

January 20, 2006 SHUG Executive Committee Conference Call:

Members Present (9):

Edward Kintzel
David Londono
Despina Louca
Mark Lumsden
Steve Shapiro
Leonard Spicer
Ersan Üstündag
Angus Wilkinson
Igor Zaliznyak

Also present at conference call:

Takeshi Egami

1. JINS Information

The first portion of the conference call was devoted to discussing JINS with interim JINS Director, Takeshi Egami.

The JINS building is currently in the process of Washington approval which is taking some time as the land is owned by the Federal government while the building will be operated by the State of Tennessee. Takeshi provided a description of the building:

- \$8M budget for the building
- Slated for completion by the end of 2007
- 30,000 square feet: 1/3 office space, 2/3 common space
- No lab space included in the building – ORNL will build an annex to the JINS building which will contain lab space
- Will be located across from the CLO at the SNS site

The majority of office space within the JINS building has been accounted for and will be predominately occupied by long-term residents from a combination of UT (University of Tennessee, SNS, and CMSD (Condensed Matter Sciences Division)

The lab space in the annex will be owned by ORNL and will predominately provide laboratory space for CMSD staff and will typically not be open to users of SNS.

JINS will provide new office space for CMSD.

It was asked if JINS will be the location of the main office space for users. There will not be as much space for users as originally planned. Users will spend most of their time at SNS and the computer rooms used for data analysis will be the responsibility of the individual instruments.

Most of the permanent office space in the CLO and the JINS building is now spoken for.

The SNS user office will be located at SNS and not in the JINS building.

How will users profit from the presence of JINS? JINS will try to promote interaction among users and provide a place for interaction (this is the purpose of the large amount of common space in the JINS building design). JINS will try to encourage users to give seminars. JINS will facilitate sabbaticals by providing office space for long-term visitors and perhaps some funding. Part of the JINS mission is to invite guests to ORNL and JINS will handle this financially.

JINS is making money by renting office space to ORNL staff from CMSD. The ORNL use space charge is very high and this provides income for JINS. This is the current plan for handling the funding situation. It is believed that this funding situation will provide stable funding for JINS.

It seems unlikely that NSF will contribute significant funds for the operation of JINS as they tend to be reluctant to provide funds to DOE facilities. The current state was not the original plan for JINS but the situation changed due to the reality of funding.

The JINS director will be permanently located at the JINS building. Currently, it is thought that the JINS director will be more of a coordinator and less of a managerial head. Under this assumption, Takeshi will most likely become the permanent JINS director.

DOE will not have an umbrella FWP to provide funding support for JINS. JINS won't have block funding from DOE.

Takeshi envisions the role of JINS as one of facilitating science by assembling teams to generate new fields of study, ideas, and funding.

JINS is not an ORNL organization but, rather, a UT/ORNL organization. Both ORNL Associate Lab Directors and the UT chancellor are involved in the project. JINS is not in the ORNL line organization but connected through a sideline to ORNL (through both Thom Mason and Michelle Buchanan).

JINS completion by the end of 2007 will coincide with the arrival of the first SNS users.

The JINS business plan is almost complete and will be ready in the next few months.

There are 4 Joint Institutes at ORNL and JINS will clearly interact with them. JINS can help users access other ORNL facilities through interaction with the other Joint Institutes. Examples include computing resources present in the Computing and Computer Sciences Directorate, theory and facilities present at CNMS.

2. Next SHUG User Meeting

SNS would like the SHUG Executive Committee to take a more active role in the organization of the next User Meeting which should be sometime in 2007.

It was suggested that the Executive Committee appoint an organizational committee for the User Meeting.

It is currently a bit unclear what the SNS expects from the Executive Committee. It appears that they want the Executive Committee to do more organizing of the sessions. It was pointed out that it will still be necessary for the SNS user office to handle most of the local organizational details. The preferred situation would be SNS handling the local issues while the Executive Committee handles the session (setting the agenda, choosing speakers, inviting speakers, etc.)

[Action Item] The role of the Executive Committee needs to be worked out with SNS and a document to outline this role should be in place. Provided the principal role of the Executive Committee will be in organizing the sessions, a Program Committee should be appointed.

[Action Item] We should invite Al Ekkebus and Greg Smith to join us for a conference call in the near future to discuss the expected role of the Executive Committee in organizing the User Meeting.

3. Meeting Schedule for SHUG Executive Committee

In the past, the schedule for teleconferences was aperiodic. It would be beneficial to meet on a more regular schedule. A teleconference per month was suggested as a potential schedule but once every two months was considered to be slightly more practical.

In addition to teleconference calls, it was agreed that we should physically meet as a committee at least once per year. We could organize to meet at ACNS but it was recognized that there is real value in meeting at ORNL. This provides the opportunity to meet with both HFIR and SNS management to discuss issues in person.

Steve Nagler and Ian Anderson will join us to give updates on recent activities at HFIR and SNS for the next conference call. This will most likely be sometime in February.

4. Web Site

It is recognized that the SHUG web site could use considerable work. Several suggestions were made for improvements to the web site. This included a dialog box for suggestions. It was suggested that a Wiki (a type of web site that allows users to easily edit and add content in a collaborative fashion) may be an option. It was pointed out that there are most likely some computer security issues with running a Wiki using ORNL

computing resources. A Wiki could be hosted outside of ORNL and JINS would be a logical place for this. **[Action Item]** Mark will look into the idea of a Wiki within ORNL.

In addition to updating the web site, the idea of an Electronic Newsletter was suggested. This would be from SHUG and would summarize the current status of SNS and HFIR. This would help to publicize SHUG to the community. It will also alert people to issues and progress with SNS and HFIR and will keep the community thinking about both facilities. Such a newsletter should give progress to date and also provide a schedule. Some of the work for this could be offloaded to the SNS and HFIR User offices.

5. ACNS

What should we do at ACNS? There are several breakout sessions at ACNS and we should have a breakout session for SHUG. **[Action Item]** We should reserve a session at ACNS.