

## SHUG-EC Conference Call: Wednesday, March 8, 11:00 AM – 11:15 AM EST

Attendees (online):

ORNL: Hans Christen, Lisa Debeer-Schmitt, Janell Thomson

External: Ben Frandsen, Peter Gilbert, Yulia Zaikina, Yun Liu

Reduced attendance due to the APS March Meeting.

Discussion items:

1. Discussed allowing remote presentation from 2 of the soft matter speakers for the user meeting because of overlap with another scientific meeting. General support of the idea, will check with Igor.
2. Need to get on-site SHUG-EC meeting on the calendar.
3. Reviewers from the DOE Operations Review will hold a lunch meeting with SHUG-EC members on Wednesday, June 14 as part of the review. We should consider rescheduling the June EC meeting because of the lunch on June 14.
4. Breakthrough Symposium to be held most likely week of August 14.
5. Will try to reschedule today's EC meeting for next week when more people are available.

## SHUG-EC Conference Call: Wednesday, March 15, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST

Attendees (online):

ORNL: Lisa Debeer-Schmitt, Janell Thomson

External: Rebecca Dally, Igor Zaliznyak, Ben Frandsen, Peter Gilbert, Yun Liu, Yulia Zaikina, Amy Xu

Discussion items:

1. DOE's triennial review of ORNL will be held in June, and the SHUG-EC will talk to review committee. Yun Liu suggests that we send last year's on-site visit report to the review committee members to give them an idea of the efforts we are currently engaged in. Igor suggests we reread the report to determine if it will be helpful or not and then discuss next time. **Action item (all): Yun Liu will post the previous two reports to Slack (or email them to us). Everyone should read or re-read before next meeting and be prepared to discuss.**
2. Electrochemistry Breakthrough Symposium: ACS Fall meeting overlaps with originally proposed August 15 date; Yun Liu is now thinking of August 21. Conflicts with the IUCr meeting, but that may not be such a big deal for the speakers on this topic. No conflicts from ORNL during that week. We will move forward with this week and check with the invited speakers to determine their availability.
3. User meeting update: All invited speakers are now confirmed by the parallel session moderators; Janell is sending out the formal invitations; Suzanne will update the agenda with all the names of invited speakers.

4. Lunch discussion topics for user meeting: Janell recommends that before making any final decisions on topics, we wait until registration closes so we know how many people we will have and can plan accordingly. Igor has provided an initial list of topics in the slack channel.
5. User meeting registration update: about 100 at the moment; perhaps a little lower than previous years. **Action item (Ben): Send out email from EC reminding people to register, encourage poster submission (mention poster prizes) award nominations.**
6. Communication with ORNL leadership: previously, there were monthly meetings between ORNL leadership and SHUG-EC chair. Igor wasn't aware of them for the first few months of his tenure, but he will start this up again next month. Ken has invited us to pass along any issues that we see to the Neutron Scattering Directorate for discussion at these monthly meetings.
  - a. Update on instrument scientist hirings? CORELLI got another instrument scientist, which is great.
  - b. Eugene Mamontov returning to NScD as Chemical Spectroscopy Group Leader
7. Organizing data reduction/usage workshops... Something to implement in the future?
  - a. User meeting will have workshops on data reduction for direct geometry, GSAS, PDF, possibly others.
  - b. We could benefit the community by holding occasional virtual workshops focused on specific techniques. Main idea: How to move from data straight off the instrument to publishable figures.
  - c. Another thought: produce detailed slide decks or PDF documents so that they can be available after the fact.
  - d. Suggestion to do both: live tutorial (screen record it), turn it into youtube video, take the feedback and turn it into a detailed, written version.
  - e. Can try to make the workshop more engaging by sharing a dataset in advance, then working through it together.
  - f. Creating a formal workshop is a lot of work, so would it be easier just to encourage the instrument teams to do something like this? On the other hand, will it actually happen if we just leave it informal?
  - g. Igor's original vision: users sharing their know-how with other users, so the burden isn't just on the instrument scientists. Igor's vision didn't necessarily include formal creation of a lasting product/document.
  - h. Keep thinking about this for future discussion.
8. Nominations for new NSD Director. Hans invited us to send suggestions to Ken Anderson directly. **Action item (all): send names to Ken if you want to make nominations.**
9. Scheduling the on-site SHUG-EC meeting. September preferable on ORNL side because both sources will be down, but it may not work for university faculty. **Action item (all): Janell will set up a poll to select a week between late July and end of September, assuming a Monday/Tuesday meeting. Please respond with your availability.**