

Notes from “Panel Session: Q&A with CNMS Senior Staff” held 09/17/2014, Iran Thomas Auditorium

Start time 11:10

Panel Members: Hans Christen, Bobby Sumpter, Tony Haynes, Karren More, Alan Tennant (SNS)

Moderator: Vivek Prabhu

Discussion topics:

New user outreach at meetings and through publications and adding a slide to presentations at meetings about the CNMS.

New user proposals can get advisory support from staff and senior staff: interest is in new problems that push research boundaries.

Allocation of facility time for users:

CNMS 80% of equipment time is dedicated to users ;

Staff responsibilities are split between user support 50% and individual research 50%

SNS: 75% of beam time is for users. The mission is to develop new techniques and push science forward.

SNS’s current work and interface with the CNMS:

- Growing teamwork on soft matter science

- Neutron scattering experiments based on new CNMS-developed materials

- Looking for a scientific-leadership synergy

- The second target station will focus on mesoscale physics→ significant synergies with CNMS science

Equipment: Largely driven by user demand
 Feedback requested at the user meeting
 Specific requests can be directed to the User Executive Committee
 Users can make requests through the annual survey
 Users can make requests through the web page
 Users can make requests through the online suggestion box

User familiarity with staff: Familiarity with projects and users give staff the opportunity to provide better services and support. User familiarity varies a lot within the center.

Rejected proposals: Users should discuss the reviews with the staff member and potentially improve the written proposal, consider partnering, or make changes to the participants. To better understand the process users should become members of the review panel.

There are a large number of foreign users and foreign participation is a routine procedure.

The CNMS cannot provide travel funding. The CNMS can endorse grant proposals to various agencies subject to submission of a user proposal; staff can help review a SOW and write support letters to sponsors that may provide travel funding.

Student training: Student users are treated the same as other users but they must have some level of basic lab skills before arrival. The CNMS cannot take “green” students and provide remedial training.

Adjourned 11:40 to begin User Group Town Hall Meeting