

**NSSA Executive Committee
Conference Call Minutes, 02/17/15**

Katharine Page (Secretary), 02/18/15

Present: Stephan Rosenkranz (SR)
Patrick Woodward (PW)
Katharine Page (KP)
Mike Crawford (MC)
Mark Lumsden (ML)
Chris Wiebe (CW)

Absent: Ron Jones (RJ)
Norm Wagner (NW)

Agenda:

1. Adoption of minutes from 01/22/2015 (KP/All)
2. Date for next conference call (SR/KP/All)
3. LANSCE follow-up (letters to Schoenberg, Dehmer) (SR)
4. CINS / NRU shutdown announcement (SR/All)
5. ACNS 2016 (SR/PW/ALL)
6. Follow-up on file transfer and plans for consolidated archives (KP/PW/All)
7. APS 2015 March Meeting booth (ML/NW/SR)
8. MRS Fall 15 sponsorship (SR)
9. Gordon Research Conference on Neutron Scattering sponsorship (SR)
10. Members at large (SR/ALL)

Discussion Minutes (by agenda item number):

1. Approval of minutes

The minutes from 01/22/15 were adopted with no corrections and no objections.

2. Date for next conference call (SR/KP/All)

It was agreed that the date and time for the next conference call will be Tuesday, March 17, at 11:00 AM Central Time.

3. LANSCE follow-up (letters to Schoenberg, Dehmer)

SR plans to write letters to Schoennberg and Dehmer regarding the importance of continued operations at the Lujan Center in the next few days.

4. CINS / NRU shutdown announcement (SR/All)

The government of Canada recently announced it will halt National Research Universal (NRU) reactor operations at the Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) March 31, 2018. CW (president of Canadian Institute for Neutron Scattering, CINS) provided an update. CNL plans to take full advantage of the remaining three years of operations to maximize benefit from the reactor. It is expected that the Canadian Neutron Beam Centre (CNBC) will continue to offer access to neutron beams to the user community through March 2018. The announcement may favorably impact the business and science cases for a new neutron source in Canada, and discussions are underway both at CNL in Chalk River and at the Sylvia Fedoruk Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation in Saskatchewan regarding future plans. The Canadian government has funded proof-of-concept Mo-99 production at accelerators in recent years, yet gaps in isotope quality and quantity are anticipated by the NRU closure. The forthcoming 'neutron gap' in Canada is a major concern of the neutrons scattering community, particularly in relation to anticipated difficulties in keeping key personnel within the country between the closure of NRU and the commissioning of a new nuclear reactor. CINS will hold a board meeting February 18, planning to formulate a formal response. The response may outline long range plans for a new nuclear reactor in Canada. CW will communicate any requests for NSSA support following this meeting. PW and SR raised concerns of this news coming at the heels of the closure of the Lujan Center BES Scientific User Facility operations. ML added that second target station plans at ORNL are still at Critical Decision (CD) level 0 (meaning the mission need awaits approval), with potential facilities still a decade away. SR commented that the Canadian news adds to the importance of continuing a materials science program at the Lujan Center.

5. ACNS 2016 (SR/PW/ALL)

Funds from the 2013 ACNS meeting are still outstanding. SR and PW shall follow up with MRS. Plans for the 2016 ACNS Conference in the Southern California region were discussed. SR has been in contact with Manchas at MRS. The Queen Mary is being considered as a banquet venue and hotel options for the conference are being considered. PW will set up a conference call in the next few weeks and initiate bi-monthly meetings for planning the conference. KP agreed to participate in the conference calls and provide secretarial support.

6. Follow-up on file transfer and plans for consolidated archives (KP/PW/All)

KP and PW confirmed receipt of Secretary and Vice President archives from Chris Leighton and Julie Borchers, respectively. It was decided that ML will provide society email account information so the officer archives can be saved in a central storage

location. SR will transfer spreadsheets of previous committees to KP so records can be updated.

7. APS 2015 March Meeting booth (ML/NW/SR)

ML reported that plans for the APS 2015 March Meeting booth are on track. MC sent in payment and ML is coordinating shipment from ORNL. Volunteers are needed for filling one or two hour time slots at the venue. ML has distributed a sign-up sheet to the executive committee and plans to send it to facility personnel in the next day or two. ML will send instructions to SR for take-down of the booth materials.

8. MRS Fall 15 sponsorship (SR)

SR replied to the organizers of the MRS Fall Meeting Symposium BBB: Liquids and Glassy Soft Materials--Theoretical and Neutron Scattering Studies regarding the agreed upon \$5000 NSSA sponsorship. MC has not been contacted by the organizers regarding a request for the funds. SR will follow-up.

9. Gordon Research Conference on Neutron Scattering sponsorship (SR)

SR was contacted with a request for support of invited speakers and student participation at the inaugural Gordon Research Conference on Neutron Scattering to be held in June 2015 in Hong Kong, China. Xun-Li Wang and Bruce D. Gaulin are chair and co-chair, respectively, and the meeting will be focused towards Effects of Disorder and Disordered Materials. All present members were in favor of supporting the meeting. It was agreed that \$5000 will be provided to the conference organizers to support invited speakers, with the request that the funds support early career and promising graduate student participation from the Americas, if possible. SR will notify the organizers.

10. Members at large (SR/ALL)

CW confirmed his interest in remaining on the Executive Committee as a member at large. SR will follow-up with NW to explore his interest. It was suggested that soft matter and biological material neutron scattering representatives would favorably complement the make-up of the Executive Committee. SR suggested [REDACTED] (soft matter/ chemical engineering) as a suitable candidate. SR encouraged the committee to consider further candidates. The topic will be continued at the next meeting.

11. AOB

None raised.

Action items

Item Number	Person Responsible	Action item	Agenda date (mo/yr)	Agenda Item # for next meeting
1	SR/All	LANSCE follow-up (Dehmer, Schoenberg letters)	05/14 (modified 11/14)	3
2	CW	Follow up on NRU shutdown from CINS	02/15	4
3	SR/MC	Follow up on transfer of ACNS 2013 funds from MRS	01/15	5
4	PW/SR	Schedule ACNS 2016 bi-monthly planning meetings	02/15	5
5	KP/PW	Consolidate/organize officer archives and update records	02/15	6
6	ML	APS March 2015 meeting booth sign-up sheet and shipment	02/15	7
7	MC	Transfer of funds for MRS Fall Symposium sponsorship	01/15	8
8	SR/MC	Notification and transfer of funds for Gordon Conference on Neutron Scattering sponsorship	02/15	9
9	SR/All	Identify candidates for members at large	02/15	10