Funding, Politics, Programmatics

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Action items from Nov. 3

Here are the action items from last week's UEC meeting.

- 1. Housing Survey in progress (Peter Steinberg)
- 2. Send announcement to users for volunteers for NUFO working groups (Peter Steinberg)
- Open Forum in January- (Susan White-DePace) will talk to the NSLS/CFN UEC to see if we will have a joint meeting
- Annual Meeting Dates (Mei Bai/Kelly Guiffreda) looking at June 3 10, 2012 (have a conflict with Annual Jefferson Lab User Group workshop (June 4 -6, 2012)
- 5. Invite Ray Hernandaz and Andy Seelin to next UEC meeting (Kelly Guiffreda) possible upgrades to Starbuck Café Complete: (will attend our meeting)
- 6. LIRR- (Baldo Sahlmueller) will look into complaints about the shuttle service
- 7. New PPE policy in place- (Zhangbu Xu) what does NSLS do?
- 8. RHIC News (Susan White-DePace) Michael Tannenbaum visit with Pope (Susan called Michael Tannenbaum and he will draft something shortly)
- 9. Short article from NSRL/NASA- (Susan White-DePace) asked Amy Kronenberg (will provide us with a write-up in January)

Meeting with Doon

- Met with Doon on November 15
- Resolution of housing priority for users
 - * There will be a cap to rooms for students, starting at 150
- BNL's cancellation policy
 - No change, as they claim it is already compatible with existing hotels
 - * There will be an ombudsman mechanism to deal with exceptions (e.g. visas)
- Long term plans
 - BNL is officially trying to move away from the housing business
 - We have a meeting set up with AVR realty about a nearby development with possible housing for BNL visitors
- Housing Survey
 - * No reply yet from BNL. We will distribute it ASAP after final release to Doon.

Guidance on RHIC Run 12

- BNL Management recently informed RHIC community about funding for upcoming RHIC Run 12
- Senate Energy & Water bill has \$3.8M cut to RHIC (relative to 2011), mainly to accomodate construction projects (FRIB, JLab)
- * No appropriation bill yet, but this is the likely scenario to ONP
- * Allows only 14 cryo weeks for run (compared to 22 expected)
- * What should our response be as UEC?

Visit to DC?

- Paul Doucette (Batelle lobbyist) got back to me in mid-November about a DC visit
- Guidelines are whether we want to
 - * advocate if so, then February is better, after FY13 budget is released
 - educate if so, then January is better (before)
- Focus on authorizing committees (House Science, Senate Energy & Natural resources)
- Focus on rank & file members who represent most RHIC users and who represent the chairs (NY & CT)

Inside RHIC brainstorming

- Recent articles
 - Gregg Marr (CAD) on Run 11
 - * Michiko Minty on RHIC instrumentation
 - Takao Sakaguchi on his Rutherford talk
 - * Blurb on Akiba winning Nishina Memorial Prize
 - Mike Tannenbaum on Pontifical visit (posted PDF?)
- Upcoming articles include:
 - Steve Vigdor update on NP issues, funding, RHIC run
 - Rachid Nouicer on the PHENIX VTX detector
 - Helen Caines on STAR jets (email John back!)
 - Paul Sorensen on the correlations workshop (early Oct)

Questions for Ray & Andy

- * What are your plans for the Berkner cafeteria?
 - New developments?
 - * New types of food (e.g. more Asian food a common request)!
- * What are your plans for the BNL Cafe?
 - Is it profitable?
 - * Changes to physical layout (e.g. more refrigeration)?

Future open meetings?

- * Today: hoped to get Tom Schlegel to speak on cyber security but he is out of town.
- Future options
 - Sam Aronson / Doon Gibbs
 - * Lanny Bates Facilities & operations
 - Jeff Swenson Staff services
 - * Joint meeting with CFN & NSLS to discuss common issues
 - * Tom Schlegel IT security @ BNL
 - Randy Biegelman Counterintelligence
- Next meetings:
 - * Schlegel?
 - * Lanny Bates?