

MEETING OF THE NHERI USER FORUM COMMITTEE
January 12, 2022, 2:00pm Central

MINUTES

In Attendance: Mohammad, Stephanie Pilkington, Stephanie Paal, Wei, Antonio, Maggie, Tori, Claudia, David

At the beginning of the session, Stephanie Pilkington encourages the UF members to send her a personal message with bio information so that she can post it on the UF Twitter account (https://twitter.com/NHERI_UserForum). Antonio requests the meeting minutes to be updated on the UF website, and Wei will follow up with Chris to do that.

1. Approval of meeting minutes from the Nov 10, 2021 meeting

Mohammad made a motion to approve the minutes: Wei seconds; no objections.

2. Report from User Satisfaction Survey committee

Maggie: In response to the follow-up request for survey data sent last December, three facilities have responded with survey data and another three facilities have responded that they will provide the survey data by the end of January. Designsafe staff has followed up early this week to set a course on collaborating efforts to set up the designsafe survey and UF survey. Still in the process of working with SimCenter—have not heard from SimCenter based on the request sent from last December.

3. Report from NCO representatives

UF members could not attend the NCO meeting in December due to schedule conflicts. Mohammad went over the NCO meeting minutes and informed the UF that the meeting covered the following topics:

- An update from ECO (which will be provided by the ECO representatives later).
- Reviewed the OPEP.

4. Report from ECO representatives

Stephanie Paal: the last ECO meeting attended was from November. Most of the topics discussed in that meeting were related to NHERI Summer institute and Summer REU programs: i) how the site representatives are going to present and how the sessions will be conducted (breakout sessions for attendants to choose); ii) the application status for the

REU programs.

Mohammad: Showed important dates for REU:

- January 19, 4pm CT—Recruitment
- June 1—Block 1; June 13—Block 2.
- February 4—application deadline
- August 8-9—REU Research Symposium @TAAC (approved)

And for the Summer Institute:

- June 20-22—Summer Institute
- February 11—application deadline

5. Report from Facilities Scheduling representatives

Claudia: The NHERI team received excellent feedback from AGU conference and even the president of NOAA went and congratulated the team; Five years NHERI report will be released by the end of this month; and, the committee is still testing the online scheduling tool. The committee is also i) planning the 2022 site visit to OSU and UCSD, ii) attending the EERI (in Salt Lake City) and EMI (in Baltimore); iii) also interested in attending 2022 AGU in Chicago or Coastal Engineering Conference in Australia. Based on the feedback from the AGU conference, advice was made to label the sand for better understanding from the visitors. To help this committee better connect with the community and educate the public on the experimental campaign, can UF use the Twitter account to communicate with the academic community (students, young professionals included) and ask for feedbacks on how to improve site outreach efforts.

Stephanie Pilkington: Yes and we can solicit questions such as what would like to see from the wall of wind to learn public feedbacks on what content they would like to see in the facilities (e.g., wind tunnels). Claudia will follow up with Stephanie offline to flesh out

some details on setting this up.

6. Report from Technology Transfer representatives

Yazen and Shane cannot attend the meeting. But Shane is able to send in his notes to provide an update on TTC: Shane introduced Yazen to Bill Holmes (committee chair of TTC) and Yazen is now on the email list for the committee. On the TTC activities, Bill is looking to form two subcommittees: 1. Work more closely with PI's during their projects to help with tech transfer, 2. Develop web-based tools to help with this collaboration. TTC will be fleshing out the scope of those SCs as we move forward.

Bill mentioned an "All-NHERI" meeting happening in DC in February that he was hoping everyone could attend. He didn't give dates or any other specifics, and when I emailed to ask I didn't get a response. Stephanie Paal indicated that the same meeting was mentioned in the ECO meeting as well, but without any further specifics from the meeting. Mohammad will ask about this meeting in the next NCO meeting and update the UF after that.

7. Initiatives on Communication and Outreach subcommittee

Mohammad: UF members can chip in ideas on if a Communication and Outreach subcommittee is needed and we can appoint one UF member for this effort. In the future, we also can request an additional UF member to be elected and be in charge of this committee. Also, bring up one action item for the entire UF members to consider: what we can do to improve UF in the New Year 2022? Considering the challenge from COVID, is there anything we can do to help the community?

Stephanie: If we initiate this (Communication and Outreach) subcommittee, can we include Robin who is maintaining an ECO Twitter account and we can hear their feedback as well.

Mohammad: will bring this up in the NCO meeting to get their opinion.

8. Others

Maggie: requests Mohammad to remind the NCO about the update on the facility contact list. So far, only saw feedback from Jeniffer Bridge.

Mohammad: asks if it is possible to use the Twitter account to conduct the user satisfaction survey? Is it possible to make the survey easier and encourage more responses in the future using social media tools?

Stephanie: A concern of doing that (conducting survey using Twitter) is how to confirm the identity of the respondents because everyone has access to such a survey on Twitter.

Maggie: We have made several changes over the past years, and the current goal is to keep the survey questions consistent. Next month I will start to review the survey contents and then we can discuss using Twitter for conducting the survey.

Antonio: Anything that can help improve the presence and visibility of the UF is valuable. Maybe we can talk to NCO about that idea.

Mohammad: We can have a joint meeting with ECO and NCO and talk about their perspectives on using social media (e.g., Twitter) to promote committee presence.

Stephanie: suggests bringing this up in the next NCO meeting.

Stephanie: Since this is our first meeting of the year, I am going to use this opportunity to take a group photo (on zoom).

Mohammad: we can also have a happy hour with previous UF members and we can ask for their opinion on the idea of establishing a (Communication and Outreach) subcommittee

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm CT.