



**SSURF**  
Society for Science  
at User Research Facilities

**Introducing the Society for Science  
at  
User Research Facilities**

*Richard Leonard*

*May 1, 2018*

# Presentation Overview

- Chronology
- Mission
- Governance
- Membership
- Past Activities
- Current Initiatives
- Planned Activities

# Chronology

**1997** first formal meeting of user administrators

**2003** user organization representatives included in annual meeting

**2006** formalizes under NUFO with an elected Steering Committee

**2010** USA Science & Engineering Festival

**2011-2014** Annual Capitol Hill User Science Exhibition

**2016** SSURF incorporates as a 501(c)(3)

# SSURF Mission

*“**Purpose.** (···) advancing the science performed at user research facilities by (1) supporting their professional communities and research networks through the sharing of best practices and facilitation of professional development, and (2) promoting public awareness about the benefits and significance of the facilities and their research.”*

# A Community of Facilities

- Nuclear and particle
- Light sources
- Materials
- Neutron
- Supercomputers
- Astronomical
- Nanoscale
- Biological/environmental
- Laser and fusion



**“Science Independent”**

# A “Community of Communities”

- Administrators
- Users
- User Committees
- Facility Managers
- Government Affairs
- Communications



# Why is SSURF Unique?

- Education on behalf of the community as a whole
- Third-party validator on user science
- Unified message at a national level
- Coordination among facilities for benchmarking, best practices, and operational improvement
- Bring communities together

# Governance

## Board of Directors

Paul Runci, Chair *(PNNL)*  
Eugene Kelly *(Colorado State U.)*  
Richard Leonard *(Battelle)*  
Jodi Muckelbauer *(Bristol Myers Squibb)*  
Stephen Wasserman *(Independent)*  
Alison Hatt *(Lawrence Berkley)*

## Operations Committee

Jason Benedict *(State U. of NY @ Buffalo)*  
Jill Berryman *(NSLC)*  
Jen Bohon *(Case Western Reserve U.)*  
Brian Landes *(Dow Chemical)*  
Tony Lanzirotti *(U. of Chicago)*  
Terry Law *(PNNL)*  
Crystal Schrof *(ORNL)*  
Susan Strasser *(independent)*  
Susan White-DePace *(ANL)*  
Beth Wurzburg *(independent)*

# Membership Categories

## Organizational

- User administrator or designee
- Facility director or designee

## Individual

- Research/Professionals
- Student
- Honorary



# Recent & Upcoming Activities

- Testimony before U.S. House of Representatives Energy & Commerce Committee, January 9, 2018 at hearing: *“DOE Modernization: Advancing DOE’s Mission for National, Economic, and Energy Security of the United States”*
- SSURF Capitol Hill Science Expo at invitation of Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee, April 25, 2018
- 2018 SSURF Annual Meeting, American Center for Physics, College Park, MD June 26-27.



**Please Join Us!**

at the

**2018 SSURF Capitol Hill Science Expo and Reception**

Wednesday, April 25 from 4-6pm  
Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 366  
(Energy & Natural Resources Committee Hearing Room)

The SSURF Expo will feature exhibits and live demonstrations by scientists from fifteen national scientific user facilities, in research areas including: computing, nano- and materials sciences, chemistry, life sciences, environmental science, and physics.

Refreshments will be served.

*Sponsored by:*

*The U.S. Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee*

**America's Science Works**



# SSURF Annual Meeting 2018

June 26-28, 2018

Location: The American Center for Physics, College Park, Maryland

*Early Bird registration is available until April 15, and all attendees must pre-register by June 1.*

This year's annual meeting will focus on user facilities as a critical and under-recognized component of the nation's infrastructure. Like roads, energy systems, airports, and other critical infrastructure systems, user facilities constitute a network that fosters America's prosperity; they enable the innovation at the heart of U.S. economic competitiveness, scientific leadership, and national security. For details, the tentative agenda is available on the [meeting website](#).

The meeting will highlight new and evolving tools, approaches, and partnerships that are underway to address the needs of a changing scientific landscape and strengthen communication to stakeholders about the scientific discoveries taking place in the user facilities and their impact on our nation. In addition, a limited number of SSURF-sponsored Congressional office visits will take place on June 28. Note that Early Bird registration is required for individuals interested in participating in these visits.

For more information and to register, please visit [SSURF Annual Meeting 2018](#).

# Past Activities

- Invited member of team to rewrite of DOE Order 142.3A on Foreign Visits & Assignments
- Testified to Congress at the U.S House of Representatives Energy and Environment Subcommittee hearing on “Department of Energy User Facilities: Utilizing the Tools of Science to Drive Innovation through Fundamental Research”
- Joined the American Physical Society in communication on the federal helium reserve
- Sent document to State Department on visas for foreign scientists
- Held a special symposium at AAAS on user facilities

# Current Initiatives

- Common unique identifiers at user facilities\*
- Training reciprocity pilot program jointly with Office of Science facilities\*
- Engaging with NSF facilities/Align with LFW Objectives

\*Direct outcome of the 2016 Annual Meeting. Hopes to expand to others.

# Be a Part of SSURF

- Tell us what you want
- Give us your ideas, comments, suggestions
- Help us build SSURF
- Be a part of SSURF's events
- Help us spread the word
- Put SSURF on your web page
- Become a member

# Contact Information

[www.ssurf.org](http://www.ssurf.org)

[info@ssurf.org](mailto:info@ssurf.org)

*Mailing address:*

*Society for Science at User Research Facilities*

*P.O. Box 4782*

*Wheaton, IL 60189*

# Annual Membership Fees

Facility Membership--based on facility operating budgets

- <\$30M: \$2500
- \$30M-\$90M: \$5000
- \$90M+: \$7500

Individual Membership

- Scientists/
- Professionals: \$30
- Post-docs: \$15
- Students: free

Note: SSURF membership fees are allowable expenses (FAR 31.205-43)