

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

SHUG executive committee minutes.

Teleconference held May 4, 2010.

Attendees:

Executive Committee: Mike Crawford, Matthew Stone, Igor Zaliznyak, Ursula Perez-Salas, Cora Lind, Stephen Wilson, Pat Woodward and Mark Dadmun

Guests: Dean Myles, Chrissi Schnell, Lou Santodonato, Greg Smith

Minutes Submitted to Mike Crawford and Al Ekkebus May 5, 2010 by M. B. Stone.

#### ACTION ITEMS:

- CLO Laboratory facilities requests (item 3 below). Please send suggestions for the CLO laboratory space to Chrissi Schnell ([schnellca@ornl.gov](mailto:schnellca@ornl.gov)).
  - Sample environment steering committee (item 5 below). The sample environment group is looking for additional steering committee members. Volunteers or suggestions for committee members should be sent to Lou Santodonato ([santodonatol@ornl.gov](mailto:santodonatol@ornl.gov))
  - SNUG representation from SHUG (item 6 below). A member of the executive committee is requested to volunteer for this role.
  - Executive committee nominations (item 7 below). There is still time to nominate individuals for the SHUG executive committee, please forward suggestions to Mike Crawford ([Michael.K.Crawford@usa.dupont.com](mailto:Michael.K.Crawford@usa.dupont.com)).
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#### 1. NScD update including last proposal call (Dean

Currently at mid-cycle at the SNS, and preparing for a reactor cycle start-up at the HFIR. The shutter on the four-circle diffractometer at the HFIR has been repaired. Currently there are some chopper issues at SNAP which will cause approximately 6 days of downtime for that instrument.

There were 571 proposals (359 for SNS and 212 for HFIR instruments) in the last proposal call. 143 proposals were accepted for SNS instruments and 103 were accepted for HFIR instruments. This resulted in a 2.6 to 2.7 overall subscription factor: ORNL received requests for almost three times as much beamtime as was available. VULCAN users requested five times as much beamtime as was available.

For this most recent proposal round, the SRC panel (41 people) met to serve as a panel review of the proposals coupled with email and written reviews. The next proposal review will be entirely an SRC panel review and will likely include approximately 85 people. The SRC encourages everyone to broaden the research community and to engage other members of the current community to apply for beam time using the SNS and HFIR instruments.

## 2. BES review last week (Dean)

There were 12 onsite reviewers and 6 DOE observers during the BES review last week. The presentations consisted both of science talks and operation talks. The close-out session of the review was very positive, but NSSD has not yet received any formal feedback from the committee. This feedback is expected within 4 to 6 weeks.

Software development was also presented at the review. The creation of a new group, the Scientific Data Management Group, was announced at the review. This group will look at the hardware and middle ware issues which have developed and are developing across the beamlines. Steve Miller will lead the Scientific Data Management Group. Mark Hagen is currently the interim group leader for the Scientific Computing Group.

## 3. New CLO labs discussion: status, recommendations for lab equipment, plans for access, staffing, etc. (Chrissi, All)

Chrissi Schnell is the laboratory coordinator for the second floor CLO laboratories at the SNS. This space contains 13 laboratories grouped by disciplines. For example, synthesis, a protein bio suite, a high pressure lab, an x-ray lab, a laser lab, a magnetic materials lab, etc. Access will be via proximity cards. Commissioning of this space will be late June or early July. Some specialized equipment will be part of the user program, and one will need to write a proposal for use of this equipment. Other equipment would be used as accessories for user proposals or upon request.

At HFIR, there is a general laboratory and sample preparation laboratory in the cold guide hall. There has been very positive feedback for this laboratory, with approximately 20 users per reactor cycle for this laboratory.

General laboratory training will allow access to the laboratory, followed by specific training on the laboratory which will be used by the user. This training will allow access for 2 years. There will be a short Job Hazard Analysis for the laboratory work which is performed.

There is also a laboratory which will be available located next to the SNS SANS instrument. This will function the same as the laboratory at the HFIR cold guide hall.

The post-beam sample handling laboratory at the SNS is being commissioned. Typical transfers are being done now, and full use of this facility is expected to start soon.

There will be a laboratory support building outside the SNS which will be commissioned next month. This will be a centralized shipping, receiving and sample handling location

A user survey was conducted to solicit opinions for the equipment to be available in the CLO laboratory. This survey went to 913 members with a current 15% return rate. About half of the responses requested general wet-lab space for chemical use. One third of the responses asked for a dry atmosphere glove box. Some people would bring more samples or stay longer after or before their experiment if these facilities were made available.

4. Update on survey of APS and NSLS users (Al or Lynn)

Discussion postponed.

5. Sample environment committee: need for additional members from SHUG (Lou Santodonato or Al)

The sample environment steering committee is playing a large role in the development of new sample environment capabilities. This committee currently has two SHUG members (Stephen Wilson and Ursula Perez-Salas). Lou is requesting additional SHUG representatives or other members of the community. Commitment is one hour per month via teleconference.

6. New SHUG representative to SNUG and to participate in BES facility Directors' Quarterly Conference Call (Mark Dadmun, all)

SNUG is the Synchrotron and Neutrons User Group (<http://www.snugroups.org/>). SNUG Serves as a lobbying and advocate group for the users of these facilities. The SNUG representatives are also part of the BES facility Directors' Quarterly Conference Call. These individuals also take part in congressional visits. An academic person would fit well into this role. A volunteer is needed to serve this role for one year.

7. SHUG EC election candidates: see attached list of candidates (Mike, all)

Currently have 12 candidates across different fields of physics. This election will be discussed in detail with Al E offline.

8. ORNL/SNS/HFIR user meeting update: suggestions for workshops (Al)

Discussion is postponed. Al may circulate current status of meeting and agenda.

9. SHUG meeting at ACNS (all)

This is currently planned for the ACNS. Further discussion will take place at June's executive committee meeting.

Post teleconference suggestion. Ask Chrissi Schnell to deliver a 10 minute presentation concerning the CLO laboratories, followed by a 15 to 20 minute town hall discussing requests for these facilities.