

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

SHUG executive committee minutes.

Teleconference held May 12, 2009.

Attendees:

Executive Committee: Mike Crawford, Seung-Hun Lee, Flora Meilleur, Ursula Perez-Salas, Matthew Stone, Stephen Wilson, Mark Dadmun

Guests: Al Ekkebus

Minutes Submitted to Mike Crawford and Al Ekkebus May 12, 2009 by M. B. Stone.

#### ACTION ITEMS:

- Letter from executive committee to Dean Myles and Ian Anderson summarizing concerns of SHUG executive committee concerning user comments, especially those concerning sample environment and software.
- Matt Stone, Lou Santodonato, and Al Ekkebus – Matt will ask about the state of the survey about sample environment which was sent to users.
- Entire Committee – Next teleconference (June 2) will include Takeshi Egami (director of JINS (Joint Institute for Neutron Scattering)). Please think of questions for Takeshi regarding JINS and its role and relationship with SHUG.

#### PRIOR ACTION ITEMS NOT COMPLETED or REPORTED TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Al Ekkebus - On-site housing, food service and shuttle service. The executive committee would like to know the goals from management regarding these services and the timeline of establishing services.
- 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.
- 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. Al Ekkebus discusses ORNL User Week

- Al wrote a summary for ICNS (editorial for *Neutron News* and *Notiziario*), lots of overlap discovered of User Week with the 2009 ICNS in Knoxville, TN. Staff likely to also be busy with neutron school and other activities. Perhaps do something in spring 2010 rather than 2009. Could also sponsor strictly educational activities at ORNL. CNMS appears to still be planning a user meeting.
- Considering attendance and the recent local ICNS, postponing user week meeting for 2010 is reasonable. Would also like to schedule such that the SNS/HFIR proposal deadline is after the user meeting.
- Useful neutron sessions for CNMS (to be scheduled):
  - How to write a neutron scattering proposal.
  - What information can you get from neutron scattering?
  - Characterization of nano-composites using neutron scattering (dynamics and structure).
  - Lunch or Coffee with experts - local scientists and beam line scientists, opportunity for collaboration and discussion of relevant techniques and instruments. Could also have the instrument posters available at this lunch/coffee session.
- Perhaps a specialized workshop or summer school (2-3 days)
  - Thin Films and neutron scattering (multi-layer magnetic thin films)
  - Invite international community.
- Perhaps a specialized meeting at an external conference (2010 ACNS in Ontario, ACS, APS, MRS, etc.) does not need to be a local conference.

#### II. Scientific review committee nominations have been passed on to Judy Trimble.

#### III. Mark Dadmun's SNUG (synchrotron neutron user group) congressional visit.

- Coordinated with MRS congressional visit.
- Good feelings in congress to science.
- Visited multiple congressional members and staffers, good responses and discussions.
- Requested an increase of 8% per year for 8 years for physical science (DOE, BES, NSF and NIST).
- Spoke with Dunkin (TN) and Griffith (AL) and staffers for both TN senators (Alexander and Corker).

#### IV. Tabled discussions.

- Discussion on Second Target Station Town Hall Meeting at ICNS
- Discussion of National User Facility Organization Meeting on Access to National User Facilities. A preliminary draft agenda is available at <http://www.aps.gov/Users/NUFO/2009/Meetings/agenda.htm>
  - This can be discussed either on June 2, or during the July telecom (after the NUFO meeting has taken place)

#### V. User Survey discussion.

- Comments by users were commensurate with user surveys. Difficulties with ease of data processing, sample environment, accelerator reliability.
- Will request AI to continue sending these to SHUG executive committee.
- Perhaps have a SHUG committee for sample environment?
  - Not necessary, simply need sample environment group to provide basic outline of equipment which is provided by other user facilities, then to build upon that.
  - Survey was sent out to users on behalf of sample environment. Matt will ask about the state of this survey.

#### VI. Sample Shipping.

- Concern over efficiency of sample shipping and its procedure.

#### VII. Next Telecon is June 2

- Think of questions concerning JINS.