SCHOOL REPORT

School: Oxford School

Specific Title: 13th Oxford School on Neutron Scattering

Dates: 2nd – 13th September 2013

Venue: St. Anne's College / Clarendon Lab, University of Oxford

Organizer's Name: Ross Stewart

Organizer's Affiliation: ISIS

Total budget: £74.1k

Maximum NMI3-II support: €14k

Scope

This two-week classroom based school covers basic theory of neutron scattering, neutron sources and instrumentation, scattering techniques, and application to scientific areas including: magnetism, soft matter, disordered materials, chemical applications, biological applications, engineering and earth sciences. Each day of the school consists of 3-4 hours of lectures and 1.5 hours of tutorial classes. In addition there is a week-long proposal writing exercise where the student write and submit neutron experimental proposals to a mock access-panel.

The school is run every two years, and is aimed at doctoral students embarking on a programme of neutron research.

Students

The school welcomed 55 students to the 13th Oxford School (50 residential places at St Anne's College, and 5 non-residential students). The breakdown statistics are shown below:

Gender		
Male	31	
Female	24	

Home institution	า	
UK	24	
EEA (non UK)	27	
RoW	4	

Scientific Area	
Magnetism/HCM	16
Engineering	8
Disordered	6
Soft Matter	10
Chemistry	10
Biology	3
Earth Sciences	2

The total cost per student of accommodation and board at St Anne's College is £1260. Therefore the total accommodation fees for EEA (non-UK) students are £34020. This is well over double the agreed NMI3 (NaMES) support level for the school.

Organisation

The school is run by the organizing committee:

Dr. Ross Stewart (ISIS)

Prof. Andrew Boothroyd (Oxford)

Prof. Sean Langridge (ISIS)

Dr. Victoria Garcia Sakai (ISIS)

Prof. Gerry Lander (ILL)
Dr. Luke Clifton (ISIS)

The location of the school is split between St Anne's College, Oxford (accommodation, meals, evening lectures and social events) and Clarendon laboratory of the Department of Physics at the University of Oxford. A cash/cost breakdown is provided below

Income	
ISIS	£30.9k
Fees	£27.1k
NMI3	£12k
ILL	£4.1k
Total	£74.1

Expenditure	
St Anne's	£63.6
Oxford Uni	£3.5k
Lecturer T&S	£2k
Materials	£4.4k
Social	£0.6k
Total	£74.1

Results

Judging from the feedback – both written and oral, the school was judged a particular success this year. The new format of splitting into themed parallel lectures at the end of week two, and the new mock facilities access panel was particularly well appreciated. The feedback on the lecture courses provided valuable pointers as to who to keep, and who to replace for the next school (see feedback analysis attached)

Despite the fact that the OSNS is a purely classroom based school, and therefore doesn't correspond to most students wishes (for hands on training) we are convinced that the school is a valuable training resource for the UK and Europe. We plan therefore to organize the next school in 2015 along similar lines.

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