

SNSS General Assembly

Meeting date and time: 2020-05-12 at 10.00 - 11.00.

Meeting place: Zoom meeting.

Meeting host: Maths Karlsson, Tommy Nylander and Marite Cardenas.

Agenda

Election of secretary and attestant of the meeting minutes

1. Brief presentation about SNSS and annual report for 2019 (Maths Karlsson)
2. Activities and budget for 2020 (Maths Karlsson)
3. Election of new board (Tommy Nylander)
4. Update from VR (Mikaela Rapp)
5. Questions/comments, and other business

Minutes

Maths Karlsson (Chalmers, chairman of SNSS) opens the meeting at 10:00. There are 17 participants logged into the meeting in addition to Maths Karlsson, Tommy Nylander and Marité Cárdenas who are hosting the zoom meeting from Lund University. Later on, one more participant connected to the meeting.

Maths proposed that Maja Helsing will act as secretary of the meeting and Martin Häggblad-Sahlberg as attestant of the meeting minutes. Both are members of the SNSS Board. The suggestions were approved by the meeting participants.

The "chat function" in Zoom was presented and Maths encouraged the participants to chat questions/comments during the meeting, to be brought up to discussion at the end of the meeting.

The agenda of the meeting was approved by the community.

1. Maths presented the SNSS organization, its board, general objectives and typical SNSS activities to fulfil these objectives. The annual report (activities and spend funding) for 2019 was also presented. The main activities in 2019 are listed in the following:
 - Organization of the Swedish Neutron Week
 - Development of the SNSS home page
 - Continuation of the SNSS monthly News Letters and showcasing results as "research highlights"
 - Update of the SNSS strategy document
 - Updated survey of the SNSS community (ongoing)
 - Several of the SNSS board members represented the community in various meetings and workshops arranged by, e.g., ENSA, VR, VINNOVA, and ESS
 - SNSS board members participated in discussions about national initiatives to design an instrument at ESS (SAGA) and in discussions about compact neutron sources
 - The participation of MSc students in neutron experiments and in advanced courses on neutron scattering was supported (in the form of travel grants)

Maths stressed that the impact of SNSS on the Swedish research community is evident in several different ways. Over the last approximately five to ten years, the community has, for example, seen the appointments of several neutron experts and adjunct appointments at universities. Further, the community has witnessed the appearance of several new calls related to research using neutron scattering, as well as the support of several new educational activities (e.g. SwedNess). In effect, the SNSS (as of today, approximately 220 members) has become increasingly stronger, and the beamtime allocation to Swedish users and the number of publications have increased steadily and significantly over this period of time.

2. Activities (and budget) for 2020 was presented and approved by the community. However, it was stressed that the activities will have to be defined in more detail by the new board., which was accepted by the participants. The proposed activities are:
 - Further development of the SNSS home page (funding the salary of a web master)
 - Organization of the Swedish Neutron Week. Originally planned for the current week, but is postponed until November 2020 (depending on corona circumstances)
 - Complete survey of the Swedish neutron user community, in the form of an official report
 - Continuation of support to conferences/workshops, and schools related to neutron scattering.
 - Continuation of support to MSc students to participate in neutron experiments and in advanced courses in neutron scattering
 - Discuss with VR, VINNOVA, and the newly established ESS secretariat about the new Science Park that is planned for in Lund

Proposed budget for 2020*

*Pending decision on funding from VR - application for funding is under review:

- Incoming balance (assuming grant of 250 000 SEK): 250 000 SEK
- Salaries (web master): 70 000 SEK
- Swedish Neutron Week: 50 000 SEK
- Support to conferences, workshops, courses: 50 000 SEK
- Support to MSc students (experiments/courses): 50 000 SEK
- Travel: 30 000 SEK
- Total: 250 000 SEK

3. Maths gave the word to Tommy Nylander who chaired the session of the election of new board. Tommy presented the nomination committee's selection for the new board and handed over the word to Adrian Rennie (nomination committee along with Ulrich Häussermann).

- 3.1 Adrian presented the reasoning behind the nominations and opened for comments to be put in the Zoom chat function. A video on how to vote was shown and a test-vote was done. Thereafter, Adrian gave a motivation for the nominations.

Adrian said that the statutes say there should be a nomination committee and give guidance on what is expected but not many rules. There is one rule: there should be one student/postdoc representative serving for one year at the time, while the other candidates serve for 3 years at the time. The selection of nominees was done by careful consideration of suggestions put forward by the community and that a gradual renewal was preferred. There was a large interest in serving on the board. The people serving the board will serve the Swedish community and not represent their own home institutions. If people move jobs it is

encouraged that they consider to hand over their position before the end of term to preserve geographical spread. The new board will elect a chair. Members leaving the board are welcome to return to the board at a later stage. Adrian opened for comments. *Aleksandar Matic* commented on that no nominations were from the Stockholm area, where there is a strong neutron community. Adrian responded that both Hanna Barriga (KI) and Maja Hellsing (RISE, KTH campus) are from the Stockholm area, and emphasized that the board will represent the whole community, not a certain region or university.

Vote: 15 for, 1 against. The nominations were accepted.

4. Maths presented Mikaela Rapp, Head of Office since two months for the new office of Vetenskapsrådet and VINNOVA to coordinate inputs to ESS and MAX IV. A new national action plan will be done, the office will act as a hub, have a webpage and communicate with the community, develop models for Swedish in-kind contributions to ESS etc. Her presentation will be uploaded on SNSS homepage.

5. Other business:

Maths informed that there will be a call for proposals to organize the next SNSS Annual Meeting. There will also be a call for suggestions for individuals to serve on the nomination committee for the next mandate period (2020-2023). These calls will be sent out to the SNSS community in the near future.



Chairman, Maths Karlsson



Adjuster, Martin Sahlberg



Secretary, Maja Hellsing