

LANSCCE 2020 User Survey Q&A:

The vast majority of the user feedback was very positive. In an effort of continuous improvement, we are listing only the suggestions for improvement.

Remote Access & COVID-19 related

LANSCCE is required to follow all LANL, DOE, and state COVID-19 requirements for the safety of all staff and users.

Will the possibility of the options of remote access be continued?

There are plans to continue the remote access option and improve connectivity.

Can the process of issuing a cryptocard for remote experiments be expedited?

Management is looking into restructuring the remote access of users by moving access to DAQ system to a different network environment.

LANSCCE Proposal Submission and Decision Process Related

Where do you find detailed information about proposal submission and deadlines?

Please visit the LANSCCE Home page (URL) and proposal submission webpage (URL). All email communication includes information on submission process and deadlines. Please sign up for the LANSCCE mailing list [here](#).

Why did it take 3-4 months to communicate the PAC review results?

LANSCCE management is aware of the delay in communication and addressed it in 2021. Future communications will be timelier.

Are PAC presentations an option for all LANSCCE calls (pRad, NS, MS)?

Currently only the pRad PAC has a presentation as part of the review. If you are interested and feel strongly that presentations should be part of the review process, please reach out to the User Program Coordinator, Nina Roelofs, nroelofs@lanl.gov.

How does the PAC prevent conflict of interest of a reviewer?

Reviewers who have a conflict of interest do not review the proposal. They may be part of the proposal discussion at the discretion of the sub-committee chair.

LANSCCE User On boarding Process Related

How can issues with site access approval for Foreign Nationals be prevented?

LANL is required to confirm all immigration documents before issuing a badge. Please make sure you have all paperwork available when being badged. The User Office provides help and a list of required documents.

Is there a possibility to build in contingency to setup the shot at pRad to not lose valuable time for execution of the shots?

pRad is highly oversubscribed and users are advised to plan in setup time when submitting the proposal.

Can training requirements be clearly communicated and assigned before arrival at LANSCCE?

Flight Path specific training is assigned to the users after they register for the experiment. The registration initiates the training assignment and communication.

Work/Beam/Flightpath Related

Are there plans to improve the staffing at FP5/ERNI?

LANSCCE management is exploring options for more robust and sustainable staffing across all the flight paths (and, indeed, the accelerator and facilities).

How is LANSCCE planning to minimize downtime?

LANSCCE operations management is continuously trying to maximize beam availability. NNSA has been making significant investments in recapitalization of the accelerator and in reversing deferred maintenance. LANL has implemented an asset management program pilot at LANSCCE to reduce downtime. Finally, LANL is pursuing several capital investments in LANSCCE that could increase beam availability significantly.

Process Related/Post Experiment

Could the time to transfer data be improved at pRad?

pRad is tracking the time of data transfer. This metric is part of pRad's performance evaluation.

Safety/Training

Why do we need Beryllium hazard training?

This is a LANL required safety policy to address a known legacy hazard at LANSCE.

With LANL's expertise in high explosives, can the HE safety procedures at pRad be reviewed and streamlined?

pRad's HE safety procedures are reviewed each year to ensure that they both meet all safety requirements and that they permit as efficient of operations as they can.

Could radiation counters be made available for users?

Counters are available for users now. They are part of the flight path briefing. Please note, that these counters cannot be used to survey and release samples.

Improvement Suggestions

Are there plans to replace the cameras at the two ICE Houses?

LANSCE is ordering two new cameras for the ICE House flight paths.

Can downtimes be better communicated?

The CCR staff will be reminded to post down times and anticipated returns to production on the LANSCE status screen.

Planned New Capabilities

Over the next few years, LANSCE plans to improve the capabilities at its various experimental areas. In particular,

- An additional flux monitor for WNR beam characterization will be available. (FY22)
- A flash soft x-ray system will be available for pRad. (FY22)
- Urania capability with the PHELIX driver will be available for pRad. (FY22)
- WNR Flight Path 60R is being upgraded. (FY22)
- The Lujan Center 1L target will be upgraded to improve its flux in parts of the spectrum relevant to nuclear physics experiments. We expect the spectrum and flux available for material science experiments to be unchanged. (FY22)

- Improved metrology of WNR and Lujan will be available to aid experimental setup. (FY22+)
- A new experimental chamber at IPF for low current nuclear data measurements. (FY23)
- Dynamic high-explosive-driven plutonium experiments will be executed at pRad. (FY24)
- Addition of a modern digital-based low-level radio frequency control system for improved beam stability and availability. (FY24)
- Upgrades to the accelerator controls and timing systems for improved operational performance and availability. (FY24)
- Urania capability with the powder gun driver will be available for pRad. (FY25)

Additionally, a series of workshops in the spring of 2021 identified a variety of potential improvements. We are in the process of prioritizing and developing support for the most important of these. Users interested in discussing these options are encouraged to contact Mike Furlanetto, the LANSCCE User Facility Director.