

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

SHUG executive committee minutes.

Teleconference held July 7, 2009.

Attendees:

Executive Committee: Mike Crawford, Matthew Stone, Flora Meilleur, Cora Lind, Stephen Wilson, Igor Zaliznyak, Pat Woodward

Guests: Al Ekkebus, Lou Santodonato, Dean Myles

Minutes Submitted to Mike Crawford and Al Ekkebus July 8, 2009 by M. B. Stone.

ACTION ITEMS:

- ENTIRE COMMITTEE – Please comment on the advertisements/flyers which Dean Myles will be sending to the SHUG committee.
- ENTIRE COMMITTEE - please send suggestions to Mike Crawford for speakers for a March meeting session regarding industry and neutron scattering.

PRIOR ACTION ITEMS NOT COMPLETED or REPORTED TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 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. Neutron Sciences Update

- Dean Myles update from NSSD
 - Single crystal diffractometer (IMAGINE) beamline funded at the HFIR via NSF. Some research for this instrument would be protein crystallography, high pressure applications, chemical crystallography. Hope to have it in 15 months. End station on CG4 at HFIR.
 - SANS detectors at HFIR have been underperforming and our plan is to replace them. NSSD will be investing in same technology as EQSANS and Inelastic instruments at SNS – He3 detectors. A group at Penn State University will be trying to acquire funding from NIH for the second SANS detector.
 - Powder diffractometer at HFIR is currently 40% in user program with the aim to get fully in user program in next FY and calendar year
 - TOPAZ coming through its IRR (instrument readiness review)
 - Vulcan coming through its IRR and has observed neutrons
 - Software development and capabilities at SNS is recognized as a ‘major issue’. Planning on assigning an instrument scientist lead into the group who will oversee new hires.
 - SNS has been at reduced power ~400 kW, and will be wrapping up its cycle in the next week
 - JINS (Joint Institute for Neutron Sciences) – business plan is being put together and will be a 50:50 collaboration with University of Tennessee. User program office and Science center initiatives will be housed in JINS. JINS is ahead of schedule in construction. Likely will be able to take occupancy sometime in December 2009. Individuals staying for longer terms may also be potentially working out of this space while at ORNL.
 - Neutron and X-ray Scattering School – 60 students from 40 institutions at Argonne and ORNL. Very good survey results.
 - Flyers will be distributed to SHUG for comment regarding
 - Early career term employment program Creating four to six five year scientist positions. Intention is to transition a fraction of these individuals to full hires. A three-year review will be in place with a five year commitment to the appointment. Commitment to research integrity document also discussed.
 - Neutron Science Visitor program, these positions will open up in (FY 2010. 50-50 split in funding post-docs).
 - Also will be developing a charter / code of conduct to be shared with the user community.
 - More rapid access to beamlines. Will be rolling out a test of a system whereby 1 day in each HFIR cycle and 1 day in every 30 to 60 days of a SNS cycle for each instrument. Will require an email message to instrument scientists with 1 paragraph description followed by IPTS integration and a safety review.

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- Lou S. from Sample environment.
 - Survey from web was helpful.
 - Greatest need for improvement
 - Accurate and reliable standard equipment.
 - Specific suggestions often included combinations of parameters such as magnetic field and low-temperature, high pressure and low-temperature
 - Many requests for gas pressure cells
 - Ran a 1 kbar diffraction cell at the HFIR recently. Will be working on a 4 kbar cell. Hydrogen cell and a gas cell has been run at BASIS at SNS.
 - HFIR now has a He-3 system which will be run tomorrow.
 - He-3 and dilution fridge will be commissioned in coming months at SNS
 - 5 Tesla system working at SNS
 - 10 Tesla system for SNS going out for bid
 - 6-10 Tesla system for HFIR going out for bid.
 - High field 16 Tesla system will be delivered in fall 2010.
 - Collaboration with Western Kentucky University in building and automating a regulated gas handling system. Interested in further collaborations of this nature.
 - Likely will need 2 low-temperature inserts (dilution and He-3) expected to be needed at SNS when fully operational.
 - Suggestion for improving website for sample environment: including calibration curves and fact sheets for all devices.

- NUFO – 100 people attended the meeting session for improving access for industry at user facilities.
 - difficulties noted include time-scale of access, limited background in technique, concerns over intellectual property.

- Industrial and applied physics interested in a session at March 2010 meeting . Please send suggested speakers to Mike Crawford.