



Minutes of the 17th AONSA Executive Committee Meeting

Date: 09:30-15:00, November 18 (Friday), 2016

Place: BARC, Mumbai, India

Participants: 20

[Board Members]

Sung-Min Choi (President; KNBUA; KAIST)

Kazuyoshi Yamada (Vice-president; JSNS; KEK)

Chris Ling (Secretary; ANBUG; U. Sydney)

Hsiung Chou (Public Relations Officer; TWNSS National Sun Yat-Sen U)

Evvyy Kartini (Member-at-Large; BATAN; Indonesian community)

Saibal Basu (Member-at-Large; NSSI; BARC)

[Members]

Darminto (INSS; Institute of Technology, Surabaya)

Yoshiaki Kiyonagi (JSNS; Nagoya U)

Jae-Ho Chung (KNBUA; Korea U)

Kookheon Char (KNBUA; Seoul National U)

S.M. Yusuf (NSSI; BARC)

K.G. Suresh (NSSI; IIT Bombay)

[Observers]

Abdul Aziz Mohamed (Malaysian Community; UNITEN)

Toshiji Kanaya (J-PARC)

Mitsuhiro Shibayama (JRR3)

Jamie Shulz (ANSTO)

Chang-Hee Lee (HANARO)

Samrath Chaplot (BARC)

R. Mukhopadhyay (BARC)

[Special Observers]

Hideki Seto (KEK)

[Apologies]

Fangwei Wang (CSNS)

Hesheng Chen (CNSS; IHEP)

Guang-ai Sun (CMRR)

Ya-Sen Sun (TWNSS; National Central U)

Yuntao Liu (CARR)

Dongfeng Chen (Treasurer; CNSS; CIAE)

Wen-Hsien Li (Past President; TWNSS; NCU)

Erich Kisi (ANBUG; U Newcastle)



Group photo of the 17th AONSA Executive Committee Meeting at BARC, Mumbai, India

Schedule

November 18 (Friday)

09:30-09:40 Opening Remarks (S-M Choi)

09:40-09:45 Approval of Agenda

09:45-09:50 Report on the Minutes of the 16th AONSA EC Meeting in Dongguan (C Ling)

09:50-10:00 Report from the AONSA Office (H Seto, H Chou) (*Appendix 4*)

10:00-11:00 Discussion and Decisions

11:00-11:20 Coffee Break

11:20-12:30 Discussion and Decisions

12:30-13:30 Lunch

13:30-15:10 Reports from Neutron Associations

15:10-15:15 Closing Remarks (S-M Choi)

Minutes

1. Opening remarks by AONSA President Sung-Min Choi

AONSA President Sung-Min Choi welcomed all members and observers to Mumbai, and thanked the local organisers of the meeting for delivering an excellent School including a wonderful rooftop banquet on Thursday night.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda of the 17th AONSA EC meeting was approved by the EC.

3. Approval of Minutes of the 16th AONSA EC Meeting

The Minutes of the 16th AONSA EC meeting in Dongguan, China, which was circulated to the EC members and observers through email previously, were distributed to all the EC participants as hard copies at the meeting. The minutes were approved.

4. Report from the AONSA Office

H Seto presented a detailed report on the operations and outlook for the AONSA Office ([Appendix 2](#)). He pointed out several issues to be considered by the EC. In particular, the banking arrangements are unsatisfactory due to the need for the Secretary (C Doda) to travel to Tokyo to arrange international money transfers. This is exacerbated by the increasing rate of AONSA activities that require such transfers. It is also important to note that there is an excessive reliance on the skills and time of C Doda, who is not guaranteed to remain at J-PARC in the long-term. Alternative banking options include: moving to another Japanese bank that provides online access to international transfers (which would incur ~US\$500 p.a. for each of our two accounts); or moving to an account in another country with lower fees.

The EC thanked T. Kanaya, H Seto and J-PARC for their continuing support in hosting the AONSA Office, and C Doda for her outstanding work in the service of AONSA. H Chou undertook to take on more of the editing duties for the AONSA Newsletter, thus relieving some of the burden on the AONSA Office. The EC acknowledged that the current situation with respect to the banking arrangements is not sustainable in the long-term. However, ~US\$1000 p.a. fees is not ideal for a society with limited funds; and moving the account to another country will create other difficulties and complications.

Action: Board members undertook to discuss AONSA's banking requirements offline and report back to the EC with their recommendation on the best way forward.

At the beginning of the afternoon session of EC meeting (just before the society report), H Seto showed the schematics for bank account arrangement to the EC. It was proposed to have a pair of banks (in USD and Japan Yen) available for international money transfer and internet banking. This will cost about 500 USD per year. Since there is no other option at present, the EC agreed to proceed as proposed by H Seto.

A solution remains elusive and H Seto indicated that the AONSA Office arrangements at J-PARC can continue in the short to medium term, but that the conversation about alternatives should be an ongoing one.

5. Discussions and formal matters

5.1. Financial matters

C Ling presented the Annual Fee, Prize Fund and Budget Plan on behalf of D Chen ([Appendix 4](#)). The report was accepted. S-M Choi suggested that we should consider ways (new activities) in which we could use AONSA's capital funds (Annual Fee) rather than accumulating it in a low-interest savings account.

5.2. AONSA Prize 2017

K Yamada reported that the Selection Committee has unanimously decided to award the AONSA Prize 2017 to Prof Nobuo Niimura of Ibaraki University. This was warmly received and approved by the EC. The award ceremony will take place during ICNS-2017 in July 2017. There were four outstanding nominees this year, and the Selection Committee had a difficult task. One nominee who was not selected this time will be rolled over to the next review (for the AONSA Prize 2019). The other two were being considered for the second time already and their nominations will not be taken further.

Action: AONSA Prize Selection Committee to make a public announcement of the award of the Prize to Prof Niimura through the AONSA web page, Newsletter and other means.

K Yamada noted that in future, nominations for the Prize should more strictly follow the rules,

especially the requirement for 2–4 seconding letters in addition to the nomination letter.

5.3. AONSA Young Research Fellows

The AONSA YRF 2015 submitted a report to the EC ([Appendix 3](#)), which was gratefully received.

K Yamada reported that the Selection Committee for the AONSA YRF 2017 has nominated 4 AONSA YRFs for 2017 (out of 7 applicants). All the nominated candidates were gladly approved by the EC.

Action: AONSA YRF Selection Committee to inform and congratulate the selected YRFs, with cc to the Directors of their host facilities; and make a public announcement through the AONSA web page, Newsletter and Neutron News.

Action: President of AONSA to send the Certificate of AONSA Fellow 2017 to the selected YRFs.

Action: AONSA Office to communicate with the selected YRFs regarding airfare support.

K Yamada noted that in the future, applicants should consult more closely with hosting facilities (both their 1st and 2nd choices) in advance, to help refine and target their applications; and that they should be required to apply for beamtime at those facilities in advance. The EC agreed that this requirement should be formally introduced.

Action: C Ling to amend the rules for the AONSA YRF on the web page to reflect the required to contact and apply for beamtime at an applicant's first two preferred host facilities in advance of lodging an application.

S-M Choi thanked K Yamada for his work in chairing both these Selection Committees, and pointed out that this is an unreasonably heavy burden for one Board member. In 2017, K Yamada will continue to chair the Selection Committee for YRF 2018 only (there being no AONSA Prize Selection Committee in 2017). For 2018, it was proposed that a second Board member be assigned as Chair of the AONSA YRF Selection Committee, thus sharing the workload. It was also proposed that the call for applications be moved to earlier in the year, to improve coordination with beamtime applications and allocations. Both proposals were

approved by the EC.

Action: Board to identify a member who will act as Chair of the AONSA YRF Selection Committee for 2018; and to determine the most appropriate date for the call for applications.

5.4. Asia-Oceania Conference on Neutron Scattering

H Chou reported on the status of TWNSS preparations to host AOCNS-2019 ([Appendix 5](#)). The meeting will be held from 11-15 November 2019. There will be three parallel sessions plus an Instrumentation Session on the first day. The conference will also include a dedicated AONSA YRF session. The EC thanked the organisers for their efforts.

5.6. AONSA Neutron School

S Basu and SM Yusuf reported on the 8th AONSA school being held in BARC. The School had approximately 100 participants, of whom 15 were fully registered international students and 28 were fully registered local students. Students attended lectures covering the full range of neutron scattering techniques and had the opportunity to perform experiments on at least two different types of instrument. S-M Choi and the EC thanked the organisers for their efforts on behalf of the students.

Action: S Basu and SM Yusuf to collect feedback from the AONSA Neutron School students and pass this on to the EC.

It was suggested that HANARO hosts the 9th AONSA Neutron School in 2017. However, it was pointed out that since ICNS2017 will be held in Korea in July 2017, there may be some difficulties in schedule for HANARO to host the School in 2017.

The 9th AONSA School is proposed to be held at J-PARC in December 2017, in combination with their annual MLF School. This is still to be confirmed: if it goes ahead, the 10th AONSA School would be held at HANARO in 2018; if not, we will try to find other possibilities so that we don't skip the AONSA School in 2017.

5.7. ICNS2017 in Korea

K Char presented a report from the organizers of the ICNS2017 in Korea ([Appendix 6](#)). It was

noted in addition that the 18th EC Meeting and 13th Facility Directors' Meeting would be held in combination on the morning of the first day, finishing before the welcome reception. The EC thanked the organisers for their efforts.

5.8. AONSA Newsletters and Homepage

H Chou (Public Relations Officer) reported that that next newsletter (Volume 8 Number 2) was scheduled for release on December 22, 2016. To meet this deadline, all items must be submitted to the AONSA Office for editing by November 29.

5.9. Activities Related to SE Asia and Other Non-member Countries

C Ling reported that Roppon Picha had advised him ([Appendix 7](#)) that the Thailand Institute of Nuclear Technology (TINT) and the Synchrotron Light Research Institute (SLRI) are still planning to co-host the 19th EC meeting in Nov 2017. They plan to hold a one-day neutron scattering seminar and a Synchrotron Science Camp in parallel to the meeting.

The EC approved TINT as the venue for the 19th EC meeting. It discussed the question of dates and determined that the first two weeks of November would be best (pending the determination of dates for the J-PARC MLF School around the same time). Three days would be required in total for the Symposia, EC and FDM meetings.

Action: C Ling to inform R Picha of these preferred dates.

S-M Choi noted that he had recently been in contact with representatives of the neutron scattering communities of the Philippines (Dr. Maria Celerina Ramiro, Philippine Nuclear Research Institute; [Appendix 13](#)), Vietnam (Dr. Nguyen Nhi Dien, former Director of Nuclear Research Institute at Dalat, Vietnam; [Appendix 14](#)) and Mongolia (Prof. Deleg Sangaa, Physics, National University of Mongolia; [Appendix 15](#)). He would continue to pursue these and explore the possibilities for potential future engagement.

5.10. Cooperation with ICSU, IUCr and IAEA

The EC thanked the IAEA for their continued support of the AONSA Neutron School in its 8th edition this year.

S-M Choi suggested that we should pursue the possibility of securing new funding (for example from IAEA) for travel to neutron facilities for scientists from developing countries.

5.11. Cooperation with NSSA and ENSA

S-M Choi and H Seto reported that they attended ACNS-2016 and met with the leadership of NSSA. They had a fruitful and mutually educational discussion. A similar meeting, which will hopefully also include the leadership of ENSA, is planned to take place at ICNS-2017,

5.12. Cooperation with AOFSRR

S-M Choi reported that he met briefly with the next President of AOFSRR (Andrew Peele of the Australian Synchrotron) in Sydney in the second half of 2016, and discussed possible synergies between AONSA and AOFSRR. K Yamada informed the EC that the current President of AOFSRR is Dr Y Murakami of KEK, and that he would discuss possible synergies between AONSA and AOFSRR with him.

6. Reports from Neutron Associations

- ANBUG ([Appendix 8](#))
- INSS ([Appendix 9](#))
- JSNS ([Appendix 10](#))
- KNUBA ([Appendix 11](#))
- TWNSS ([Appendix 12](#))
- NSSI

7. Closing remarks

In closing the meeting, President S-M Choi thanked all the participants, and again thanked our Indian colleagues for their great efforts in organising the EC and FDM meetings and the AONSA Neutron School. He looked forward to meeting again in Korea next year.

Appendix 1: Calendar of AONSA Activities

Year 2016

Date	Events
Nov 17	12 th AONSA Facility Directors' Meeting (Mumbai, India)
Nov 18	17 th AONSA EC Meeting (Mumbai, India)
Nov 15-19	8 th AONSA Neutron School (Mumbai, India)
Nov 22-26	Neutron and Muon School (Tokai, Japan)
Dec 1-2	16 th JSNS Annual Meeting (Nagoya, Japan)
Dec 5-6	AINSE-ANBUG Neutron Science Symposium (Lucas Heights, Australia)

Year 2017

Date	Events
Mar 10-13	7 th Taiwan-Japan Joint Meeting on X-ray and Neutron Scattering
May 26	HANARO Symposium (KAERI, Korea)
July 9	13 th AONSA Facility Directors' Meeting (Daejeon, Korea)
July 9	18 th AONSA EC Meeting (Daejeon, Korea)
July 9-13	ICNS-2017 (Daejeon, Korea)
Oct 8-12	International Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology Application (Yogyakarta, Indonesia)
Nov	13 th AONSA Facility Directors' Meeting (Bangkok, Thailand)
Nov	19 th AONSA EC Meeting (Bangkok, Thailand)
Dec 2-3	17 th JSNS Annual Meeting (Fukuoka, Japan)

Appendix 2: Report from AONSA Office

Prof. Hideki Seto, 8 November 2016

Present jobs of AONSA Office concerning:

AONSA EC meeting

AONSA Office sends a copy of the account book and bankbooks to Treasurer's secretary (Limei) by mail. The secretary makes a summary of the AONSA budget for Treasurer to report at EC.

AONSA Neutron School

Money remittance of support fee to a host association of the school.

AONSA Newsletter

Following an INDEX approved by AONSA-EC, the secretaries collect articles and send them to the PR officer for checking the contents. All the articles are edited and formatted by the secretaries and distributed from AONSA Office.

Annual Fee

Collect AONSA annual fees once in a year from the member associations.

Issue an Invoice and receipt by the secretary's name (Chris). Keep the account book and update the bankbook.

Website maintenance

Update AONSA website when requested.

Update record of this term

July 6: Update- AONSA neutron school 2016 in India (create and uploaded announcement banner)

July 7: Update-AONSA calendar 2016&2017

July 7: Add Sitemap

Modify thumbnail size in each page

Check links to prevent link rot

Check each society's link and fix link errors

Check each society's website link to be opened in a new tab.

Check and set up all the links

June 9: Update-AONSA Prize Call for nominations

June 16: Update-AONSA Young Research Fellowship 2017 call for Applications

June 17: Update-AONSA Member Associations

AONSA Prize

Order AONSA prize medal and arrange money remittance for the award winner.

AONSA Young Research Fellowship:

Work as “Contact” for any inquiries and receive application forms. List up and send application documents to the chair of the YRF selection committee. Arrange to get reimbursement for fellows who paid the return trip airfare to join research fellowship.

Proposals from AONSA Office

- There are many difficulties in the editing process of the AONSA Newsletter, for example, too long articles, many photos, etc. These difficulties arise especially when the PR officer is not in the same country. We propose to limit the job of the AONSA Office to the formatting of articles. Collected articles should be edited by the PR officer before the AONSA Office works.
- The bank accounts are better to move Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Cooperation. Recently, The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ changes the policy of an international money transfer, and a secretary of the AONSA Office cannot handle the process by herself any more. The AONSA Office requires AONSA-EC to approve to change the bank and to pay monthly fee (4320 JPY) to keep the bank accounts for the internet banking.
- The AONSA Office activity relies strongly on the personal ability of Chikako Doda, whose employment period will be ended at March, 2018. MLF will make every effort to hire another talented secretary, but not easy to find an appropriate person in Japan who has an enough ability in English. AONSA-EC had better to consider a possibility to move AONSA Office to another country.

Appendix 3: Report from AONSA YRF 2015

Xinzhi Liu, China Institute of Atomic Energy, 2015 AONSA Young Research Fellow

My fellowship started from Sept. 28th, 2015 and finished at Sept. 27th, 2016 at Australia Centre for Neutron Scattering (ACNS, former Bragg institute), ANSTO. During my stay in ANSTO, I worked with Prof. Frank Klose on Polarized Neutron Reflectometry (PNR) Platypus and Dr. Kirrily Rule on thermal triple-axis spectrometer (TAS) Taipan. Meanwhile, I was also involved some collaborated projects on lead by my supervisor and myself other instruments (diffractometer Wombat, Echidna). My work include the user experiment, instrumentation and calibration as well as helping user analyze the data and write research report.

In the past year, I have participated the user experiment more than 120 days (Platypus >80days, Taipan >20days, Wombat & Echidna >20days), including more than 15 projects. All of them focusing on the magnetism, including the magnetic structure and excitation in bulk materials and interfacial magnetism in thin film system. Some promising scientific results have been produced and is under preparing for publication. Through these experiments I got familiar with the PNR, diffraction and inelastic neutron scattering technology, as well as how to use multiple sample environment (kinds of cryostat, magnet, furnace).

As a part of PNR group, I have involved or lead many projects under the guidance of Frank Klose: the PNR and XRR investigation of Ni/NiO supercapacitor system (collaborated with Yangyang Li, CityU of Hong Kong), the magnetism in the SrTiO₃/[(Sm,Sr)MnO₃ / YBa₂Cu₃O₇]_{x4} multilayer and single (Sm, Sr)MnO₃ film system (collaborated with Grace Lin, Taiwan National university), the interface induced magnetism in LaAlO₃/[CaMnO₃/LaAlO₃]_{x n} superlattice system (collaborated with Sean Lee, UNSW), the irradiation modified interfacial magnetism in the SrTiO₃/(La,Sr)MnO₃/NiFe bilayer system(collaborated with Ko-Wei Lin, National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan) , etc. Some of those results are really interesting and have promising scientific significance. Via those collaborative research I also got familiar with the relevant scientific discipline and many excellent scientists. I also learned how to do the user support, how to work as a sophisticate instrument scientist and how to organize and push forward a research project. In addition, I have also performed a preliminary neutron guide simulation for new coming Bio-Ref spectrometer from HZB under guidance of Frank Klose.

On the thermal TAS Taipan, I have learned many skills on the TAS commissioning, calibration and sample alignment from Kirrily Rule and many knowledge and technologies of the Be-filter with Anton Stampfl. Also, so many user experiments on taipan I have participated and involved. I also got the feasibility beam time to perform some INS study on my $\text{TbFe}_{1-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_3$ single crystal sample, the preliminary result has been summarized into a proposal of next round. Moreover, I also attended the inelastic neutron scattering summer school hosted by ANSTO at Nov. 2015. In this school I learned not only TAS technology, but also other INS instrument and technologies, e.g., Time of Flight method and instrument, back scattering instrument. Four practical experiments on Taipan (thermal - TAS), Sika (cold-TAS), Pelican (ToF), Emu (back scattering spectrometer) was performed on my own hand, greatly increasing my sight on INS.

On the wombat I have completed several experiments as a user with Andrew Studer and Chin-Wei Wang(the in-situ stain and magnetic field mediated magneto-structural transition in $(\text{Ni},\text{Mn})\text{Ga}_2$ Heusler alloy, collaborated with CityU Hokong , the magnetic structure of room temperature multiferroic BSCFAO Y-hexaferrite, collaborated with Institute of Physics, CAS. The magnetism and spin - reorientation in $\text{HoFe}_{1-x}\text{Cr}_x\text{O}_3$ system and the modified magnetism by Fe-doping in $\text{YbMn}_{1-x}\text{Fe}_x\text{O}_3$ system, lead by myself). Some of them have very promising results. The partial results have been published (*Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials*, Volume 417, p. 382-388, *Scientific Reports* 6: 33448 (2016)), remaining results are still being preparation.

In addition the work on the neutron instruments, I also made a great progress on the proposal program. For past two rounds, I have submitted about 10 proposals to 4 different instruments. Most of these proposals I collaborated with the user from mainland of China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. I think this will also promote the collaboration between different members of AONSA. During the past year, I have made very good friends with scientist in ACNS. In future, much bigger collaboration and output can be expected. I think this is also the important spirit of this fellowship.

In summary, I have dedicated to more than 15 significant projects which would make pronounced scientific output. Through these works, I made a big progress on my own capability and expertise as an instrument scientist. It's important to me to get involved into the international neutron scattering community and establish my academic reputation. I would say it is a successful and fruitful fellowship.

In the future, I will continue my career in my home institution – China institute of atomic energy - as an instrument scientist. I may work on the TAS, powder diffractometer and NR. Also, as a part of China neutron scattering community, I would and should bring more collaboration between ANSTO and Chinese users as well as China's NS facilities. That would be my great pleasure and honor.

During my stay as young research fellow, ANSTO and my supervisors have provided me very decent research platform, work environment and superior living support. Here I would greatly appreciate all the supports from ANSTO and my supervisors.

At last, thanks for the great opportunity AONSA have offered to me, and all helps and great supports you gave to me. I wish AONSA make bigger success on promoting the neutron scattering enterprise in Asia and Oceania.