

**NSSA Executive Committee  
Conference Call Minutes, 02/24/16**

**Katharine Page (Secretary), 03/29/16**

**Present:** Doug Godfrin (DG)  
Matthew Helgeson (MH)  
Katharine Page (KP)  
Stephan Rosenkranz (SR)  
Harlyn Silverstein (HS)  
Chris Wiebe (CW)  
Patrick Woodward (PW)  
Mark Lumsden (ML)  
Norm Wagner (NW)  
Mike Crawford (MC)

**Absent:** Ron Jones (RJ)  
Megan Robertson (MR)

**Agenda:** 1) Adoption of minutes from 01/13/16 (KP/SR/All)  
2) Date for next conference call (SR/KP/All)  
3) Letters to Dehmer and Willy May (SR)  
4) ACNS 2016 planning update (PW)  
5) 2016 NSSA prizes/fellows (SR)  
6) AONSA/ECNS/NSSA meeting (SR)  
7) New members and webpage updates (RJ/ML)  
8) AOB

**Discussion Minutes (by agenda item number):**

**1. Approval of minutes (KP/SR/All)**

The minutes from 01/13/16 were adopted with no corrections and no objections.

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

The date and time for the next conference call was agreed to be Wednesday, March 30, at 10 AM Central Time.

**3. Letters to Dehmer and Willy May (SR)**

SR drafted a letter to the Department of Energy expressing concern over the decline of neutron scattering facilities in North America. Several executive committee members will provide comments, and the letters will be sent to Pat Dehmer. A letter will also be drafted to Willy May applauding his support of NCNR.

The priority ranking of BES user facility upgrades and new facility proposals by a subcommittee of the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee (BESAC) was discussed. Two neutron facility proposals/upgrades are being ranked for Oak Ridge National Laboratory: a power upgrade to the existing accelerator and the Second Target Station (STS). Additional proposals include the Advance Photon Source Upgrade at Argonne National Laboratory, the Advanced Light Source Upgrade at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and a High Energy Upgrade at the Linac Coherent Light Source at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory. SR discussed the topic with Jim Rhyne, DOE Basic Energy Sciences Scientific User Facilities Division Manager for Neutron Scattering, but little information was available at the time. There will be another BESAC meeting in April, and the committee has a July deadline for reporting.

#### **4. ACNS 2016 planning update (PW)**

PW provided updates on the status of ACNS 2016. All but one invited speaker has been confirmed for the meeting. The submitted Department of Energy funding request to Division of Materials Science and Engineering Neutron Scattering Program Manager was approved. There were a few critical review comments related to the details of the funding request. It was particularly pointed out that DOE funding cannot be used for childcare grants. The review details should be kept as reference for the next ACNS funding submission. The ORNL proposal for funding is still being evaluated and no updates have been provided regarding the Department of Commerce funding request submitted on behalf of NCNR. The registration fee is being discussed with the Materials Research Society. Organizers would like to keep the meeting registration at \$500, but clarity of the funding situation is needed before solidifying this. The ACNS abstract deadline is in March and there is a poster available for downloading on the conference website. Everyone was encouraged to solicit contributed abstracts. It was discussed that invited speakers should be posted as soon as possible, as well as the dates and times for tutorial sessions. It was also discussed that opportunities for student funding and the after dinner speaker could be advertised more prominently, contingent on confirmation. It was noted that the call for abstracts did not explicitly mention the availability of student travel awards and a separate announcement may be needed. Students can declare their interest in a travel award at the time of submission (there is a check box to select). The poster sessions were also discussed. Poster session judges will need to be coordinated by the program chairs. It was suggested that poster awards be given out the morning after each poster session.

#### **5. 2016 NSSA prizes / fellows (SR)**

The 2016 NSSA Prizes have been announced. It was discussed that thank you notes should be sent out to all prize nominators. SR will set up the message and ML will send the notes out. The awarding of NSSA prizes generated an additional 2016 NSSA fellow. SR will be contacting all eleven selected NSSA Fellows, and an announcement will be made. [REDACTED]

There will be plaques made for NSSA prizes and service awards. Fellows will receive certificates. ML and KP will work on ordering/printing these with MC when the citations are finalized. It was discussed

that service awards will be presented at the ACNS banquet, while prizes will be awarded within the prize sessions.

**6. AOB**

The need for a sign-up sheet for manning the Neutron Facilities / NSSA booth at the March American Physics Society (APS) meeting was discussed. Dan Neumann and ML will send out a volunteer solicitation for the activity.

**Action items**

<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Action item</b>	<b>Agenda date (mo/yr)</b>	<b>Agenda Item # for next meeting</b>
1	SR	Letter to Patricia Dehmer urging reinvestment in neutron sources. Letter to Willy Mays applauding NCNR support.	05/15	3
2	All/PW	Solicit abstract submission for ACNS and encourage students to request travel support. PW: Request updates to the conference webpage and solicitation emails regarding student travel, invited speakers, etc.	02/16	4
2	SR/ML	Draft and send thank you notes to all NSSA Prize and Fellow nominators.	02/16	5
3	SR/ML/KP	SR: Provide citations for NSSA Prizes. KP/ML: Order plaques for Prize awardees and print certificates for Fellows.	02/16	5
4	ML /Dan Neumann	Circulate sign-up sheet for Neutron Facilities / NSSA booth at the Spring APS meeting.	02/16	6