

# The APSUO Advice, Advocacy and Outreach Timothy Graber

Chair, Advanced Photon Source Users' Organization

*and*

The Center for Advanced Radiation Sources  
University of Chicago



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# Introduction

APSUO Charter

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Financial Support

Outreach

Users Meeting

~10 Workshops

Includes Other ANL Facilities

Social Events

Student Poster Prize

Franklin and Compton Awards



Tim Graber, Gene Ice, Linda Young,  
David Reis, Anne Mulichak, Paul Evans,  
Nadia Leyarovska, Paul Fuoss,  
J. Murray Gibson, Nino Campobasso,  
Simon Mochrie, Barbara Golden.  
Not pictured: Simon Billinge, Millie Firestone,  
Laurence Lurio.

# APSUO Charter

The APSUO has the following responsibilities:

- The Organization will provide advice to the ALD on matters affecting the user community.
- The Organization will serve as an advocacy group for the Facility and its user community.
- The Organization will assure good communication between the APS user community and the APS management.

# Yearly Elections



- APSUO members are elected by the user community to represent their interests and convey user concerns to APS Management.
- Each year a subcommittee recruits a field of 8 to 9 candidates.
- Four new members are elected at the Users' Meeting by electronic ballot using the web.
- A vice-chair is chosen at the APSUO meeting following the Users' Meeting.

# Other APS Committees Related to User Activities

- **Partner User Council (PUC)**  
Provides advice and recommendations to APS management in matters regarding current and future facility operations and development, and APS-Partner User relationships.
- **InterCAT Technical Workgroup (TWG)**  
Provides a forum for direct discussion and exchange of technical information between the CATS, and between the CATS and the APS. The mission of the group encompasses information exchange, identification of common concerns and issues requiring CAT or APS responses, resource sharing and exchange, and focused technical collaboration involving CAT and APS expertise on CAT-common issues.
- **General User Proposal Review Panels (PRPs)**  
Meet once each proposal cycle to review new proposals.
- **Beam Time Allocation Committees (BACs)**  
Meet once each proposal cycle to assign proposals to beamlines.

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# Full Committee Meetings

- The APSUO meets Quarterly in January, May, July and October.
- The APS Management typically gives a report on the state of the APS.
  - APS Update -- J. M. Gibson
    - Budget Impact on 2008-2 Run Cycle -- J.M. Gibson
    - Cutbacks at Other Synchrotrons - J.M. Gibson
    - Future of the SPX Project -- J.M. Gibson
  - Formation of XOR Beamline Advisory Committees -- G. Srajer
  - Proprietary Rate Update -- D. Mills
  - APS Response to the Structural Biology Cross-cut Review Report -- D. Mills
  - Argonne Smoking Policy -- R. Gerig
- Vigorous exchange of ideas
- Working lunch
- Executive session to discuss specific agenda items.
  - Users Meeting
  - Subcommittee Reports
  - Advocacy Efforts

# Weekly Operations Meeting

- A representative from the APSUO and PUC attend.
- Weekly APS high-level management operations meetings are held Monday morning.
- Associate and Deputy Lab Directors and Division Directors
- Long-term machine schedule set.
- Representatives report user concerns and requests such as new fill patterns for the storage ring.
- Two standard agenda items are lab safety and accelerator operations.
  - Safety includes new regulations and a report regarding incidents occurring during the past week
  - Accelerator operations includes machine performance and beamline down-time reports
- General discussion

# Subcommittees

- Organization of Users' Meeting
- Selection of candidates for APSUO Elections
- Award subcommittees
  - Franklin Award
  - Compton Award
  - Student Poster Prize Award
- Review of the General User Proposal Program (Ad Hoc)
- Formation of Beamline Advisory Committees for each of the X-ray Science Division sectors at the APS (Ad Hoc)

# Other Duties and Opportunities for Input

- The APSUO chair has Ex-officio Membership on the Scientific Advisory Committee.
- Chair or designee serves on cross-cut review panel and beamline review panel. These reviews cover both the quality of the science produced as well as the overall management of the beamlines.
- APSUO has a voice in Partner User Proposal Selection. Partner User Proposals are agreements between a user group and the APS. Typically, the user group brings something of value to the beamline and in return gets guaranteed beamtime.
- Planning of Monthly User Operations Meeting. These are open to the entire user community as well as APS employees.
- Meet with review committees such as DOE and University of Chicago

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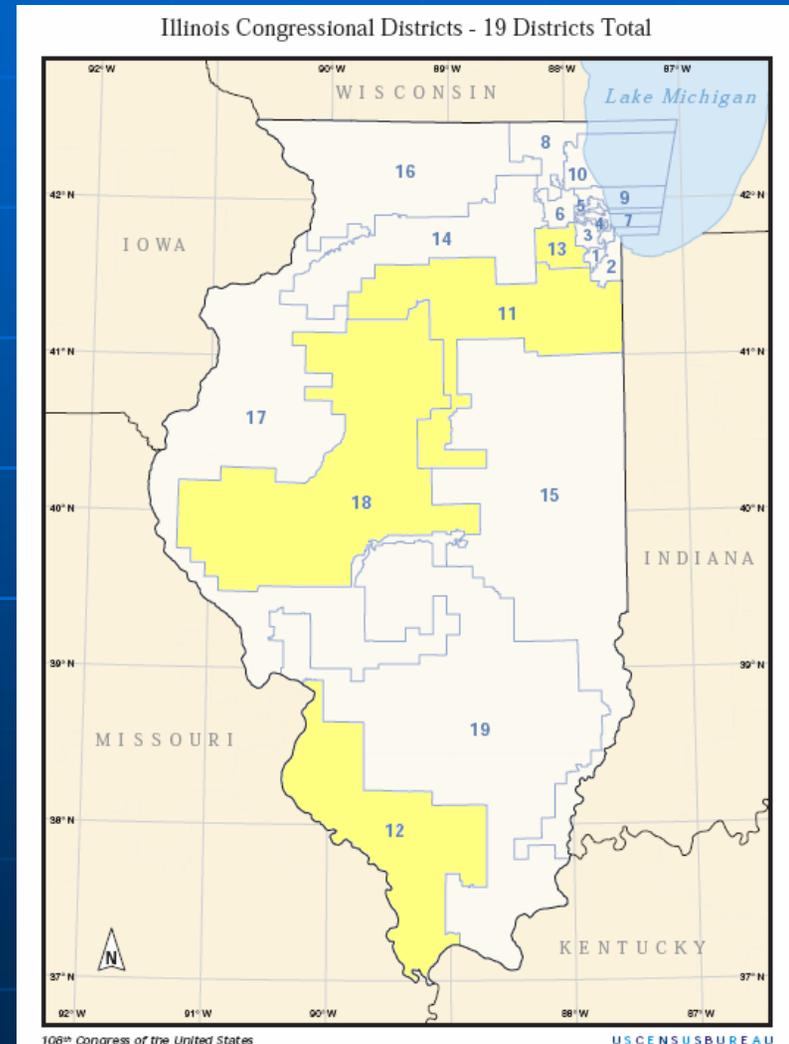
- Franklin and Compton Awards

# Facility Advocacy

- One of the APSUO's most important activities is advocacy for the facility.
- NUFO and SNUG are critical to this effort.
- NUFO with the help of the American Physical Society organized several email campaigns to the House and Senate.
- NUFO with UEC help organized local congressional visits for users.
- SNUG organizes yearly visits to Washington DC.
- In general, the facilities have been relatively successful in getting their users to respond to directed email.
- In these uncertain budgetary times, will users begin to ignore our repeated calls for help?
- Confusion regarding the rules for government or contractor employees.

# Illinois Representatives Visited

- Barack Obama
  - Steve Robinson Ph.D.
- Dick Durbin (twice)
  - Erin Collinson
  - Kathleen Rooney
- Jerry Weller 11<sup>th</sup>
- Jerry F. Costello 12<sup>th</sup>
- Judy Biggert 13<sup>th</sup>
- Ray LaHood 18<sup>th</sup>



# Resources

- Desirable to have a system that can be passed from year to year.
- Facilities cannot pay for advocacy efforts.
- Most UEC chairs use their own funds to pay for web services and email.
- Possibility of opening up a bank account for the executive committee.
- Looked into incorporation however, somewhat complicated and requires a long-term commitment that exceeds the term of a committee member.
- Explore ways the University of Chicago can help.

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# Outreach to the User Community



- Each year the vice-chair of the APSUO organizes the Users' Meeting.
- Recently the meeting has grown to include other facilities at Argonne such as CNM and EMC.
- Renamed Users' Week.
- The meeting is typically kicked off with a "political" session.
  - **View from Washington**
  - **DOE Perspective** Patricia Dehmer, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy
  - **Update on the Advanced Photon Source** Murray Gibson, Director, APS
  - **Update on the Center for Nanoscale Materials** Eric Isaacs, Directory, CNM
  - **Update on the Electron Microscopy Center** Dean Miller, Director, EMC
  - **Medium-term Upgrade Strategy and Discussion** Dennis Mills, Deputy Director, APS

# Workshop Organization

- Typically 8-10 workshops,
- Workshop topics submitted by the community and picked by the Users' Meeting subcommittee.
- Each full-day workshop has a budget of \$4000.00 for travel or registration reimbursement.
- Last year the workshops were organized around an upgrade theme.
- Science based and cross-disciplinary to attract users from CNM, EMC, and IPNS.

# Highlights From Last Year's Meeting



- More than 740 users attended—the most in the history of this meeting.
- Over 180 posters presented.
- Student poster prize
- Three students have been invited to give 15-minute oral presentations in the Monday afternoon plenary session on the basis of their poster abstracts.
  - APS: Michael Gramlich, University of Missouri-Columbia
  - CNM: Nataliya A. Yufa, University of Chicago
  - EMC: James Wilson, Northwestern University

# Highlights From Last Year's Meeting

- Special Science Session devoted to the possible upgrade of the APS.
- Some workshops to cover the new science possible with an ERL source.
  - Coherent X-ray Microscopy
  - Hard X-ray Nanoprobe--Present and Future
  - Time-Resolved Studies
- Other workshops science based rather than technique based so that users from all of the facilities can participate.
  - Drug Discovery at the APS
  - Frontiers of Structure Analysis Using Powders
  - Nanotomography
  - In Situ Studies of Interfacial Reactivity
  - Intermediate Energy Science at the APS
  - Kinetics and Dynamics in Soft Condensed Matter
- Hands-on courses held at the Center for Nanoscale Materials.
- Facility Tours

# Compton and Franklin Award

- The Arthur H. Compton award was established in 1995 by the APSUO to recognize an important scientific or technical accomplishment at, or beneficial to, the Advanced Photon Source. The award consists of a certificate and \$2500.
- In 2004, in conjunction with the Advanced Photon Source, the APSUO established the Rosalind Franklin Young Investigator Award to recognize an important scientific or technical accomplishment by a young investigator at, or beneficial to, the APS. The award, which consists of a plaque plus and a monetary award of \$1000.
- Awards are biennial and presented at the Users' Meeting.

# Meeting Report

- Meeting report published in Synchrotron radiation news
- Each workshop had its own summary written by the chair

## MEETING REPORTS

### Argonne Users Week 2007

In 2007 the Advanced Photon Source (APS) joined with several other Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) user facilities to host Users' Week at ANL on May 7-12, 2007. The other facilities hosting sessions at the meeting were the Center for Nanoscale Materials (CNM), the Electron Microscopy Center (EMC), and the Intense Pulsed Neutron Source (IPNS). For the first time, these facilities participated in an integrated fashion with individual science sessions and joint cross-disciplinary workshops. More than 740 registered participants, the most in the history of this meeting, attended the 4 general science sessions and 11 joint workshops.

After welcoming remarks from APS Users' Organization Chair Gene Ice (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), House Representative Judy Biggert from the 13th Congressional District of Illinois, Argonne's home district, addressed the meeting. She began with the promising message that "things are looking good for DOE and the user facilities." She pointed out that there is broad bi-partisan support for science in the U.S. House and Senate and that direct advocacy by the scientific community is critical to continued strong support for science funding. During the past year it appeared as if the continuing resolution in Congress was going to last for the entire 2007 fiscal period, effectively freezing budgets at the 2006 level. Because of the efforts of user advocacy groups such as the Synchrotron and Neutron Users' Group (SNUG) (<http://www.snugroups.org/>) and the National User Facility Organization (NUFO) (<http://www.bnl.gov/nufo/>), over 2000 letters were sent by the user community to Congressional Representatives, prompting the partial restoration of the 2007 budget for science in the United States. Representative Biggert said this effort was particularly helpful in facilitating this change. In closing she emphasized a message of "innovation and competitiveness" and added, "many American companies are echoing these two words." It is interesting to note



This year's recipients of the Arthur H. Compton Award, Andrzej Joachimiak (Argonne National Laboratory) and Gerd Rosenbaum (University of Georgia) are shown receiving their plaques during the Argonne DOE-BES User Facilities User Meeting. From left are APS Users Organization Chair Gene Ice (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), incoming APS Users Organization Chair Tim Graber (University of Chicago), Joachimiak, Rosenbaum, and APS Director Murray Gibson.

that these topics were a central theme in the National Academy of Sciences' report *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*. Finally, she urged National Laboratory staff to look for opportunities to collaborate with American industry, especially small business.

Speaking on behalf of the Department of Energy, Pedro Montano, DOE's Program Manager for X-ray and Neutron Scattering Facilities, presented the specifics of the 2007 Office of Basic Energy Sciences budget, along with a list of priorities for the future. These included a second target station for SNS, an upgrade of ALS, and an upgrade of the APS. He added that there are budget constraints that will determine the time line of these upgrades and stressed the importance of user input to help guide their evolution.

The session continued with a facility update from APS Director Murray Gibson. He began by remembering Joe Smith, Louis

Block Professor Emeritus in Geophysics at the University of Chicago, who passed away in April of 2007 shortly before this meeting. Gibson recalled Smith's scientific legacy, which included the founding of the Center for Advanced Radiation Sources, authorship of more than 400 scientific articles, work on Apollo 11 lunar samples, and seminal research regarding the use of zeolites in industry as molecular sieves. He continued by congratulating Peter Chupas on his recent Sidhu Award from the Pittsburg Diffraction Society for his work on rapid Pair Distribution Function (PDF) data collection.

Recalling events over the past year, Gibson noted that the APS had 3,274 visiting users and that Life Sciences CAT, Sector 21, saw first light and had begun its commissioning phase. Additionally, the medium- and high-resolution inelastic X-ray spectrometers (HERIX) and (MERIX), located in Sector 30 at the new Inelastic X-ray



**Thank You**