

## SHUG-EC Conference Call: Wednesday, February 14, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST

Attendees (online):

ORNL: Janell Thomson, Naresh Osti

External: Mingda Li, Igor Zaliznyak, Grace Longbons, Hillary Smith, Nairiti Sinha, Rebecca Dally, Ben Frandsen, Yulia Zaikina

Discussion items:

1. User survey update
  - a. Detailed comments and edits available on the shared Google Doc, all EC members encouraged to review and contribute
  - b. Suggestion that NScD should have the opportunity to review and fact check the text of the survey
  - c. Google Forms or Qualtrics could be used to host and administer the survey; Ben Frandsen will look into Google Forms
  - d. Timeline as decided at last month's meeting: Finalized draft by the end of Feb, finalize the entire survey in March, sent out to the user community shortly thereafter, responses concluded sometime in May
  - e. DEI inputs to use MCQ to ask users instead of y/n questions.
  - f. All members provide feedback to Igor on User survey.
  - g. Yulia takes a look at X-ray questions
2. Breakthrough Symposia: Update from Hillary Smith
  - a. Speaker selection: Balance of high profile and young researchers with attention given to diversity of speaker slate
  - b. Past format: 2 hours, 4 speakers: 2 high-profile researchers (one who is a neutron user, one who is not), and 2 researchers who are earlier in their career (also one who is a neutron user, the other not)
  - c. Rebecca: Senior 30 minutes + 10 minutes of questions, Junior 20 minutes + 10 questions, one user and one non-user in each. Total 2 hours. Facilitate cross talk
  - d. Mingda: could be longer than 2 hours if we have strong speakers
  - e. EC members encouraged to provide suggestions for speakers on topic of high entropy alloys and oxides
  - f. Feedback from last time: there was not enough interaction between speakers and audience; the instrument scientists who were available for discussion at end were just standing there, did not have a chance to participate.
  - g. Rather than asking beamline scientists to standby, can ask them to give flash talks on the beamline use.
  - h. Nairiti: EC slack channel – get new members added
3. SHUG Town Hall at ACNS
  - a. When should we reach out to meeting organizers to request time for a town hall?  
General consensus: as soon as possible (Kate and Jeff)
4. Scheduling the onsite meeting: August 12-13 tentatively suggested as a date for the meeting. EC members should check their schedules and give feedback to Janell. Summer school runs July 28 – August 9, so we want to avoid those dates.
5. Newsletter content

- a. Could be useful to share developments of instruments, software, etc as a regular part of the newsletter
- b. A software highlight was included in this most recent ORNL user newsletter Neutron Times
- c. What do we want to put in the newsletter
- d. Do we put in beamline highlight? Introduce any new advancements or instr. progress bi-weekly basis?
- e. How much do we want to engage with the content of the newsletter?
- f. Any user-based or ORNL-based progress that will be useful to the user community would be useful? Databases, webpages, github, etc. spread the word using newsletter.
- g. Double effort between Neutron Science NL and ours?
- h. Highlight: beamline, publication, software/database?