



Users' Executive Committee Report

Kevin Pitts, UEC Chair

Membership

- **Diverse representation in age and aspects of the laboratory program.**

- **Members:**
 - Emanuela Barberis, Northeastern (CMS)
 - Chris Polly, Indiana (MiniBooNE), *secretary*
 - Dan Hooper, Fermilab (Astrophysics)
 - Lee Sawyer, Louisiana Tech (DØ,ILC)
 - Matthew Jones, Purdue (CDF, CMS)
 - Jean Slaughter, Fermilab (Tevatron, LARP)
 - Sacha Kopp, U. Texas (MINOS)-*past chair*
 - Mitch Soderberg, Yale (MiniBoonNE)
 - Ashutosh Kotwal, Duke (CDF)
 - Kirsten Tollefson, Michigan State (CDF)
 - Greg Landsberg, Brown (DØ,CMS)
 - Peter Wittich, Cornell (CMS)
 - Kevin Pitts, Illinois (CDF)-*chair*

- **Also have Graduate Student Association (GSA) participation**
 - Jorge Benitez, Michigan State (DØ)
 - Tyler Dorland, University of Washington (DØ)
 - Rob Forrest, UC Davis (CDF)
 - Elisabetta Pianori, Pennsylvania (CDF)
 - Emanuel Strauss, Stony Brook (DØ)

What we do

1. **Communications: Keeping users informed of things relevant to our field and facilitate communications between the Laboratory and the users**

- Monthly meetings with directorate
- Other meeting guests have included:
 - Homer Neal (University Grants Subpanel)
 - Mel Shochet (HEPAP)
 - Bob Zimmer (FRA Board Chair, President U. Chicago)
 - P.K. Williams (DOE)
 - Joel Butler (FNAL/CMS)
 - Roger Dixon (FNAL/AD)
 - Amanda Peterson (FNAL/International Services)

2. **QoL: work toward better quality of life at Fermilab**

- Issues that affect users (*e.g.* bike paths, ride sharing, international user issues)

3. **Government relations: help the field of HEP present its case for community and government support**

- Where we've spent much of our time this year

As elected representatives of Fermilab Users:

- We are not a PAC.
- We provide a voice that is distinct from the experiments, laboratories or geographical regions.

General Thoughts

- **Users are upbeat, a great time for the Laboratory:**
 - Tevatron \Rightarrow CDF/D0
 - Neutrino program (MiniBoone, SciBoone, Minos)
 - Particle Astrophysics (CDMS, SDSS, Auger, COUPP)
 - Theory
 - Accelerator and detector R&D
- **With exciting projects on the horizon:**
 - Energy frontier (LHC, CMS)
 - Neutrinos (Minerva, Nova)
 - Astrophysics (DES, SNAP)
 - Accelerator and detector R&D
- **But there is concern about the future of the laboratory and US HEP as the focus shifts abroad.**

Major UEC projects 2007-2008

- **Future directions for the laboratory**
 - Hosted town-hall meetings re: Steering Group
 - Organized two Project X physics workshops
 - Nov 16-17, 2007 and Jan 25-26, 2008
- **Government relations**
 - Local visits
 - Letter writing campaign (FY08 budget)
 - DC trip (March 2008)
- **Annual Users' Meeting**
 - June 4-5, 2008
 - Dennis Kovar (DOE), Joe Dehmer (NSF), Mike Holland (OMB), Adam Rosenberg (House Sci. Comm.), Charlie Baltay (P5), Pier Oddone, Y-K Kim, Fred Bernthal (URA) plus physics results, grad student talks, thesis & postdoc awards and poster session.

Washington, D.C. trip Mar 12-14



2008 D.C. Trip Participants

36 total participants

• **USLUO**

- Robert Clare
- Tony Liss
- Peter Jacobs
- Michael Albrow
- Joey Huston
- Harvey Newman
- Sridhara Dasu
- Michael Barnett

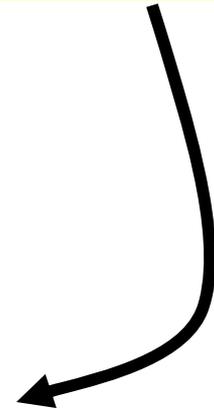
• **SLAC SLUO**

- Lisa Kaufman
- Steve Sekula
- **David Doll**
- Greg Madejski
- Gregory Dubois-Felsmann
- Sasha Telnov
- Gerard Bonneaud
- **Michael Shaw**
- Tom Handler

• **FNAL UEC**

- Lee Sawyer
- Dan Hooper
- Sacha Kopp
- Kirsten Tollefson
- Ashutosh Kotwal
- Matthew Jones
- Kevin Pitts
- **Jorge Benitez**
- Chris Polly
- Jean Slaughter
- **Elisabetta Pianori**
- **Peter Wittich***
- **Rob Forrest**
- **Tyler Dorland**
- Herman White
- Breese Quinn
- **Susan Burke****
- **Emanuel Strauss**
- **Sarah Schlobohm**

FRA/URA support
crucial to this effort!



***Did a ridiculous amount of work.**
****AAAS Congressional Fellow Fa08**

2008 D.C. Trip Logistics

- **Trip was March 12-14**
(week prior to Congressional recess)
- **We visited**
 - ~165 Congressional offices
 - OMB/OSTP (Mike Holland, Jean Cottam)
 - NSF (Joe Dehmer, Marvin Goldberg, Jim Reidy)
 - DOE (Ray Orbach, Pat Dehmer)
 - DOE (Dennis Kovar, Mike Procario, Glen Crawford)
- **Strategy for Congressional visits:**
 - Concentrate on appropriators
 - Focus on FY09 budget.
 - Talk about FY08 as relevant and be prepared to talk about supplemental.
- **UEC was the lead entity in this effort**
 - Major support from the lab and FRA
 - Travel for 18 people
 - Material production (Particle Physics in Pictures book)
 - URA hosted us in DC (home base!)
 - Also support from DPF

Our message

- **In addition to talking about the excitement of the science we are doing, we specifically focused this year on:**
 - **Innovation/economic impact**
 - **Education/workforce**
- **Our message was more specific to HEP this year. In previous years the message was more about general support of physical science.**

Feedback

- **Congressional feedback largely positive**
 - Offices appreciate the role of science as driver for innovation
 - Educational message is a real winner.
 - They want to increase funding for the physical sciences
- **Offices aware of drastic consequences of FY08 omnibus appropriation**
 - But, they've been hearing from many groups hurt by FY08, so we are not singled out in their mind. (neither is ITER)
 - Some offices were emphatic in saying, "We won't let FY08 happen again."
- **But:**
 - Budgets are tight, there are lots of worthy causes competing for the same slice of pie.
 - This is an election year, don't expect a budget prior to the election.
 - President's budget request good to physical sciences, but at the expense of other Democratic priorities, the dynamic is the same as last year.
 - Supplemental seen as unlikely, but not out of the question.

Thoughts on D.C. Trip

- **These visits are about cultivating relationships. We aren't going to change things in two days scrambling from office to office.**
- **We need to continue to get new people involved (especially young people) but we also need to keep some continuity to help further cultivate relationships.**
 - **We also need to recognize that not all of our colleagues are cut out to do this kind of work.**
- **It's difficult to quantify, but I'm confident that we are making progress. But I'm also confident that we can do much, much better.**
- **The DC trip is a high profile event (within our community), but the local visits are probably worth more. Unfortunately, we have a very hard time getting our colleagues to participate in these local visits.**

Final Thoughts

- **The success of the Fermilab program comes about through the combined efforts of the Laboratory and the Users.**
- **The Users truly appreciate the lab's continuing efforts to provide the people and resources to make the program a success.**
 - We also appreciate how difficult this year has been, and we thank our Fermilab colleagues for their perseverance in this time of layoffs and furloughs.
- **We thank the FRA for their strong support of the Users, UEC and GSA.**
 - The DC trip and the Users' Meeting would not be possible without this strong support