

UEC Meeting 26 February 2021

Present: L. Conradson, E. McBride, J. Williams, E. Snell, E. Biasin, M. Dunne, J. Kern, Y. Cao, M. Mittrano, G. Doumy, P. Sun, M. Camarata, D. Rolles, B. Lemesh, C. Knotts, P. Jones, B. Ofori-Okai, R. Sension, M. Kahlil, A. Marinelli

Guest Speaker: S. Holder

Absent: A. Gleason, H. Wen, T. Gorkhover

M. Dunne Update:

1. San Mateo County changed from Purple Tier to Red Tier due to lower case rates, etc.
 - Enables an increase in staff presence over the next few weeks
 - More freedom for staff to come and go, consistent with onsite COVID protocols
 - Vaccines through Stanford from next month

2. Machine performance has been good over the last few weeks
 - V. Gopalan campaign just got underway at XPP. Good feedback from users who participated
 - SXR: Optics For monochromatic line are having issues with substrate coatings

3. Conceptual Design Report for the MEC Upgrade will be issued in a few days
 - Design review will take place next month, and then CD1 in June/July
 - 10 Hz PW laser, and high energy long pulse laser in a new underground cavern

4. DOE Office of Science got a 1% uplift in the budget compared to FY20
 - With other implications, roughly a 2% decrease in the budget expected
 - Will be looking for UEC to advocate for robust support for DOE light sources for the FY22 budget

5. 3-yearly “triennial” cycle of DOE Reviews
 - UEC will be involved to give their perspective – likely in September / October
 - Noticing reduction in the number of publications due to past shutdowns (thus fewer experiments)
 - Need UEC’s help in reminding the user community of the importance of publishing results – and in identifying any bottlenecks or enabling steps that would help in the quality and timeliness of publications.

Questions and Answers:

- Is SLAC considering how vaccinations might impact access?
 - There are no plans at this time for “vaccine passports” or similar. Stanford and DOE are assessing future options, in coordination with CDC and other agencies.

- People are concerned about the reduction in how completely things can be commissioned given the reduced staff, and the impact on viability of experiments when using new equipment or new setups
 - Typically, LCLS has adopted the approach of making sure that there are multiple stages of commissioning before opening up to users. In some cases (like now with the new TMO instrument) we take a different approach – providing early access on the understanding that the stability or performance may not be ideal.
 - We are also looking to take advantage of the fact that the beam can be shared by using the two undulators simultaneously to perform parasitic commissioning (e.g. 110Hz+10Hz).
 - User feedback on this approach is welcomed
- Responses to call for workshop topics due Monday; currently 16 topics proposed
 - UECs needs to go through and give feedback, deadline for that decision in April
 - Final schedule and speakers set by May, will discuss more in detail next meeting

How many workshops are we anticipating?

Last year there were 22, but Meeting will be only one week so we are expecting fewer.

Do we need more topics to fill out the list?

- Need further input from UEC on options
- Number will depend on how much overlap there can be in topic areas and also how many

Sarah Holder: Presentation on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

- Sarah Holder is the ED&I program manager at SLAC
 - Works in a variety of ways to support EDI efforts throughout the lab

What are the concerns and issues that arise in trying to advance EDI in STEM?

Diversity - How identity diverse is your work? Do you have representation across different identity groups?

Inclusion: How do we give a level playing field to people of every identity group?

Systemic: Policies, Practices and Procedures factors

Interpersonal: How do we relate to each other? Unconscious Bias.

Justice and Equity: inherently systemic. There are created by healing past wrongs, not just acknowledging

URM: underrepresented minority, the racial or ethnic identity that have been historically marginalized in

US Domestic STEM: Black, Latinx, indigenous the representation does not match the US Census

RMG - racially minoritized groups

Puts the emphasis onto the system

Intersectional/Intersectionality

Over time, we have tried to develop equity but only focusing on one aspect of

Five critical factors in the TEAM UP Report. Will be shared with the UEC. Can also be accessed by APS members

- Based on trying to answer the question: How do we increase specifically black physics and astronomy in the next 10 years?

- Can be used to develop positive change, but also can lead to negative impact when they are not addressed

1) Academic/Professional Support

2) Physics (Science) Identity - How does one feel like a scientist?

3) Sense of Belonging - One of the top factors in retention

4) Personal Support

5) Leadership & Structures

- BioXFEL has a programmatic element that reaches out to underrepresented groups

- Can use new virtual methods for giving access or visibility to underrepresented groups?

- Need to do work to set up sustainable processes