

Site Access and Science Working Group Report and Report from the GUV Center

*Susan White-DePace
RHIC & AGS Users' Center
Guest, User, Visitor Center
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Overview

- Changes to FACTS and its impact on BNL
- Expediting approval of guest appointments
- Computer Use Agreements
- Update on National User Facility Organization
- Update on GUV Center

Changes to FACTS

- Result of an IG Audit of Foreign Visits & Assignments
- Audit found deficiencies in:
 - Inaccurate, incomplete, inconsistent information in FACTS
 - Hosts not fulfilling their responsibilities
 - Close-out reports were not being done
- Changes will occur starting October 1, 2008

Changes to FACTS

- What is the issue?
 - The changes being implemented to FACTS are not compatible with the current guest processing mechanisms at BNL
 - BNL guest appointment dates are not currently driven by visa status
 - Visa status can be from 3 months to years
 - BNL guests appointments are currently driven by indices approvals
 - Indices approvals are granted for 2 years

FACTS Close-out Scenario

Existing Scenario

Appointment Start Date

1/1/2008

Visa Type: B1

Visits: Comes to BNL 5 times over a
2-year period under 5 different
I-94 cards

Appointment End Date

12/31/2009

FACTS Close-out Date

1/15/2010

October 1 Scenario

Appointment Start Date

1/1/2008

Visa type: B1

Visits: Comes to BNL 1 time under
I-94 card issued from 1/1/2008
through 3/31/2008

Appointment End Date

3/31/2008

FACTS Close-out Date

4/15/2008

Goals

- Develop a system that complies with intent of IG Report
- Minimize workload on GUV Center staff, hosts, and SMEs
- Minimize programming efforts required
- Minimize impact on guests of BNL

Expediting Approvals for non-US citizens

- Weekly expediting is paying off
- Sensitive country guest applications
 - Total waiting approval: 145 (220)
 - Waiting approval from 60 to 175 days: 71
 - Waiting approval from 20 to 175 days: 109 (157)
 - Waiting approval from 1 and 57 days: 74

Numbers in parentheses reflect situation in January 2008.

Computer Use Agreements

- Effective August 5th, all guests will be notified of new requirements:
 - Sign a Computer Use Agreement
 - Retake Cyber Security Training
- Issue: Identifying who has a computer account and where and who doesn't have a computer account
- GUV Center/IDT working jointly on this project
- Target completion date is August 31, 2008

National User Facility Organization

- Very successful meeting at PNNL in April
- Invited speakers from American Chemical Society, American Physical Society, Jack Bagley
- Message:
 - users need to do more
 - need to do it regularly
 - need to hit from all levels
- Three presentations from UEC Chairs, Brant Johnson presented

National User Facility Organization

- NUFO adopted a charter at April meeting
- Adopted 3-chairs scenario that the RHIC UEC works under
- Charter calls for 3 scientists, 3 administrators, 3 appointees
- Rene Bellwied, Brant Johnson, and Susan White-DePace were elected to the Steering Committee
- Abhay Deshpande and Jim Sowinski are members of NUFO

National User Facility Organization

- First telephone conference today
- Monthly telephone conferences schedule
- Rigorous agenda
 - Planning yearly outreach efforts
 - Compiling outreach representative across the country
 - Compiling national user statistics
 - Working with other recognized groups (e.g., SNUG & ACI)
 - Provide outreach information on web site

National User Facility Organization

- NUFO has a new web site <http://www.nufo.org>
 - Membership
 - Charter
 - NUFO News
 - Annual Meetings
 - Outreach efforts will be posted in the future

Update from the GUV Center

- Sally Swain left the laboratory
- GUV Center role in assisting departments is increasing
- Efforts to improve communications
 - GUV Center Steering Committee
 - Department Administrators Committee
 - GIS Committee
 - GUV Info
- Hours of operation may change