

# GUV Center Report to the RHIC Users' Executive Committee

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# Overview

## ■ National User Facility Organization

- Annual Meeting
- Testimony at the House
- User Portal
- Meeting with NNSA and DOE
- Visa Initiative
- Travel Restrictions
- Working with the APS

## ■ GUV Center Report

- Projects
- Improving Safety
- Working with the NSLS & CFN
- Office of Science Questionnaire
- CENPA call for RHIC Data

# Annual Meeting

- Special Participants: Don Medley (LBNL), Marge Lynch (BNL), Paul Doucette (Battelle), Toby Smith (AAU), Norm Peterson (ANL), Matt Howard (ANL)
- Presentation and discussions focused on leveraging our resources, increased coordination, increase outreach, improve communications with our laboratories

# Breakout Sessions

- A. University Relations
- B. Cyber and Computing Affairs, User Data Management
- C. Leveraging Communications, Outreach and Advocacy
- D. Nanosecurity
- E. Financial Best Practices and Areas for Financial Improvement
- F. Social Media and Outreach
- G. Industrial Access and Interactions
- H. User Administrative Affairs

# NUFO User Portal

## Instructions

### Facility Contacts

- User Administrators
- User Representatives
- Directors of Laboratory
- Communications Directors
- Government Relations
- Contacts
- Science Funding Contacts
- Science Funding Agencies
- Industrial Liaisons
- University Liaisons

## Facility Info

- Fact Sheets
- Scientific Accomplishments
- R&D Awards
- User Counts

## Facility Poster Content

- Steering Committee
- Elections

# NUFO: Testimony to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

RALPH M. HALL, TEXAS  
CHAIRMAN

EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, TEXAS  
RANKING MEMBER

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

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June 11, 2012

Dr. Antonio Lanzirotti  
Chairman  
National User Facility Organization  
The University of Chicago – CARS  
9700 S. Cass Ave., Bldg. 434A  
Argonne, IL 60439

Dear Dr. Lanzirotti:

On Thursday, June 21, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 2318 of the Rayburn House Office Building, the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology will hold a hearing entitled “*Department of Energy User Facilities: Utilizing the Tools of Science to Drive Innovation through Fundamental Research.*” The purpose of this hearing is to examine the role the Department of Energy’s (DOE) national scientific user facilities play in enabling basic research that drives innovation and economic growth. Additionally, the hearing will examine challenges and opportunities associated with user facility planning and management.

# Attendees at House Testimony

Invitees: Tony Lanzirotti (*U. of Chicago*), Stephen Wasserman (*Eli Lilly*), Persis Drell (*SLAC*), Suzy Tichenor (*ORNL*), and Ernest Hall (*GE Global*)

Congressional Attendees: Andy Harris (*MD*), Ben Lujun (*NM*), Brad Miller (*NC*), Chuck Fleischmann (*TN*), Dana Rohrbacher (*CA*), Frank Lucas (*OK*), Jerry McNerney (*CA*), Judy Biggert (*IL*), Lynn Woolsey (*CA*), Paul Broun (*GA*), Paul Tonko (*NY*), Randy Neugebauer (*TX*), Roscoe G. Bartlett (*MD*), Todd Akin (*MO*), Zoe Lofgren (*CA*)

# NUFO Initiatives

- NUFO invited to attend NNSA and the Office of Science User Facility Forum on July 19 in Washington DC. The goal of the forum was to share lessons-learned and best practices for user facilities across the department, with the target audience being HQ program managers across the departments.
- NUFO working with Gary Merson (democratic counsel on the Judiciary Committee—speaks to immigration issues) and Scott Cooper (Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy) to address visa issues for scientists. NUFO conducting a two surveys which will lead to NUFO writing a letter in support of better mechanisms for scientific visas and processing.

# NUFO Initiatives

- NUFO also participated in a round table discussion at the American Physical Society Physics Policy Committee meeting to discuss how to improve the approach by APS and NUFO regarding the attendance representatives and staffers at the yearly NUFO science exhibitions.
- NUFO is concerned about the impact of an Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) memorandum to executive departments and agencies on "Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations," in particular, the order's restrictions on travel and the manner in which the details of how these restrictions are implemented. These restrictions will unintentionally undermining government scientists' participation in scientific meetings.

# GUV Center Report

- CIP Team waiting for approval and funding to start multi-year upgrade project of guest system
- Training Central: portal designed to help training coordinators – pending programming support
- ARC submitted to ITD for the non-family members and joint appointees programming changes that were approved by the GUV Steering Committee in August
  - Draft of SBMS changes have been drafted

# GUV Center Report

- ARC submitted to ITD to add zip codes to the PeopleSoft records
- GU V Center worked with the RHIC UEC on letter to NSAC
- Staff has updated the Guidebook for Guests Conducting Research
- Training button on registration form which is being investigated and making hosts verify information on registration is adequate to determine training

# Improving Safety

- JTAs are not being assigned to all guests and the GUV Center staff is making a proposal to correct
- Guests are having difficulty utilizing Guest Central
- At last GUV Info meeting administrators asked for Admin Central
- Staff is concerned about how many individuals refuse to take the generic level of training before leaving the GUV Center. Susan will address this with the GUV Steering Committee for a policy decision

# Improving Safety

- Reviewing automated e-mails that are sent through the guest system
- Staff is working on ways of ensuring that departments provide NEO forms to the GUV Center so training requirements are known at the time of check-in
- Rocks in parking lot are a safety concern

# Work with NSLS & CFN

- Meeting with James Dickerson regarding material for nanoscience
  - Training program for staff
  - Benchmarking via questionnaire practices, procedures, and documents from other nanocenters
- Met with the NSLS UEC
  - Request to work on revising the Guidebook for Guests Conducting Research and on a pamphlet to give new guests

# Office of Science Questionnaire

- Submitted questionnaire to Office of Science regarding user definitions for On-site users, Remote users, Data users
- Requested our interpretation, how do we count, and challenges we would experience if required to bin users into these categories
- The FY 2013 SC budget request contains a table that lists the actual number of users at your facility for FY 2011. How does this number for your facility break out regarding On-Site/Remote/Data Users?
  - The RHIC complex consisted of 898 on-site users and 210 remote users.

# Office of Science Questionnaire

- What categories of user demographics can you report on your set of annual users (e.g., type of institution, source of support, topic of the experiment /area of science, employment level, citizenship status, age, gender, zip code, etc.
- General comments/concerns regarding the “Defining and Counting Users for the Office of Science User Facilities” document
  - Need to have congressional districts
  - Useful to have a set of questions that user facilities should be required to know. This would allow facilities to have programs written to ensure that the data is collected and can be retrieved at any time.

# Call for Data

- CEGPA call for data on RHIC users (NY state and PI contacts)