

Canadian Institute for Neutron Scattering

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

October 25-26, 2013, McMaster University

The Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Institute for Neutron Scattering is open to all CINS members, guests, and interested persons. In attendance at the 2013 meeting were the executive of CINS: Dominic Ryan (President), Chris Wiebe (Vice-President), Carl Adams (Treasurer), Thad Harroun (Secretary), and John Root (Membership Secretary), in addition to a quorum of the trustees and a quorum of the general membership, including professors and students.

§ 1. Friday, October 25th, 2013

The 2013 CINS AGM was convened at 5:15pm by Dominic Ryan. Opening remarks were made by Bruce Gaulin, and welcoming remarks were made by guest Fiona McNeill, Associate Vice-President of Research at McMaster University.

The keynote speaker of the evening was Mark Lumsden, Oak Ridge National Lab, who spoke on inelastic neutron scattering at the SNS.

§ 2. Saturday, October 26th, 2013

The tentative agenda for the day (found in Appendix A) was heavily modified to accommodate the necessary business of the day. In the subsequent sections are the minutes of the day as it unfolded.

§ 3. CINS Business I

The day began with an open business meeting convened at 09:00am, by Dominic.

A. President's Report: D. Ryan

A.1. CINS formal engagement with AECL executive.

The first item to report was CINS' trip in April to Ottawa to engage AECL on working constructively with respect to AECL restructuring. Attending for CINS was Dominic, Maikel Rheinstadter, Chris Wiebe, David Shoemith, Thad Harroun, and Warren Poole.

The meeting resulted in some concrete actions for CNBC staff and tentative plans for CINS representatives to follow up with later. However, the plans unravelled during the summer, in large part it

seems, from indecision within AECL on the best way to proceed with the universities. AECL needs to first decide on their plans, thus we must wait before more action can be taken.

A question was raised about who was representing AECL at this meeting; was it the right people? John Root replied that it was the VP, Research and Development and the GM, Research and Development Operations, but notably not the CEO. The target outcome our potential cooperation with AECL was, and remains, unclear.

A.2. CINS re-constitution.

There are recent legislation changes to the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, and all federally incorporated not-for-profit entities are required to transition to the new rules in the structure of their organization. This involves submitting new letters patent and by-laws. to the federal government. For CINS, Daniel Banks has been working very hard to construct a possible new structure for CINS.

The choice before the membership is between two options for how CINS can be structured under the new Act. Daniel will provide details in his presentation (below), but they are:

- Minimal change to the current structure of trustees from member institutions. (More detail below on the specific changes.)
- Split up the functions of the current executive. This involves establishing a new Board of Directors, and a new Science council. Documents regarding how this might work have been available on the CINS AGM meeting website for awhile, and a email was sent to all members prior to the AGM inviting them to read and make comments. (See appendix 1.)

There are some advantages for the second choice. It might be possible to fill the Board with distinguished, industry-experienced, arms-length, serious people that can gain the confidence of government and other granting agencies. Thus CINS might be able to receive and administer monies for projects related to AECL restructuring plans, or in a best case scenario, administration of neutron science operational grants at a new Chalk River labs (CRL). Such a board might be characterized as disinterested executive managerial champions of the neutron science cause.

Dominic handed over to John Root to report on the status of the Canadian Neutron Beam Centre (CNBC) and Daniel on the details of the proposed governance changes.

B. CNBC report: J. Root

Slides of John's report can be found in Appendix B

Questions asked during the presentation:

- What is the current income of Mo-99 contributing to the NRU operational costs? About \$30M of the \$100M.
 - What is the expected timeline for transition of Chalk River labs to government-owned, contractor-operated (go-co) structure? This decision awaits the announcement of the government's nuclear
-

mandate, which will determine what the go-co will look like. Expect at least two years for a detailed government agenda, then the extended process of a request for bids.

- How is staffing levels at the CNBC? No new positions can be opened, except for postdocs.

C. CINS proposed by-laws: D. Banks, D. Ryan

Documents of the new by-laws can be found in Appendix C, and at <http://cins.ca/about.html>

One of the main changes to the Not-for-profit Corporations Act is that organizations cannot have appointed or ex-officio governing boards. Governing boards must be elected from the membership. When considering last year's discussion of CINS strengthening its international credibility, this suggests CINS might be able to position itself to handle larger quantities of money, i.e. to conduct the science functions of CRL.

The new structure for the governing board is such that dues-paying institutional members provide representatives, who elect directors to the board at a meeting of institutional members, prior to the annual general meeting of the individual members. The Board of Directors will have three members (to start) and the President of the Science Council, and conduct the general management and direction CINS. Individual members will then elect five representatives to a Science Council, to carry out the scientific and educational mandates of CINS. The President is the liaison between the Science Council and the Board of Directors.

In response to questions, several points of discussion were opened.

- The initial selection process (should the membership agree to adopt this new structure) would be to elect a new Science Council during the AGM. A new Board of Directors would also be selected initially from our institutional membership, with the understanding that they are temporary until key people for the position are identified and recruited. This initial Board will receive directions from CINS members and work to reconstitute themselves in the manner envisioned to raise the reputation of CINS.
- CINS has currently 14 institutional members, who will meet via teleconference at lunchtime.
- The Board and Council duties are very flexible and responsibilities can be assigned as the membership sees fit. The President of Council as a Board member connect the two.
- As for practical management of CINS, the Board will need to appoint a Secretary and Treasurer.
- Dominic emphasizes that a Board with management experience, if not neutron experience, is set to quickly adapt to long term positive changes, such a conducting a NRU replacement engineering case study. If those changes don't materialize, we can back down from a managerial focused Board to a more scientific oriented one, and continue on as CINS has in the past.

After discussion on the proposed changes ended, motion was proposed and carried to adopt the new articles of continuance, bylaws, and operating policies.

C.1. Direction of new Governing Board: D. Ryan

Following the vote to adopt the new governing structure of CINS, there was discussion of setting the direction of the new Governing Board. Starting with friends of CINS, the recruitment of prominent and credible people will commence. The mechanism of Board renewal is that the members serve staggered 3 year terms. The next order of business is to decide on a initial high quality Board.

The direction of the Board is to capitalize on opportunities when the government's nuclear agenda is revealed, working to replace NRU with a new neutron source. The Board will work to position CINS "on the rising slope of potential changes", and present our our inputs into the use of neutrons, but that requires funding to plan properly.

A question was asked if CINS could get the whole reactor mandate, beyond the neutron science instruments? Dominic suggested that if not the reactor mandate, at least the first suite of instruments.

John Root reports that feedback from some parts of government indicated that no strong voice spoke out for neutron science during the reorganization consultation process, while we know that CINS made a submission, and there were other contributions from academia at that time. This perception may be because of lack of presence and profile with CINS, and that can be corrected. The new Board can be up to 11 members, and the three as outlined in the documents represent the founding board size, which could stay on through the process.

Motion: D. Ryan. Members direct the initial board of directors to establish a high profile board of directors that can credibly manage funding for neutron scattering in Canada. Seconded by C. Wiebe.

Vote: Unanimously carried, without abstentions.

Business section adjourned at 10:30

§ 4. Plenary Talk: B. Gualin

Bruce Gaulin gave a talk on the SANS for nano-structured materials at beam port 4 at the McMaster Nuclear Reactor (MNR): "MacSANS". MNR operation is currently 5 days a week, 40 weeks per year. If MacSANS can perform ~40 experiments a year in steady state, it could lead to 20 papers a year. Christopher Heysel, Director of MNR operations was on hand to answer questions.

§ 5. Trustee Meeting

Trustees meet in-camera during the lunch break.

§ 6. Plenary Talk: Egor Sanin

Egor Sanin, of the International Centre for Technology Transfer, presented a talk on Canada-Russia cooperation in science and technology. One area of potential collaboration is through the Petersburg Nuclear Physics Institute (PNPI). Egor shared with us the exciting future plans for neutron scattering at the PNPI PIK reactor in Gatchina, Russia. Slides from his talk can be found in Appendix D.

§ 7. Science Talks

Students Laura Topozini, Alannah Hallas, and Jerod Wagman, all of McMaster University gave a variety of talks on their research.

§ 8. CINS Business II

The second part of the open business meeting called to order by Carl Adams at 3:56pm.

A. Student poster award

Congratulations to Kemp Plumb for best poster presented at the 2013 CINS AGM.

B. Trustees meeting report

The initial slate of candidates for the new Board of Directors were announced. The initial Board of Directors for CINS shall be; John Root (2 year term), Bruce Gaulin (3 year term), Dean Chapman (1 year term).

The initial nominees for Science Council were put forward by the outgoing Trustees; Zahra Yamani. (1 year term), Maikel Rheinstadter. (1 year term), Thad Harroun. (2 year term), Harlyn Silverstein. (2 year term, Student/Postdoc representative).

Dominic Ryan is nominated for Science Council President.

Motion: C. Adams Without any additional nominations, all the candidates were unanimously acclaimed to their positions.

C. Final business:D. Ryan

C.1. Next year's AGM

The location of next year's AGM was discussed. StFX was suggested, but it was thought that student participation might be low. Ontario is considered the best location for students. Young-June Kim volunteers to meet at University of Toronto, while Carl Adams will explore other east coast options.

C.2. Thanks to hosts

Dominic extends thanks to Maikel Rhainstadter, Fei-Chi Yang, Bruce Gaulin, and Debra Farquhar for their organization of this year's meeting.

Meeting was adjourned 4:08pm

§ A. Appendix A

Published tentative agenda for the 2013 CINS AGM.

§ B. Appendix B

Slides from John Root's presentation.

§ C. Appendix C

The new CINS by-laws and operating policies as decided by the membership. Copies of these documents, as well as federal form 4031, Articles of Continuance, can be found at <http://cins.ca/about.html>. (This PDF form would not keep the filled-in information to attach to the meeting minutes.)

§ D. Appendix D

Slides of Egor Sanin's talk.
