Report from the EPICS Council

June 15, 2018

Meeting Attendees:
Richard Farnsworth (BNL)
Daniel Flath (SLAC)
Steven Hartman (ORNL)
Jeff Hill (LANL)
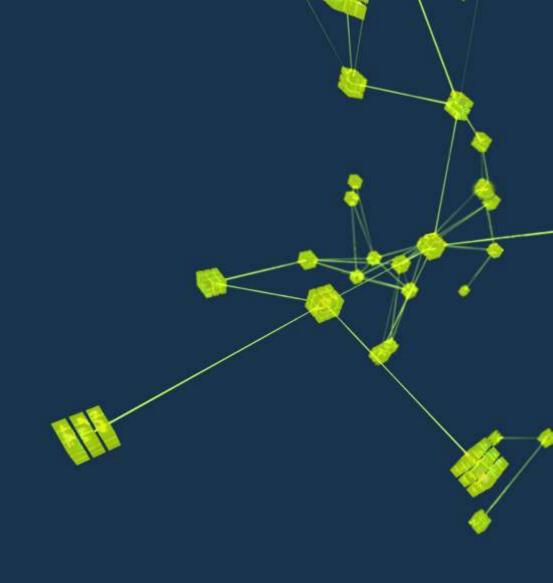Timo Korhonen (ESS)
Ralph Lange (ITER)
John Maclean (ANL)
Ulrik Pedersen (DLS)
Karen White (ORNL)

EPICS

The EPICS Council was created in September 2016

The EPICS Council is formed to optimize the use of resources available at investing facilities to ensure the ongoing viability of EPICS as the control system toolkit of choice for scientific facilities. To that end, the Council will:

- Prioritize major EPICS upgrade projects for Base and Extensions to guide resource allocation decisions at investing facilities.
- Develop a roadmap for future EPICS Core and Extensions development to facilitate planning for all EPICS sites. The roadmap will be developed using technical input from the chairs of relevant working groups (currently EPICS Core Working Group and CS-Studio Working Group).
- Provide support to control system managers in promoting EPICS development efforts to their organization leadership.
- Select semi-annual EPICS Collaboration Meeting sites and dates.
- Ensure that EPICS continues to be an open collaboration and that contributions are open-source.

—from The EPICS Council Charter (2018)

EPICS

What the Council is and is not

The Council can

- Help coordinate and optimize the use of resources
- Facilitate sharing of development effort and support across projects
- Develop roadmaps in collaboration with technical working groups
- Encourage the growth and the long term viability of the collaboration

The Council cannot

- Direct people to do things
- Direct people on how to do things
- Provide resources or budget

EPICS

The Council currently has representation from 11 projects. Karen White (ORNL) is the Council Chair.

- APS (John Maclean)

- Diamond Light Source (Mark Herron)

- European Spallation Source (Henrik Carling)

- ITER (Anders Wallander)

- LANSCE (Jeff Hill)

- NSLS-II (Richard Farnsworth)

- PSI (Markus) Janousch

- SLAC Accelerator (Joe DeLong)

- SLAC Instruments (Daniel Flath)

- SNS Accelerator (Karen White)

- SNS and HFIR Instruments (Steven Hartman)

EPICS

The Council met Tuesday June 12, 2018 prior to the EPICS Collaboration Meeting

- Collaboration resources

- New EPICS website development

- Documentation initiative

- Collaboration member recognition

- Network security proposal

- Vendor management

- PVA Gateway needs

- Training

- Council Membership

- Reports from working groups (EPICS-Core, areaDetector, CS-Studio)

- Working session

EPICS

Highlights from the June 12 Council Meeting

- A new EPICS website is under development
  - We need volunteers for porting existing web content and developing / editing new content for the site
- Documentation needs
  - We need volunteers for producing user documentation, particularly documentation for new application developers
- We will explore opportunities for using the leverage of the larger EPICS community for device support from hardware vendors
- We will work to collect existing training materials and encourage that new training materials developed be shared across the collaboration
- We will work with existing working groups and facility representatives to facilitate contributions to the collaboration
  - The working groups are serving the community effectively

EPICS

The Council needs ongoing input and support from the broader EPICS community

- Projects with emerging needs from the collaboration should work with the Council and/or join the Council to facilitate shared development efforts
- The collaboration needs new contributors. Support at all technical levels is helpful: documentation, testing, software development, training

Contact a Council member or the respective working group for more information.

EPICS

More information about the Council will be made available to the community

A page will be added to the EPICS website with information from the Council:

- Council members and contact information
- How to request representation on the council
- Summaries of Council meeting minutes and closeout presentations (e.g., this document)
- The Council will plan to hold monthly teleconference meetings and once per year face-to-face meetings

The council needs input from the community and will endeavor to be open and transparent with the community.

EPICS

Thank You

EPICS