UEC Conference Call Minutes, Thursday, February 4, 2010
11:00am – 12:00pm EST

Participants (Strikethrough were not available)
Chair – Venkatraman Gopalan (Pennsylvania State U.)
Vice-Chair – ~~Mark Dadmun (University of Tennessee)~~
Secretary – ~~David Bucknall (Georgia Tech)~~
At-Large Members –
~~Rosario Gerhardt (Georgia Tech)~~; Tony Hmelo (Vanderbilt University); ~~Bin Hu (University of Tennessee); Ronald L. Jones (NIST~~); Alamgir Karim (University of Akron); Martyn McLachlan (Imperial College, London); ~~Scott Retterer (ORNL/CNMS)~~
Past Chair, *ex officio* member –
~~Hai-Ping Cheng (University of Florida)~~
CNMS (non-members)
Tony Haynes; ~~Laura Edwards~~; Sandy Lowe

- News from CNMS
  - Proposal Call announced on 1/21 (http://cnms.ornl.gov/user/call_proposals.shtm)
  - Simultaneous deadline with Neutron Scattering (March 3) but no changes in CNMS submission or review process
  - Proposal form was updated as suggested - removed checkbox for Neutron Scattering and enhanced information/links on the website to clarify how neutron scattering resources can be accessed by CNMS users
  - First quarter user stats discussed: 166 users Oct-Dec'09
- Planning for annual User Meeting
  - Title agreed to by the committee:
    "**Emerging Materials and Methods in Energy and Nanoscience Research"**
  - Haynes will discuss the following with the CNMS Group Leaders
    - Title listed above
    - Task the Group Leaders to decide on sessions/topics running parallel with the Solar Energy component being planned with other ORNL facilities
  - How does the UEC need to be involved with the user meeting?
    - Suggest a shell outline based on Preliminary 2010 User Meeting (see p. 2)
    - Recommend speakers after outline is refined and settled
- Newsletter
  - Martyn McLachlan agreed to take the lead with the first issue for 2010
  - Core group: Bucknall, Edwards, Gopalan, Haynes, Hmelo, McLachlan, Retterer
  - Karim will work on compiling a distribution list targeted to dept heads and deans; suggestion- focus on "top 50" list of institutions and ~4 key depts per institution
  - Newsletter will also be condensed to a 1-page mini-poster for posting
  - Bi-monthly meetings for newsletter development
    - Core group conference call: Thursday, February 11th at 11am EST
  - Hmelo agreed to take the lead with the second issue for 2010
- Areas for CNMS improvement
  - Suggestion: provide a database of materials previously synthesized at the CNMS from user projects – list on CNMS website [Tony to discuss with Group Ldrs]

Next Conference Call: March 4, 2010 at 11am EST

Preliminary 2010 User Meeting planning
Outline for discussion.

A meeting on **Solar Energy and Energy Storage Challenges and Opportunities** will be held at Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Spallation Neutron Source on Monday-Tuesday, September 13-14, 2010, with a focus on current ORNL research activities and how ORNL user facilities can support research in these areas. Tutorials will be held on Wednesday, September 15, 2010.

The goals of this meeting are to:

- Highlight opportunities for collaboration with ORNL researchers in the areas of Solar Energy and Energy Storage,
- Identify ORNL user facilities that can support research in these areas, and
- Receive feedback from users on new experimental capabilities required to support future research needs.

This meeting will focus on two research areas, solar energy and energy storage, that have been identified by the U.S. Department of Energy as important to our nation's energy future. The ORNL research community is extensively involved in these areas and is interested in collaborating with colleagues from other institutions.

ORNL is home to highly sophisticated user facilities research designed to serve scientists and engineers from national laboratories, universities, industries, and foreign institutions. Among the ORNL's user facilities are the Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences, High Temperature Materials Laboratory, High Flux Isotope Reactor, Spallation Neutron Source, and the Shared Research Equipment facility. As part of this meeting, descriptions and operational characteristics of these user facilities will be provided. An additional important element is the opportunity to provide feedback about new experimental capabilities at ORNL user facilities that are needed to respond to the current research challenges.

A tentative agenda follows

Monday, Descriptions of Ongoing Research

- Solar Energy research
- Energy Storage research
- Evening reception and poster session on ORNL research and user facility capabilities

Tuesday, Identification of Research Resources and Capabilities

- Solar Energy
- Energy Storage
- Feedback on additional resource requirements
- Tours of ORNL user facilities – HTML, CNMS, HFIR, SNS, and SHaRE

Wednesday Tutorials (limited enrollment, 10-15 maximum per session)

- Thin films
- Fuel cells
- Etc.