

SHUG (SNS HFIR User Group), <http://neutrons.ornl.gov/users/shug/>
SHUG executive committee minutes.

Teleconference held May 3, 2011.

Attendees:

Executive Committee: Cora Lind, Seung-Hun Lee, Peter Khalifah, Eugenia Kharlampieva, Malcolm Guthrie and Mike Crawford, and Antonella Longo

Guests: Mike Simonson, Al Ekkebus, and Dean Myles

Minutes submitted for review May 9, 2011 by M. B. Stone.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Please note next telecon date: June 7, 2011 at 1 PM
- The SHUG executive committee suggests that information regarding limited internet resources be distributed to users prior to their arrival so that they can plan accordingly.
- Everyone on the SHUG executive committee should send a list of their un-available dates as well as potential conflicts with other meetings which may occur during November and December 2011. This should be sent to Al Ekkebus as soon as possible. Please also send suggestions for workshops for the user meeting to Al Ekkebus and the rest of the executive committee as soon as possible.

ATTACHMENTS and WEBSITES of interest from the teleconference:

- 1) User News Weekly – April 25 – May 1, 2011
- 2) User Representative Letter from the National User Facility Organization
- 3) Neutron Quarterly News – April 2011
- 4) The latest Neutron Review is available online at <http://neutrons.ornl.gov/media/pubs/pdf/2010neutronreview.pdf>

1. Update for HFIR and SNS (Mike)

The stainless steel target containing liquid mercury at SNS has been replaced and neutron production is currently taking place. Maintenance work was rescheduled to take full advantage of this outage to replace the target. The plan is to end neutron production at the end of June, and then restart in mid-August.

The recent proposal round has passed the beam allocation committee, and responses have been sent to the proposers. Future proposal rounds will very likely request information regarding what potential ancillary equipment will be brought by users to the facility. The SRC (scientific

review committees) noted that in addition to an increased number of proposals, the proposal quality is also improving.

Management would like to have a user meeting at ORNL in the late fall or early winter of the 2011 calendar year. Please see item number 4. below.

The construction of the guest house at ORNL will be completed in May 2011, and will be outfitted and commissioned in June. The current schedule is to start accepting guests in July 2011. The capacity is 47 guest rooms, with some rooms being double occupancy. Rates and policies are not available yet. There was a suggestion to also make available a roll-away bed which could double or triple a room's occupancy, without adding too much additional cost. This would allow some research groups to bring additional students.

The recent cyber-attack of ORNL has also made the IPTS and training systems unavailable from outside networks. This functionality and other online-services will very likely return within days or a few weeks. The visitor wireless network was down for 2 or 3 weeks, but is now (May 7, 2011) restored. Remote access via VPN is not yet available to ORNL staff.

The SHUG executive committee suggests that information regarding limited internet resources be distributed to users prior to their arrival so that they can plan accordingly.

2. National User Facility Organization meeting in Washington, D.C. (Cora)

The National User Facility Organization meeting was held in Washington D.C. on Thursday April 7, 2011. This was initiated by two Members of Congress, and is for the benefit of Members of Congress and their staff. There were posters representing 37 different facilities including HFIR and SNS (and 16 other facilities including astronomy, climate research, NHMFL, synchrotrons, etc.). The meeting lasted approximately 3 to 4 hours. Several representatives stopped by in person, many staffers attended. There were many people from DOE and NSF which also attended. The NUFO website <http://nufo.org> has additional information. Cora Lind, Despina Louca, and Ian Anderson attended this meeting. It is likely that there will be more of these meetings in the future.

Al Ekkebus will distribute news releases regarding this event.

3. Regional conferences.

There were no new suggestions for additional regional conferences to send a poster to from the NSSD. This information is available if you would like to post this at any meeting you are attending.

4. User meeting at ORNL. Management would like to have a user meeting at ORNL in the late fall or early winter of the 2011 calendar year. The SRC will be at ORNL to review proposals the week of October 24, 2011, and would prefer not to have the user meeting at this time. A four

day user week is being considered, with two days for the user meeting. Workshops can be arranged also, especially for perspective users.

Everyone on the SHUG executive committee should send a list of their un-available dates as well as potential conflicts with other meetings which may occur during November and December 2011. This should be sent to Al Ekkebus as soon as possible.

Please also send suggestions for workshops for the user week to Al Ekkebus and the rest of the executive committee as soon as possible.

5. User News Weekly (AI) (attached).

This publication is distributed to users and available via the web on a weekly basis. It would be very useful to list the accelerator and HFIR schedules for the week on this document. Also it is a suggestion to have the list of users at the end of the document. It would be nice to also list the JINS coffee break on this document. It would also be nice to list when the next proposals are due. Another spotlight could highlight new instruments becoming available or old instruments that are available. Another suggestion is to add a request on the newsletter asking users for their suggestions for contributions to the User Weekly. More graphics for the spotlights were also suggested.

6. Neutron Quarterly News (AI) (attached).

This publication is planned on being distributed quarterly via email to users and past users of the facilities. This has been well received by the executive committee.

7. Other business?

* Next telecon date

Tuesday June 7, 2011, at 1 PM