

APS USER ORGANIZATION (APSUO) AND PARTNER USER COUNCIL (PUC) MEETING



DENNIS MILLS
APS

July 28, 2021

AGENDA

9:00 - 9:10

Welcome

9:10 – 9:50

Review of action items from April 2021 and other items – *Denny Mills*
Questions from last APSUO/PUC mtg: How best can APS share information with the User Community?
Update on the General User Program Review
BES Review of the APS September 7-10, 2021

10:00 - 11:15

All Hands Meeting - Annual Priorities Meeting
PSC Update – *Stephen Streiffer* (15 min)
Division Priorities for FY22 (15 min each)
 ASD – *John Byrd*
 AES – *John Connolly*
 XSD – *Jonathan Lang*
APS-U Update – *Bob Hettel* (15 min)

11:20 - 12:00

Other Topics
Re-opening of APS/ANL – *John Connolly* (15 min)
Plans for beamtime allocation for the 2021-3 cycle - *Denny Mills* (10 min)
Update on the Universal Proposal System – *Susan White DePace* (10 min)
Additional business

QUESTION FROM THE LAST APSUO/PUC MEETING

Q: How best can APS share information with the User Community?

Keeping the user community informed is a challenge. Here are some executed and planned activities

- APS hosted an Upgrade Q&A Session at the User meeting and a follow-up Q&A for local staff.
- We're working on both a public facing APS-U website on anl.gov, as well as an update to the more technical one on aps.anl.gov
- User News: Published approximately on a quarterly basis – next issue coming via e-mail **TODAY** (or read it at: <https://www.aps.anl.gov/APS-News/All>)
- Workshops for beamline-specific communities to discuss changes and/or new research opportunities.
 - The first one for 25-ID (replacement beamline from 20-ID) is planned for September 2021
 - Considering developing a FAQ sheet based on workshop for those not in attendance.
 - Could post a recording on workshop if that is useful
- Posting of minutes on APSUO.org website. Sometimes hard to get the gist of discussion from meeting minutes, but at least people not in attendance can see what was discussed and get back to APSUO Steering Committee or User Office if there are further questions/concerns. We discussed this internally with APS staff. It will require cleaning up the minutes, consulting with APSUO Chair for accuracy, and, in some cases, adding context so it does not come for free. What are your comments and thoughts on this?

REVIEW OF APS GENERAL USER POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- The purpose of this Review is to evaluate current General User (GU) program policies and procedures.
- The dark period provided an unprecedented opportunity to implement improvements/changes to the General User (GU) program at the APS with minimal disruptions.
- The review team is divided into three sub-committees:
 - GU Program Overview
 - General User Proposals
 - Proposal Review Process
- Sub-committees were encouraged to communicate with each other to minimize duplication of effort and to ensure that all aspects of the GU program are covered.
- Benchmarking with other facilities' user programs is encouraged.
- The goal is to modify current and/or develop new policies and procedures associated with the APS General User Program so that they can be implemented when the APS-U dark period ends (April 2024).

REVIEWER SELECTION AND REVIEWERS

- Reviewers volunteered to participate through the APSUO and PUC or were suggested by XSD management.
- Also added were members of existing committees that are deeply involved with the GU program; the Beamtime Allocation Committee (BAC), Chairs from the Proposal Review Panels (PRPs), and current members of the General User Advisory Committee (GUAC).

GU Program Overview

From	Name	Affiliation	Role
APSUO	Carlo Segre	MR-CAT	CAT
APSUO	Fan Zhang	NIST	User
APSUO	Mark Dean	BNL	User
BAC	Denis Keane	DND-CAT	CAT
PRP	Barbara Lavina (UNLV)	HP	User
PRP	Joe Strzalka	SAXS	XSD
PUC	Lisa Keefe	IMCA	CAT
XSD	Gilberto Fabbris	MM/XSD	XSD
XSD	John Okasinski	MPE/XSD	XSD
Mills	Steve Sutton	CARS	CAT
UO	Connie Vanni		UO

Chairs are listed in bold

REVIEWERS (CONTINUED)

General User Proposals

From	Name	Affiliation	Role
APSUO	Anthony Chappaz	Central Michigan	User
APSUO	Christine Piro	Franklin & Marshall	User
APSUO	Zou Finfroc	XSD/CLS	User
GUAC	Keith Brister	LS-CAT	CAT
BAC	Jeff Eastman	MSD/ANL	User
PUC	Michael Becker	GMCA	CAT
XSD	Kamila Wiaderek	SRS/XSD	XSD
XSD	Don Walko	TRR/XSD	XSD
Mills	Meimei LI	NE/ANL	User
UO	Jessi Krzemien Czyz		UO

Proposal Review Process

From	Name	Affiliation	Role
APSUO	James Walsh	Umass	User
APSUO	Jesse Yoder	IMCA CAT	CAT
GUAC	Mary Upton	IXS/XSD	XSD
PRP	James Kaduk	Structural Science	User
PRP	Marcus Young	Scatt- app mat	User
PRP	Eric Landahl	Pump/Probe	User
PUC	Spencer Anderson	LS-CAT	CAT
PUC	Maddury Samayazulu	HP-CAT	CAT
XSD	Saul Lapidus	SRS/XSD	XSD
XSD	Volker Rose	MIC/XSD	XSD
UO	Bev Knott		UO

Each sub-committee has a member of the User Office to assist in answering questions about current GU program policies and procedures and to provide data or information to the members.

Chairs are listed in bold

UPDATE ON REVIEW PROGRESS AND MOVING FORWARD

- The Chairs have each had at least 2 meetings with their full sub-committees to flesh out the organization of the sub-committees and further divide the sub-committee into smaller teams to work on specific issues and bring their thoughts and comments back to the full sub-committee. These were followed up with further discussions organized by the sub-committee chairs.
- Sub-committees Chairs have met multiple times with APS to discuss strategy, progress, and paths forward.
- There was a suggestion by several of the sub-committee members to develop a short (key word here, short) **survey** to send out to APS users to engage more of the community on some of the questions that have arisen in the various sub-committees.
- Sub-committee chairs have suggested questions and I have combined these into a set of about 10 questions. I think it is important to carefully word the questions to get results that are as unbiased as possible. Unfortunately, this has been put on the back burner as we update our Strategic Plan and prepare for the BES review (both the Dry Run and the real event). Hopefully we can get back on track with this activity soon after the BES Review in September.

BES REVIEW OF THE APS SEPTEMBER 7-10, 2021

- The triennial (+1) BES Review of the APS will be September 7-10, 2021
- Due to being cancelled last year, the 2021 virtual review will cover fiscal years 2017-2020.
- We have scheduled in our draft agenda (sent to BES but not yet formally approved) a 45-minute **discussion with the APS User Organization Steering Committee on Wednesday, September 8 from 2:00 to 2:45 (Central time).**
- This is a heads-up for now and, as the review date approaches and agenda firms up, we will be sending out more information to Steering Committee members.
- ***PS: thanks to all the PUC members who have provided us with requested information for the review!***

Questions/Comments?