in the US (Adrian)
 - The neutron shortage in the US with NCNR down indefinitely and ORNL’s upcoming outage is concerning, particularly for junior faculty.
 - Discussed: what are practical ways to stay productive, including potentially reaching out to underutilized neutron facilities in the US. What are ways to get more support from DOE BES?
 - Action item (Adrian, plus to be determined members): form working group to draft letter from SHUG (with input from other EC members) asking for more BES support and circulate to SHUG community.
 - Action item (Adrian): Bring up to LUG and reach out to NSSA (who may also be working on a letter). Letter can be brought up to SHUG community at ACNS townhall.
5. Update of the DEI town hall effort of NSSA (Lisa)
 - Action item (Lisa): more updates next meeting.
6. User lab access and user account maintenance? (Geneva, Yun)
 - Currently, there is an issue about password expiration getting sent out over the holidays and then people get locked out of account if they don’t check their emails.
 - Janell passed this issue on to the user portal developers but has not heard back on the issue
 - Action item (Janell): follow-up with user portal developers.
7. Plan for the focused EC meetings based on the last year’s virtual visit (everyone). Three focus areas: Software, DEI, and user support around the PPU and Be changeout

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- Action item (Hans and Janell): Decide who from the lab side wants to address questions and obtain in-writing response.
 - Action item (everyone): Think about what group you want to join for discussions and let Daniel and Yun know, or they will assign you to group. Meetings will be set up at later date.
8. ACNS SHUG town hall (everyone)
- Town Hall organization
 - ACNS townhall: Tuesday June 7 one hour over lunch
 - Action item (Janell): look for old documents from previous town hall agenda
 - Action item (Lisa): look for old NSSA agenda for organization ideas
 - Bylaw revision
 - The roles of ORNL staff in the future EC (closed meeting discussions for EC members only)
 - Hans clarified how issue came about: when comparing NScD at ORNL to other similar organizations, saw that others treated user group as independent as possible from organization.
 - Action item (everyone): EC will continue discussion in the time before the next meeting.