

Partner Facilities Working Group (PFWG) Meeting

May 24–25, 2017



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Partner Facilities Working Group (PFWG) Meeting

1. INTRODUCTION

The Nuclear Science User Facilities (NSUF) program convened the PFWG meeting to provide a formal venue to capture valued input from the NSUF partner facilities. The general topics of discussion included:

- Memorandums of understanding (MOU)
- User agreements
- Proposal rules and guidelines
- Facility reviews
- Establishment of standing working committees for the PFWG.

In addition, each partner facility provided a short presentation on its capabilities and contributions to the NSUF.

2. COMMENTS

NSUF petitioned support from the PFWG in the following areas:

- Completing an MOU for each partner facility
- Planning PFWG involvement in and support of proposal feasibility reviews, proposal relevancy reviews, proposal technical reviews, and establishment of application guidelines for rapid turnaround experiments (RTEs)
- Refining descriptions of each facility and capability for the NSUF website
- Establishing ideas and a process for partner facility reviews and outcome actions.

Throughout the meeting, the following questions were raised:

- Who is responsible for NSUF forward thinking? Should the PFWG be involved?
- Can NSUF help programs maintain committed facilities? Is this part of the MOU commitment?
- Should user agreements include criteria for unused samples?

- Should partners have their own user agreements (for RTEs)?
- Should milestones be added to user agreements? Should the milestones coincide with sample availability?
- What are the sample transport rules of engagement (allocation, timing)?
- Can the PFWG expand the timeline of RTE experiments? Can the timing be split? How can the compressed times for feasibility reviews be remedied?
- What happens if something breaks? Can NSUF establish a contingency fund?
- Should NSUF require business plans for the infrastructure calls to outline how they will maintain the new facility or equipment?
- Can funding be provided for non-DOE-NE relevant projects?
- Can funding or additional support staff be provided to partner facilities to support proposals?
- Can NEUP funding be coupled with NSUF access (integrating funding and schedule)?
- Can NSUF accept funds from other offices (e.g., DOE Office of Science)?
- Can NSUF develop mechanisms for universities to apply and receive samples from the Nuclear Fuels and Materials Library at no cost (may require liability review for sending to non-NSUF facilities)?
- Can NSUF develop and coordinate “user weeks”?

Areas identified for improvement included:

- Expanding inadequate RTE scopes
- Training for principal investigators
- Ensuring samples are available to meet specified schedules (enforce availability prior to proposal submittal)
- Establishing guidance for standard items and services (identify triggers that raise costs)
- Developing checklists to assist principal investigators
- Assigning technical leads at the project site (defining information for what kind of sample is needed for a facility or technique)

- Requiring a project execution plan.

It is anticipated that the questions and areas identified for improvement will be assigned to newly-deployed PFWG committees for investigation and proposed remedies to NSUF program management. In addition, the PFWG finds value in convening at least annually to share lessons learned and improve processes and working relationships among the NSUF PFWGs.

3. ACTION ITEMS

NSUF program management will:

- Distribute an NSUF organization chart with names
- Identify potential committees and develop subsequent charters
- Add sample ownership to Nuclear Fuels and Materials Library and MOUs.

4. ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

In addition to the individuals listed in the as-executed agenda (see Attachment A), the following individuals attended the meeting, either in whole or in part:

Assel Aitkaliyeva, University of Florida

Lisa Aldrich, Idaho National Laboratory

Keith Lockie, DOE Idaho Operations Office

Linda McCoy, DOE Idaho Operations Office

Erin Searcy, Idaho National Laboratory

Attachment A

Attendees and Agenda



NSUF Partner Facilities Working Group (PFWG) Meeting Wednesday & Thursday, May 24 & 25

**Objective: Provide a formal venue to capture valued input from NSUF
Partner Facilities**

Attire: Business Casual

Todd Allen
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Raymond Cao
The Ohio State University

Lynne Ecker
Brookhaven National Laboratory

Frank Gift
Westinghouse

Alan Gunn
Department of Energy-Idaho Operations Office

Don Hansen
Sandia National Laboratories

Thomas Hartmann
University of Nevada-Los Vegas

Khalid Hattar
Sandia National Laboratories

Ayman Hawari
North Carolina State University

Li He
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Peter Hosemann
University of California-Berkeley

Gordon Kohse
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Meimei Li
Argonne National Laboratory

Kory Linton
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Mitchell Meyer
Idaho National Laboratory

Tom Miller
Department of Energy-Nuclear Energy

Christian Petrie
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Tarik Saleh
Los Alamos National Laboratory

David Schoonen
Idaho National Laboratory

David Senior
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Joanna Taylor
Center for Advanced Energy Studies

Jeff Terry
Illinois Institute of Technology

Juergen Thieme
Brookhaven National Laboratory

Jitendra Tripathi
Purdue University

Ovidiu Toader
University of Michigan

Sven Van den Berghe
SCK-CEN

[NSUF Partner Facilities Working Group Meeting](#)



Wednesday, May 24

Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) Auditorium (2nd Floor)

8:00	Computer Network Setup	CAES IT Staff
8:30	Welcome and Introductions	Rory Kennedy <i>Director, NSUF</i>
8:50	Welcome from DOE-ID	TBD <i>Principal Deputy Manager, Nuclear Energy, DOE-ID</i>
9:05	Welcome from DOE-NE	Tom Miller <i>Director of Accelerated Innovation in Nuclear, DOE-NE</i>
9:20	Overview of Agenda	Rory Kennedy
9:30	NSUF Overview/Status	Rory Kennedy
10:15	Break	
10:45	NSUF Partner Facilities Topics of Discussion	
	MOUs	
	User Agreements	
	RTE Rules/Guidelines	
	Facility Reviews	
	Committees	

12:15 Working lunch – NSUF PFWG Committee Assignments Discussion..... All

Lunch invitees:

Todd Allen, U of W-Madison	Christian Petrie, ORNL
Raymond Cao, OSU	Tarik Saleh, LANL
Lynne Ecker, BNL	Dave Schoonen, INL
Frank Gift, Westinghouse	Dave Senior, PNNL
Don Hansen, Sandia	Joanna Taylor, CAES
Thomas Hartmann, U of N-Las Vegas	Juersen Thieme, BNL
Khalid Hattar, SNL	Jitendra Tripathi, Purdue
Ayman Hawari, NCSU	Ovidiu Toader, U of M
Li He, U of W-Madison	Sven Van den Berghe, SCK-CEN
Peter Hosemann, U of C-Berkeley	Jeff Benson, INL
Gordon Kohse, MIT	Brenden Heidrich, INL
Meimei Li, ANL	Rory Kennedy, INL
Kory Linton, ORNL	Dan Ogden, INL
Mitch Meyer, INL	Renae Soelberg, INL
Tom Miller, DOE-NE	

NSUF Partner Facilities Working Group Meeting



Wednesday, May 24

Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) Auditorium (2nd Floor)

Short Partner Facility Presentations

- 1:15 Idaho National Laboratory Mitch Meyer & Dave Schoonen
- 1:45 Massachusetts Institute of Technology Gordon Kohse
- 2:15 Center for Advanced Energy Studies Joanna Taylor
- 2:45 North Carolina State University Ayman Hawari
- 3:15 Break
- 3:45 University of Nevada-Las Vegas Thomas Hartmann
- 4:15 University of Michigan Gary Was
- 4:45 Illinois Institute of Technology Jeff Terry
- 5:15 Oak Ridge National Laboratory Kory Linton
- 5:45 Adjourn
- 6:30 Working dinner at Stockman's to discuss NSUF PFWG Committee Charters

Dinner invitees:

Todd Allen, U of W-Madison	Christian Petrie, ORNL
Raymond Cao, OSU	Tarik Saleh, LANL
Lynne Ecker, BNL	Dave Schoonen, INL
Frank Gift, Westinghouse	Dave Senior, PNNL
Don Hansen, Sandia	Joanna Taylor, CAES
Thomas Hartmann, U of N-Las Vegas	Juersen Thieme, BNL
Khalid Hattar, SNL	Jitendra Tripathi, Purdue
Ayman Hawari, NCSU	Ovidiu Toader, U of M
Li He, U of W-Madison	Sven Van den Berghe, SCK-CEN
Peter Hosemann, U of C-Berkeley	Jeff Benson, INL
Gordon Kohse, MIT	Brenden Heidrich, INL
Meimei Li, ANL	Rory Kennedy, INL
Kory Linton, ORNL	Dan Ogden, INL
Mitch Meyer, INL	
Tom Miller, DOE-NE	

NSUF Partner Facilities Working Group Meeting



Thursday, May 25

Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) Auditorium (2nd Floor)

Short Partner Facility Presentations

- 8:30 Purdue University Jitendra Tripathi
- 9:00 University of California-Berkeley..... Peter Hosemann
- 9:30 University of Wisconsin-Madison..... Todd Allen
- 10:00 Pacific Northwest National Laboratory..... David Senior
- 10:30 Break
- 11:00 Westinghouse..... Frank Gift
- 11:30 Argonne National Laboratory..... Meimei Li
- 12:00 Working lunch to review Nuclear Energy Infrastructure Database (NEID) and Nuclear Fuels & Materials Library (NFML)..... Brenden Heidrich

Lunch invitees:

Todd Allen, U of W-Madison	Christian Petrie, ORNL
Raymond Cao, OSU	Tarik Saleh, LANL
Lynne Ecker, BNL	Dave Schoonen, INL
Frank Gift, Westinghouse	Dave Senior, PNNL
Don Hansen, Sandia	Joanna Taylor, CAES
Thomas Hartmann, U of N-Las Vegas	Juersen Thieme, BNL
Khalid Hattar, SNL	Jitendra Tripathi, Purdue
Ayman Hawari, NCSU	Ovidiu Toader, U of M
Li He, U of W-Madison	Sven Van den Berghe, SKC-CEN
Peter Hosemann, U of C-Berkeley	Jeff Benson, INL
Gordon Kohse, MIT	Kelly Cunningham, INL
Meimei Li, ANL	Brenden Heidrich, INL
Kory Linton, ORNL	Rory Kennedy, INL
Mitch Meyer, INL	Jon Kirkham, INL
Tom Miller, DOE-NE	Dan Ogden, INL
	Renae Soelberg, INL

- 1:00 Sandia National Laboratories Khalid Hattar
- 1:30 Brookhaven National Laboratory Lynne Ecker
- 2:00 Los Alamos National Laboratory..... Tarik Saleh

NSUF Partner Facilities Working Group Meeting



Thursday, May 25

Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) Auditorium (2nd Floor)

- 2:30 The Ohio State University Raymond Cao
- 3:00 Belgium Nuclear Research Centre Sven Van den Berghe
- 3:30 Summary and Wrap-Up

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