

**Basic Energy Sciences (BES) Response to the Report of the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee
Committee of Visitors (COV) Review of the BES Scientific User Facilities (SUF) Division**

Date of COV: April 11-12, 2019

Date of Response: August 8, 2019

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	COV General Recommendation/Finding	BES Response
1	The current very lean staffing for SUFD means that attention must be paid to workload and succession planning.	BES concurs with this recommendation. BES discussed the SUFD staffing needs with Office of Science management and received strong support for addressing the most critical staffing needs, including receiving approval to backfill the neutron science program manager position.
2	SUFD (and BES in general) is encouraged to work with the Laboratories and facilities to improve workforce diversity at the user facilities. Although most, if not all of the laboratories that house user facilities have implemented procedures for improving diversity, SUFD is encouraged to address the cultural issues.	BES concurs with this recommendation. The DOE Office of Science (SC) is fully committed to fostering safe, diverse, equitable, and inclusive work, research, and funding environments that value mutual respect and personal integrity. BES will continue to work with SC management to provide feedback to the laboratories on diversity and inclusion through the annual lab planning process.
3	The Accelerator and Detector Research (ADR) program is highly effective and is important for the long-term development of the user facilities. All white papers should be entered into the Office of Science Portfolio Analysis and Management System (PAMS).	BES appreciates COV's endorsement of the importance of ADR program and is committed to maintaining a robust and balanced portfolio that underpins BES's facility needs. BES agrees that all white papers should be entered into the DOE PAMS system.
4	The Committee feels that significant improvements in existing facilities are possible with the development in software analytical tools, high throughput hardware (e.g., robotics) and better support at existing instruments. The Center for Advanced Mathematics for Energy Research Applications (CAMERA) project is a highly successful example and use of its software should be encouraged especially for new or upgraded beamlines.	BES concurs with this recommendation. The scientific user facilities will continue to develop software tools and advanced hardware capabilities to support current and future instruments. A meeting was held in June 2019 among BES and ASCR facilities data experts to discuss data management architecture needs. BES is committed to prioritizing funding support for this effort through the budget and strategic planning process for scientific user facilities, for FY2020 and beyond.
5	SUFD should find new ways to inform potential industrial users of how the user	The BES facilities have supported many successful industrial user projects over the

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	facilities can solve problems that standard tools cannot address, such as in-situ and in-operando characterization for materials development.	years. BES will continue to explore ways to facilitate greater industrial participation at our user facilities. Planning is underway to establish periodic industrial outreach workshops at BES user facilities.
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