

US LHC Users Organization Executive Committee Meeting

November 3, 2011

Present: Harvey Newman, John Huth, Sridhara Dasu, Jane Nachtman, Al Goshaw, Sarah Demers, Boaz Klima, Sandor Feher

EVO: Mike Tuts, Kevin Burkett, Joey Huston

Guests: Todd Adams, Lothar Bauerdick, Jimmy Proudfoot, Howard Gordon

Visas

- Difficult for non-US citizens working in USLHC community
- National Academies has a site to help people -
<http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/biso/visas/index.htm>
- Online questionnaire to fill out first, before contacting them directly (ACTION: should be linked from USLUO pages)
- Process generally works but may take time
- If this process doesn't work, can contact US ambassador
- Universities may be able to intervene on a case-by-case basis

Status of work with URA for hosting

- Process of being APS unit was going nowhere
- URA more accomodating, but conditional on having our own funding
- Once setup can offer person to help, but next step is to setup financial standing

- Made a list of URA/USLUO overlap --> 82 US URA of which 70 are USLUO
- Propose that people contact physics department and university administration to request funding
- Build up experience and share what is successful
- How much to request (annually)? Will need an average of ~\$1k
- Need to be clear on URA/USLUO relationship
- Todd: someone already writing \$5k to URA so might contact who is responsible for this
- Also need to contact labs
- Action: write contact letter to (list of) labs

- Two budget codes for UEC trip to split costs 75%/25%. Can visit DC on DOE funds to educate, but not to lobby
- Sarah: DOE trip cost is not overwhelming so university funds could go to this

and lab (DOE) funds used for other things

- Will URA pay attention to budget?
- Would like to see funding for staffer (half-time) paid back
- > DC trip plus staffer takes up most of funding
- There are some other possible sources of funding, so it may not all have to come from URA institutions

2011 Meeting

- Over 100 people registered, but low on student participation. ~10 students attending
- Next year get travel grants from NSF?
- Fermilab may also have some funds for this
- URA gives funds for Fermilab Users Meeting student travel through URA Visiting Scholars program
- Jimmy: plan/announce meeting earlier (along w/travel grant) to increase student participation

- To accomodate many students, all with talks, might necessitate parallel sessions
- Summaries of parallel sessions in plenary
- ACTION: lay out a general agenda for such a meeting
- May need to start meeting one day earlier
- Need to push for more "light approval" possibilities for students/postdocs?

For discussion: What else should go on the "agenda" of USLUO?

AOB

Todd: planning for DC trip will be starting in earnest very soon

Sarah: start discussion of dates, material to bring, etc.

- ICFA already compiling something?

Todd: last year's one-pager compiled by FNAL

- \$5k to go to outside design firm to produce materials that could be used as the one-pager or components of it

Harvey: message of training best&brightest works well in congress, better than spinoffs

- look at what is produced and decide if this is the most effective message

Todd: Gabriella (UCLA/HEPAP) trying to compile info on where graduates really go

Volunteers to plan DC trip: Jane and Sarah, with help from John Huth