

SHUG Conference Call – September 10, 2008

Feedback on SNS & HFIR User Program operations and suggestions for the Neutron Scattering Science Review Committee Members

- Status of instruments and facilities – schedule of instruments into user program, operations schedule, and new capabilities – sample environments, etc.
 - a. HFIR to have 6 cycles in FY2009. Powder (HB-2A) and Single Crystal (HB-3A) Diffractometers and WAND (HB-2C) to undergo commissioning and be included in second half of year. Wet chemistry lab being constructed for General Purpose SANS users. Horizontal field magnet being tested for addition to SANS.
 - b. SNS to have about 170 days of neutron production in FY2009. New instruments were included in proposal call are SNAP, CNCS, and ARCS. Additional instruments to begin commissioning in the next year are EQ-SANS, POWGEN3, Fundamental Physics, SEQUOIA, Spin Echo, VULCAN, and TOPAZ. Several additional sample environments are being added.
 - c. Through August, 106 SNS users and 209 HFIR users.
- Proposal calls and reviews – status
 - a. Over 230 general user proposals were received in the summer proposal call. Folks requested a bit over twice the amount of the available general user beam time for both HFIR and SNS. Schedules are being for both HFIR and SNS through the February 2009 period.
 - b. We now have over 250 reviewers but always need more.
- Satisfaction survey results
 - a. Science reviewers survey (25% responded)
 - 1. 80% - proposal system is good to excellent and 2 indicated improvements needed.
 - 2. 88% responded no problems with log-in or system mechanics
 - 3. 80% spend 0-2 hours with each proposal
 - b. User satisfaction survey (about 50% responded) from either SNS or HFIR
 - 1. SNS: Higher marks with support provided to users and lower marks are schedule and performance of accelerator
 - 2. HFIR: higher marks to performance of reactor and instrument and support of users; lower marks to fraction of year available for operations.
- Future workshops:
 - a. NX School with Argonne, 47 students, arriving Saturday, 9/27-Friday, 10/3, 3 expts, Bryan Chakoumakos is ORNL school chair.
 - b. Neutron Imaging@SNS, Nov. 3, announcement soon,
 - c. Dynamics of Soft Matter, Dec. 4-6, satellite to MRS in Boston, taking applications for contributed talks and posters NOW!
 - d. National Society of Black Physicists mtg in Nashville and tour of ORNL, NX session.
 - e. ICNS – May 3-7, 2009. Greg Smith is co-chair of event for NSSA.
- Looking for ideas for next user meeting in fall 2009, possibly to be built around an education program?
- Publications in 2007-2008?? Please submit soon.