

SURF User Association Executive Committee Meeting

Date: 09/27/2024, 11:30am

Attending: Frank Strieder, Mike Headley, Jaret Heise, Oxana Gorbatenko, Brianna Mount, David Woodward, Brett Belzer, Jeff Burghardt, Edward Blucher, Christopher Kreitzinger, Mark Hanhardt

Start time: 11:30am

- Welcome and general business
 - Welcome Ed Blucher as the newest SUAEC member and replacement for Jared Thompson who resigned back in June
 - Introducing the new SURF Science Support Associate, Christopher Kreitzinger
 - Christopher is excited to help out with SUAEC tasks in the future
 - Introductions of all members to the new attendees
- Electing/Appointing a new secretary
 - Mark volunteered and was appointed without objection
- Laboratory Update
 - LBNF/DUNE excavation has been completed, BSI (Building and Site Infrastructure) is beginning
 - The first phase of the Expansion Cavern (excavation) has been completed with an additional 120 feet of excavation
 - Discussions continue for future expansion options
 - Yates shaft
 - A lot of top-down maintenance progress has been made, crews are now below the 2600 level
 - The plan is to get to the 4850 in January, possibly extended a few weeks by some additional scope added to the maintenance
 - SURF just signed the Cooperative Agreement (CA) 5-year renewal, funding SURF through Sep 2029
 - Part of the funding has been allocated to a Notification and Monitoring Center, which will also act as the Command and Control Center when needed
 - The renewed CA includes 2-3 new Science Dept positions
 - Discussions continue on getting funding for Science Dept personnel for DUNE
 - The SURF Institute was booted up in December
 - Hosted a well-attended CETUP conference in the summer
 - Started the Deeper Talks series
 - Hiring new SURF Foundation director to help raise funds for, among other things, a center for the Institute
 - Science strategic planning
 - The steering committee has been looking at reports and will meet soon to help determine physics priorities, including:

- Support for DUNE (top priority)
 - Gen 3 Dark Matter search
 - Low Mass Dark Matter and other experiments to utilize Davis Campus space
 - An R&D facility (cryogenic user facility with a dilution fridge)
 - Potentially for quantum computing/quantum information and low mass dark matter experiments
 - Seeking EPSCOR grant
 - Projects that utilize/extend LZ
 - The steering committee will also begin focusing on non-physics priorities
 - More information to come soon
- Discuss SPAC recommendations for the SUA
 - Recognition from the SPAC that the SUA is striving to fill the defined role
 - The SPAC has changed some of their recommendation to suggestions to allow the SUAEC to take charge
 - Review of recommendations/suggestions
 - Recommendation #35
 - A consistent email address from sanfordlab.org would go a long way into being recognizable by users and hopefully less blocked by SPAM filters
 - Mark and Chris assigned to look into this with SURF IT
 - Mailing list options need to be explored
 - Mike and Jaret will talk to SURF IT about options for mailing lists and why the SUA_EC@sanfordlab.org list fails when used by someone outside SDSTA
 - Communication
 - Improve communication with users
 - We can utilize the Sanfordlab.org webpage, part of the Deep Thoughts newsletter, and coordination with the Institute to more effectively communicate with members
 - What kind of content could the UAEC provide?
 - A subcommittee consisting of Frank, David, and Mark can tackle these questions and tasks
 - Mark and Chris to set up a meeting with Comms and Institute to discuss
 - Mike says Comms would probably be more than happy to help, if for no other reason than to help us adhere to branding and standard formats
 - Recommendation #23
 - Brianna has created an online form to gather info that would be useful to visiting researchers
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeCcvdPuCFUfCez_ql1zewCD2JwLIAqzqtdztlfulPA0yB5Rw/viewform

- Mark created an online suggestions form for members
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdETIVXLEzgzk_u1rap-n5iB34Dp9-5GiGpWlsN_xJznyFIC9Yw/viewform
- Question about SARF 2.0 progress
 - Things are moving along - Comms sent a new interface to the Science Dept for testing today
- SURF Safety and Support Perception Survey – Priorities
 - SPAC Recommendation #30
 - Provide a list of potential priorities for users to rank to help make the SaP Survey more useful
 - Jaret will send out an email to solicit suggestions from the SUAEC and will include last year's survey to show where the proposed list of priorities for ranking would fit in
- Scheduling next SUA General Meeting (time permitting)
 - No time to discuss today, but we should think about this for the next SUAEC meeting
- Next SUAEC meeting
 - We should plan to meet again in late November
 - Christopher will send out a schedule poll when time is closer
- Any other business
 - None

End time: 12:30pm