

**NSSA Executive Committee Meeting
05/01/17**

Katharine Page (Secretary), 05/31/17

Present: Mike Crawford (MC)
Doug Godfrin (DG)
Matthew Helgeson (MH)
Despina Louca (DL)
Brad Olsen (BO)
Katharine Page (KP)
Stephan Rosenkranz (SR)
Kate Ross (KR)
Nancy Ross (NR)
Patrick Woodward (PW)

Absent: Megan Robertson (MR)
Chris Wiebe (CW)

Agenda:

- 1) Adoption of minutes (KP/DL/All)
- 2) Date for next call (DL/KP/All)
- 3) ACNS 2018 planning (PW)
- 4) ICNS & GRC/GRS sponsorship / representation (DL)
- 5) ICNS 2021 location (DL)
- 6) Transfer of officer roles (DL/BO/KR/NR)
- 7) Letter supporting PPU (DL)
- 8) AOB

Discussion Minutes (by agenda item number):

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

The minutes from 03/20/17 were adopted with no corrections.

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

The date for the next conference call was set for Monday, June 1, at 2:00 PM Eastern Time.

3. ACNS 2018 planning (PW)

PW shared progress to date in the planning of the 9th American Conference on Neutron Scattering (ACNS). Monthly ACNS planning meetings with the Materials Research Society (MRS) will likely be initiated the week of May 15. Rob Brieber (University of Maryland) and Peter Gehring (NIST) comprise the local organizing committee. The proposed programming co-chairs are Efrain Rodriguez (University of Maryland) for Condensed Matter Physics (confirmed) and Matt Helgeson (University of California Santa Barbara) for Soft Matter (considering). PW, DL and KP will also participate in the planning committee as the NSSA vice-president, NSSA president, and NSSA secretary, respectively. Overall, the organization of the conference will proceed as in the past. The next planning step will be for the

program chairs to select the conference sub-program committee chairs. Timelines and deadlines were discussed. The selection of invited speakers will be moved up to allow for community input and notification before the November/December holidays. A proposal in support of the 2018 ACNS should be submitted to the Department of Energy (DOE) in the fall. DL is in contact with the program manager. Neutron Science Directorate programmatic funds will be requested from Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in October. KP will assist with that.

4. ICNS & GRC/GRS sponsorship / representation (DL)

NSSA has provided Silver Sponsorship (\$3K) in support of the 2017 International Conference on Neutron Scattering (ICNS). NSSA has also provided sponsorship to support North American student and early career postdoc travel to the 2017 Gordon Research Conference (GRC) organized by Bruce Gaulin (\$3K), and the 2017 Gordon Research Seminar (GRS) organized by Dalini Maharaj (\$4K). It was decided that Bruce and Dalini should be asked to provide a report for the NSSA on the use of travel funds.

5. ICNS 2021 location (DL/SR)

DL has discussed the location of ICNS 2021 with Rob Dimeo, Paul Langan, and Orlando Rodriguez. There is strong support for the bid to host the ICNS in Argentina to coincide with the opening of the RA-10 Argentinean Multipurpose Reactor. Paul Langan has indicated that ORNL would be willing to host the ICNS in Tennessee as a backup plan. There is not strong interest in hosting the meeting in the Washington DC area. DL and other North and South American neutron scattering leaders will meet with various world facility directors in South Korea (during the 2017 ICNS) to decide on the location of the 2021 conference.

6. Transfer of officer roles (DL/BO/KR/NR)

NR has a NSSA website account and has been looking at the membership rolls and thinking about areas for society growth. KR will send her a list of new members and updated membership information collected at the American Physical Society meeting in March.

BO has looked into various NSSA account options for conducting treasurer activities and asked about precedents. MC conferred that he currently uses Citybank Business Checking and Business Savings accounts. The accounts are listed as NSSA accounts in his name. MC will transfer the majority of funds to BO when new accounts are set up, withholding a small reserve for miscellaneous payments in process.

It was noted that NSSA tax returns are due next month. MC will file an extension and work through the process with BO.

7. Letter for PPU (DL)

DL has spoken with ORNL Associate Lab Director Paul Langan regarding the Second Target Station (STS) and Proton Power Upgrade (PPU) projects for the Spallation Neutron Source (SNS). A Critical Decision 1 (CD-1) meeting will be held at ORNL regarding the PPU project on May 23. The discussion of plans for the STS has been decoupled from discussion of plans for the PPU, at the request of the DOE. The meeting will evaluate the upgrade of the SNS accelerator for 2 MW operations at the First Target Station (FTS). The upgrade would deliver 2.8 MW for STS. A letter has been requested from the NSSA to represent community support of the PPU. It was agreed it is critical for NSSA to strongly urge DOE investments in neutron scattering in the form of the PPU and STS projects. KP will send DL updated NSSA letterhead. DL will draft a letter clearly stating expanded capabilities are needed for 2 MW operations at the FTS. KR pointed out that the SNS-HFIR User Group (SHUG) is also writing a letter in

support of the PPU project. They are additionally emphasizing that users are ultimately interested in the STS being built.

8. AOB

It was suggested that a letter could be sent to the new Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee (BESAC) chair, stressing the importance/role of neutron scattering in current and future research directions in the United States and beyond.

It was noted that new student/postdoc members could be considered for the NSSA Executive Committee. Harlyn Silverstein (HS) stepped down as he entered industry at the end of last year and Doug Godfrin is finishing up his post in the June/July timeframe. NNNN was suggested as a possible student candidate. It was decided that the process of selecting or electing new student and postdoc members should be visited at a later meeting.

It was reported that the National School on Neutron and X-ray Scattering has received a new three year funding commitment from the DOE. The school supports the participation of approximately 65 students per year for two weeks of instruction at US central facilities (one week at Argonne National Laboratory (ANL), and one week at ORNL). The school is co-organized by Suzanne te Velthuis and Brian Toby at ANL, and Brian Chakoumakos and John Budai at ORNL. Next year SR will take over for Suzanne and KP will take over for Brian C.

KR discussed a few needed changes for the NSSA web pages that will involve some work by the web page company. She will also follow up with Mark Lumsden regarding details of the company's proposals to update/modernize the web pages. It was discussed that more information is needed in order to add a tab for Women in Neutron Scattering (WiNS) activities.

Action items

Item Number	Person Responsible	Action item	Agenda date (mo/yr)	Agenda Item # for next meeting
1	PW	Initiate monthly planning for NSSA calls.	03/2017	3
2	BO	Set up banking accounts for NSSA Treasurer activities.	03/2017	4
3	KR	Facilitate web page updates with web page company.	05/2017	5
5	DL	Prepare NSSA letter in support of ORNL PPU. Consider a letter to the new BESAC Chair	05/2017	6