

NSSA Executive Committee

**Minutes of the conference phone call 12:00pm ET, 9/12/06
(action items in red)**

Present on the conference call:

Simon Billinge (SJB)
Suzanne te Velthuis (StV)
Greg Smith (GS)
Brent Fultz (BF)
Shenda Baker (SB)
Roger Pynn (RP)
John Root (JR)

Missing:

Angus Wilkinson (AW)

Agenda

- 1) Approval of minutes of 8/7/06**
- 2) Review of action items from previous minutes**
- 3) Visit to DC**
- 4) Web-site redesign**
- 5) Fellows program**
- 6) Any other business**
- 7) Set date for next call**

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Discussions

- 1) Approval of minutes of 8/7/06**

Minutes are approved.

- 2) Review of action items from previous minutes**

Outstanding action items:

Strategic plan: RP still needs to work on this.

ACNS08: Roger needs to follow up with Jim Rhyne about the hotel next week when he is at the Lujan Center.

- 3) Visit to DC**

SNUG is planning a visit to Washington DC. Amongst others, they will visit Sen. Frisk.

RP is invited but cannot be there on October 16th, only on October 17th. SJB cannot be there either.

RP, if he goes, he expects to bill his expenses to NSSA. This is approved. He would like to leave behind a short document. What should the message be?

JR: That you represent scientific users of neutron facilities and are an expert in this field.

SJB: Could ask Deborah Koolbeck and Steve Pierson, who spoke at the ACNS06 advocacy session, if it is worthwhile and who would be the best to visit now.

Thank them for ACI.

JR: Thank for ACI.

Point out that we are resource for them, as we represent the neutron user community.

State what community can achieve/deliver.

State what the community needs.

SNS is flagship.

State that/how we contribute to security.

Highlight new exceptional result in neutron scattering that ties into ACI.

There is information on SNS web-site about the uses of neutron scattering.

4) Web-site redesign

JR: The conflict of interest guidelines have been added to the prize website. It is placed on the main page which identifies the different prizes, as opposed to only being a link from the subpages for each prize. The ExecCom agrees this is a good place for it.

SJB has put out an ad for an undergraduate student to work on several webprojects that he has. This student could then also work on the NSSA website.

RP: Should we get external funding?

SJB: It is probably more trouble then it is worth.

SJB: When the undergraduate student is there, they will make a sketch of the new site and send it around to the Exec Com for further discussion.

The ExecCom will wait to hear further on this issue from SJB.

5) Fellows program

RP: Does anyone know if there have been any nominations? Someone should check if there are any.

StV: We could send out a reminder

GS will send out a reminder to the membership

RP will send out a reminder to facility directors asking them to publish among their user group committees.

StV will send RP list of facility directors email addresses she previously compiled for the Awards announcements.

6) Any other business

GS & SB are reviewing student travel award applications. So far they have received one application. This was for a poster for a Chemical Society meeting. They denied funding as it was not for a neutron conference/workshop as required.

RP received mail from the American Physical Society (APS) about the exhibit at the next APS March meeting and asks whether or not we want a booth for the next meeting.

GS: Typically we get 50 new members at this meeting.

Do we want to exhibit at the APS or target other conferences.

GS: In the past other conferences have been tried, but never had enough people to man the booth.

No one from the ExecCom will be going to the next March meeting.

Regarding Jim Jorgensen's obituary, it is decided not to send it out as an email to the NSSA membership, inline with the decision made by the ExecCom in similar circumstances. Instead, an obituary or a link to an obituary placed somewhere else could be placed on the NSSA news web-site. An additional paragraph could be added by the ExecCom outlining Jim's role within the NSSA.

7) Set date for next call

The next teleconf call is set for: Tuesday October 10th 2006, **1:30pm** ET.

Call ended 1:06pm ET

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne te Velthuis, 10/9/06.