

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

4201 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230

October 21, 2005



OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Dr. Pier Oddone
Director
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory
P.O. Box 500
Batavia, IL 60510

Dear Pier,

Congratulations to Fermilab on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the discovery of the Top Quark. The discovery showed that the Top Quark occupies a special place in the Standard Model, as the most-massive fundamental object known to current science. To find a fundamental particle that possesses a mass similar to a nucleus of Osmium is indicative of deeper mysteries yet to be revealed. In fact, the Top Quark itself is now a laboratory of discovery in Run II of the Tevatron Collider.

The nature of mass, of charge, of spin, of the dimensionality of space-time, of the unification of the forces, and of dark matter and dark energy are among the great scientific questions of our time. The discovery of Top is recognized as a signature occasion in the development of our understanding of nature at its most fundamental level. We look forward to future exciting results from the Fermilab and the Tevatron collider program.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Arden L. Bement, Jr.' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Arden L. Bement, Jr.
Director