

ANBUG Executive Committee Meeting on 26th March 2021, 1pm

Meeting held: by Zoom teleconference

Present: Yun Liu (YL, President), Tracy Rushmer (TR, Past President), Chris Wensrich (CW, Vice President), David Cortie (DC, Treasurer), Ben Mallett (BM, Ordinary Member, NZ), Leonie van't Hag (LH Secretary), Karyn Jarvis (KJ, Website/Comms) and Teng Lu (TL, ECR Member). Richard Mole (RM, Guest).



Apologies: none

Agenda:

1. *Welcome*
2. *New guide hall: discussion with Richard Mole*
3. *President report*
4. *User Survey*
5. *Finances & account*
6. *ANSTO User meeting 2021*
 - *Technical/Service Awards*
7. *Events 2021*
 - *Virtual ANBUG-ACNS Lecture Hall (free charge, topic), high level*
 - *Proposal writing workshop before next user round in September (CW)*
8. *Website & Newsletter*
9. *Any other business*

Actions from previous meeting (Meeting on 5 February 2021):

DC to follow up accountant regarding tax implication of the AANSS meeting.

KJ will create a new story on the website about the AONSA membership and report, we can then circulate to members.

Discuss with Richard Mole about new guide hall: LH to invite to next meeting.

YL to follow up on naming of student award.

ACNS 2020 prizes & certificates have been finalized

Meeting opened: 1.02pm

Items discussed

1. *Welcome*

TR and KJ approve minutes from 2 February 2021.

2. *2nd Guide Hall and Neutron Beam Expansion: Discussion with Richard Mole*

Initial concepts: 2nd Cold source. This year the focus will be on community engagement and get more firm plans about what instruments we want to build. The decision on new instruments will be driven by the science. What do we currently miss? What do we currently do overseas and how often?

ANSTO is also working on a decadal plan. They will seek input from users, which can include other capabilities such as computing facilities.

Commercial & Industry capabilities and opportunities are also important in the decision for the new beamlines, directly and through universities. Find out how the ACNS fits in industry work at universities.

CW: are instruments considered that are similar to currently heavy oversubscribed ones? RM: Yes, complementary spectrometer is for example being considered. If we can demonstrate there is demand this can be discussed.

RM asks whether another workshop would be preferred, the last one was in 2012.

Instrumentation specific meetings / webinars may invite more active involvement as they can also be shorter. For example Friday lunch time workshops. Invite Physics / Chemistry / other societies.

Connecting through science communities will enable reaching groups that do not currently use neutrons. Via academic society meetings: e.g. RACI meetings, AIP.

YL: Where would we get additional users from. Currently certain instruments are heavily oversubscribed. There are also user groups that currently do not engage with neutron scattering but do do X-ray scattering, for example protein crystallographers. International collaborations: such as partnership with Taiwan can also be expanded. Additionally, users that currently go overseas to use specific instruments (for example spin-echo measurements).

DW: ERA rankings could potentially be used to identify research strengths at specific universities and departments.

ANSTO User Survey / ANBUG survey: some ANBUG members use facilities abroad (not just ACNS). An ANBUG survey would be preferred as it is independent of ANSTO and science driven.

Combined with more focussed workshops work better with remote engagement. Can start with a general discussion and break into separate groups.

CW: structuring could be done around the instrument groups that are now in place at ACNS. Which is broader than for example residual stress. Around areas or instruments. Scientific focus also enables more opportunities to engage new users.

The ANSTO User meeting will be in November. RM/YL to clarify timeline of the Decadal plan. Performing the ANBUG survey by end of financial year would be good. Aim for mid-April/May.

DC: when are the big decisions going to be made: hot/cold source.

RM: 12 – 14 months until the next pre-planning project phase.

The last big ANSTO user survey was run in 2005. ACNS will update the questionnaire from 2005 and we can modify. ACNS can also help set it up.

Check with Jamie Schulz if we can share slides from RM on the website.

3. *President Report*

YL: had a discussion with Jamie, Paolo & Gary at ACNS.

ACNS will share 2005 survey questions with us. The committee indicated that it would be good to have insight in the 2005 results too. Then we can start to work on it.

Could have rounds of surveys (after broader one: e.g. scattering survey and use it to guide discussions).

Proposal writing workshop: could use to poll the interest but this will be with a very narrow group.

4. *User Survey*

KJ happy to take the lead on it, LvH can also contribute.

It was suggested to start a second guide hall working group where other ANBUG members can also join.

5. *Finances & Account*

DC confirmed that we are tax exempt and DC was added as signatory to the ANBUG account.

6. *ANSTO User Meeting 2021*

- a. *Technical/Service awards*: talk about next time

No news to report yet: the next organisation committee meeting will be mid-April

7. *Events 2021*

- a. *Virtual ANBUG-ACNS Lecture Hall (free charge, topic), high level*
 - i. Quarterly event: Jamie Schulz happy to have ACNS staff make significant contribution, and call it ANBUG/ACNS event
- b. *Proposal writing workshop before next user round in September (CW)*
 - i. CW has polled PAC members to be involved.

8. *Websites & Newsletter*

AONSA awards have been updated by KJ and DC.

9. *Any other business*

4th June next scheduled meeting

Additional meeting: next month on Friday April 30th at 1pm.

YL: John White is very happy to have the student award named after him.

Actions

YL to follow up on ANBUG survey questions & 2005 results so we can start to work on the ANBUG 2021 survey.

RM/YL to clarify timeline of the Decadal plan.