## CNMS UEC Agenda, Thursday, April 7, 2016 12:00 pm Eastern Time

Participants (attendees in blue)

Chair – Molly Kennedy (Clemson U.)

Vice-Chair – Lane Martin (U. California, Berkeley)

Secretary – Yang Zhang (U. Illinois)

## **At-Large Members:**

Alex Belianinov (ORNL/CNMS); Kathrin Dörr, (MLU Halle-Wittenberg); Eric Formo (U. Georgia); Enrique Gomez (Penn State U.); Megan Robertson (U. Houston); Evgheni Strelcov (NIST); Rafael Verduzco (Rice U.)

**Past Chair**, *ex officio* **member** – Nazanin Bassiri-Gharb (Georgia Tech) **CNMS** (non-members) – Tony Haynes, Brad Lokitz, Hans Christen, Sandy Lowe

- Review planned agenda and add any items missed (All)
- Change of upcoming meeting dates (Molly)
  - Slight alteration to the UEC meetings: 4/7, 5/5, 6/2, 6/30, 7/28
    - Molly proposed to change July (7/7) and August (8/4) meetings to the dates highlighted above *pending* any *immediate objections emailed to Molly* – will be standard time (12pm Eastern)
- News from CNMS (Tony)
  - o 2016B Proposal Call launched on March 16; deadline is Wednesday, May 4
    - Neutron Sciences proposal call deadline is April 13 and the new CNMS Appendix will be active in this cycle for characterization facilities
  - o Triennial Review Updates
    - Tony posted the review documents and the Agenda (DropBox)
    - UEC participation in working lunch on April 27 (onsite: Molly, Lane, Yang, Eric)
      - Please send any issues or items that need to be addressed to Hans prior to the onsite meeting
      - How to prepare?
        - The review committee had a list of talking points to discuss during the last review Molly
        - o Basically the committee wants to see that the UEC plays an active role in the center Hans
        - UEC members that will be onsite should meet Tuesday evening (4/26) Lane
          - Good idea! More to come on time and location
- User Suggestion Box (Tony)
  - An instrument without a service contract went down after Christmas and has just recently been repaired
  - Resulted in a user complaint in the Suggestion Box regarding lack of service contract on CNMS equipment and poor plan to repair/replace such equipment
    - There were communication issues as well as a service contract issue
      - Moving forward not only the user, often a student, but also the PI of the project needs to be informed of instrument outage since PI is responsible for progress of project
      - Service contract does not eliminate possibility of extended downtime; examples cited
    - When we have equipment without a service contract, should they be removed from the capabilities list? If not, then backup plan is needed in advance
      - Perhaps build a network with the other user facilities to support urgent project needs of instrument use during downtime
        - Networking is fairly straightforward within ORNL or with other NSRCs if CNMS becomes aware a user has a particularly urgent need
        - Pre-determine a backup plan for all equipment
    - Are projects tracked on whether they were successfully completed?
      - Not at completion but two checkpoints CNMS currently has are: (1) PI is notified 4 months into project to contact User Program Office if they experience schedule difficulties; and (2) PIs receive application for project extension after 12 months which asks about any barriers experienced
      - CNMS has the User Survey as well as the Suggestion Box; CNMS does not require a close-out report.
      - How can we better reach out to the people who are having problems? to keep them from walking away without CNMS even knowing there were problems?

- An additional statement will be added in the 4-month email that Tony sends to the PI (Getting Started) indicating that the user(s) and/or PI can also contact the UEC directly regarding any issues
- Independent Ombudsman?
- Other ideas?
- Further discussion tabled until May meeting
- Update on CNMS user meeting subcommittee progress (Eric and Enrique)
  - Review invited speaker list for approval
    - Directed Assembly of Materials and Interfaces (Leads: Enrique, Megan, Lane)
    - Observing and Controlling Matter at the Nanoscale (Leads: Eric, Kathrin)
    - Electronic and Ionic Processes (Leads: Evgheni, Rafael, Lane)
    - Speaker list is approved; informal invitations will be sent by symposium organizers by April 15
    - Review announcement send any changes to Molly by Noon, April 8
  - o Workshops submitted
    - Deep Data in Materials Characterization
    - Direct Write Nanofabrication
    - o Density Matrix Renormalization Group 101: Introduction to Theory and Practice
    - Subcommittee is authorized to proceed with plans for all three and notify organizers
  - Website was launched- https://www.ornl.gov/facility/cnms
- Several initial comments have been addressed
  - Remaining item: should be easier to find UEC page
  - Pending proposal to add CNMS User Group under 'ABOUT' tab was approved
  - o Discussion of additional comments none
- Newsletter (Brad and Yang):
  - Due to the upcoming review, the next issue will be rescheduled for June to promote the User Meeting
- Adjourn, 1:05p EST

## Subcommittee Appointments: Leads are Bold

- User Meeting Team: Bobby, Enrique, Eric, Evgheni, Kathrin, Lane, Megan, Molly, Rafael, Yang, Nazanin
- Graduate Student Poster Session at User Meeting: Evgheni, Megan, Bobby, Eric
- Newsletter: **Brad**, Yang
- LinkedIn: Alex, Yang, Molly
- User Satisfaction Survey Analysis: Molly, Lane, Kathrin, Nazanin
- CNMS Strategic Plan and Review Document to be sent to Hans: Molly, Lane, Nazanin
- Minutes from UEC Meetings and Agenda: Sandy, Tony, Molly, Lane, Yang, Brad

Next Conference Call: May 5, Thursday, 12:00pm, Eastern Time