

GrEAT Call

Tuesday 11th February 2020, 9:30-10:30 UK (17:30-18:30 China)

Present: Siong Heng, Jordan McGinn, Andersson N.A., Patrick, Shigeng Song, Stuart Reid, Xian Chen, Yi-Ming Hu

Siong: Thanks everyone for making this call, there's a few agenda items to discuss.

1) Location of next great meeting:

Siong: The original idea was to have the meeting before funding ran out for first half of year, however, due to travel restrictions and the coronavirus, it's unfeasible to have meeting in the first half of year. This will have implications since we are all about exchange and travel, so we should request that funding be extended again. Although there maybe other things in our minds we should think about the possibility of a host for the next meeting. The original idea was to have it in UK, when we discussed this last time no obvious candidates put forward, so now I will pause for comments.

Nils: A meeting now would not be practical, but we should put some pressure on possible hosts, myself included, perhaps spread to areas outside Glasgow.

Siong: Agreed, try to spread things out as much as possible. This depends on STFC extending the funds, but we should look for UK host for the next GrEAT meeting. Anyone else? OK I'll move onto the next agenda item.

2) Guidelines:

Siong: We are aware that these guidelines are geared towards Chinese students visiting the UK but we can also do another for UK students visiting China. I would like people to look through this. Some students may arrive with an idea of the project but may not know what to expect. It's a good tool as well for supervisor and supervisee interaction and the preparation of visas and accommodation. I hope this draft will get feedback after I send this out through e-mail. Next time we can have the UK to China guidelines. Any immediate feedback is good.

Patrick: They could have some papers to read for students before they visit that is outside of their background knowledge.

Siong: OK thanks for the feedback. Let's go onto the next agenda.

3) LIGO in your hands:

The link will take you to a directory that has a list of outreach material. A translated Chinese manual for the tabletop interferometers: LIGO in your hands. It can do many things and can be used to teach students about finesse, lock and so on. The GrEAT network has two of these kits, one of them was already sent out and another kit can be sent elsewhere. We can order more of these kits although depending on funding we can maybe order one or two. I am highlighting the Chinese manual, this shows how to set it up, but you can use this as a teaching manual around this to set up labs. We should arrange the shipping for these. I

believe many Chinese universities closed until end of March but I will like to remind our colleagues to have a look at this to see if they like one for their own institute.

Xian: I would like one but don't know how to use it.

Siong: The idea is to have the creator Borja to go out and help set up.

Xian: Makes sense, maybe I can also get others interested.

Siong: What I intended to do is to send an email to remind them that LIGO in your hands exists and we can do great things with it, but word of mouth is good too.

Xian: Can I send this manual around to one or two people?

Siong: That should be fine.

4) Other outreach:

Siong: I just wanted to highlight that there's a directory called futurum article. These are interviews from the great network. This has been translated to Chinese, there was some issues last time like Sheffield being missing but these are fixed now. I would like to encourage people to circulate this article. These articles are targeting high school students so maybe a bit simple for undergrad. There are other things like banners and handouts that I would encourage people to use.

Siong wishes people to stay safe and concludes the meeting.