

ANBUG Executive Committee Meeting on 5th May 2020

Meeting held: by Zoom teleconference

Present: Tracy Rushmer (TR, President), Yun Liu (YL, Vice President), Andrew Clulow (AJC, Secretary), Tilo Soehnel (TS, Ordinary Member, NZ), David Cortie (DC, website/comms) & Katy Wood (KW, Immediate Past Secretary).



Apologies: Ian Gentle (IRG, Immediate Past President) & Anna Paradowska (AP, Treasurer).

Agenda

1. *Approval of minutes from the last meeting.*

2. *President's report – TR*

3. *Matters arising from the last meeting:*

a) DC is going to put some advice for users on the ANBUG webpage regarding the facility closure due to COVID-19. KW to email DC with the ACNS response, DC to confirm with Jamie Schulz to confirm he guidance is up to date.

b) TR to initiate a discussion on mitigating the impact of the postponed long shutdown around the time of the ACNS Advisory Committee hopefully when the impacts of COVID-19 have become more apparent.

c) DC to draft a document advocating to mitigate the impact of the long shutdown in the future and advocating for Aus/NZ users getting reasonable amounts of beamtime. TR and IRG to follow up on DC's draft.

d) TR to reply to Rob Robinson's email regarding the long shutdown and the newsletter.

e) AJC to send the second email in the next fortnight asking people who've already transferred to get their peers to sign on.

f) AP to contact the bank again about getting an ABN.

g) The executive committee to submit suggestions for users to organise the AANSS meeting over the next week. AJC to include the synchrotron meeting dates.

h) TR to complete the AUM2019 report with suggestions for improvements and submit to Miles Apperley and the ANBUG committee.

4. *AANSS 2020.*

5. *Any other business*

Meeting Opened: 10:35

Items Discussed

1. Approval of minutes from the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

2. President's report

The user community has received confirmation that cancelled experiments from this round will be rescheduled but it is not yet clear how this will be managed. Preferential access for NSW-based users and

mail-in programs appear to be under consideration while travel restrictions are in place. Other than this there is not much to report given the dynamic COVID-19 situation.

PAC will meet on 21st-22nd May and this may be a good time to discuss a letter regarding mitigation of impacts of the oft-delayed OPAL shutdown with Jamie Schulz (ACNS). It was decided that the letter should be sent to Miles Apperley (ANSTO) as early as possible after consultation with IRG and Jamie.

KW had raised the presence of the Tardis data transfer system for remote access of ACNS data. Nick Hauser has requested extra money to maintain it but uptake has not been great. DC has tried to access it but couldn't due to a link error. AJC didn't know that the facility existed. It was generally agreed that it would be a useful tool but more public awareness is required. KW has fed this back to Nick.

3. Matters arising from last meeting

a) DC put the advice for ANBUG users on the webpage after the last meeting. This advice is probably out of date now given the evolving COVID-19 situation.

b) & c) DC has drafted a letter to the ANSTO board on mitigating the impacts of COVID-19 and future OPAL long shutdowns, which can be used as a basis for these discussions. This letter will be refined by the committee before sending it to Jamie Schulz for his input and then to Miles Apperley.

d) TR replied to Rob Robinson's email after our last committee meeting on the 24th March. The OPAL maintenance and decisions on it have now been put off to next year (2021). This could not be addressed in the reply email to Rob at that time given that the ACNS itself shut down on the date of the last meeting. KW informed us that there may be plans afoot to shorten the maintenance cycle and KW will request more information and clarification from Jamie on the planned shutdown.

e) AJC sent the second wave of emails asking current ANBUG members in the new system to forward on the invite to interested parties. He also sent a message to the same effect to the neutron@neutronsources.org email list, which was shelved for moderation and he hasn't seen that come through. AJC will send the email to KW she will send off to see if they post the email from an official neutron institution email.

f) AP was an apology for this meeting. DC thought there are few barriers to getting an ABN and would like the payments not to be going off his credit card, as he recently repaid for the website. DC to claim a reimbursement from the ANBUG bank account. KW will organise the refund for DC and KW/YL to seek advice on how to choose which category of business we need to put ANBUG down as for the ABN request.

g) The Australian Synchrotron user meeting will be on the 19th-20th November 2020, with a data management workshop in the days leading up to it planned at present. A number of names were proposed to act as co-organisers prior to this meeting and it was agreed that the committee would ask Leonie van't Hag and Livia Salvati Manni to co-organise the meeting. AJC will send invites to the two of them. DC commented that we should make it clear that the committee were committed to the meeting occurring in some form, even if it is remote/online. DC has also been involved with organising online webinars recently and offered his assistance, particularly with running in-meeting quizzes. AJC to ask Gail Iles (RMIT) if she's willing to act as an advisor to Leonie and Livia having organised the last AANSS.

h) TR has received a report from Kelly Cubbin (ANSTO) and they will be finalising the final version for comment by the committee shortly.

4. AANSS 2020

As discussed in point g) above, the committee is committed to running AANSS in 2020 and sees a good opportunity to attract international speakers to the meeting if it goes fully online. The committee will be inviting co-chairs to organise the AANSS following this meeting. The committee will suggest the week of the 9th-13th November as the time to hold the meeting so as to coincide with an OPAL shutdown and avoid the Australian Synchrotron user meeting..

5. Any Other Business

None tabled.

Meeting Closed: 11:43