





# How we celebrated 50 years of discovery

K. Yurkewicz Fermilab UEC Meeting 17 November 2017

#### Goals for our 50th celebration



Build our future—by celebrating our past



Create, rekindle or strengthen key relationships



Deliver our messages of discovery, innovation & community



### **Major events**









#### **Kickoff Events**

Jan. 12: All-hands meeting

Jan. 21: Handson science celebration + Mucca Pazza

Jan. 27: Local VIP reception + Chris Quigg lecture

#### Scientific Symposium & Users Meeting

June 7-8

Two events combined past, present and future

Intended to maximize audience for both

#### Fermilab's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party

June 15

For employees and on-site users Public celebrated on social media

#### **Open House**

Sept. 23

Goal: 20,000 attendees

Open more of the lab behind the scenes than ever before



# Additional events: Incomplete list

Date	Event			
February 12	Fermilab Family Open House: Expanded for 50 <sup>th</sup> ; Record attendance of 3,700			
February 16	PechaKucha Night Batavia: First at Fermilab, half of speakers were lab-related; Record attendance of 314			
March 12	First Spanish-language Ask A Scientist (100 people)			
March 19	Wonders of Science Show			
March 29	50 Years of Science and Art employee art show opening reception			
April 27	Launched 50 Discoveries and Innovations			
May 10	Farm family picnic			
June 1	Angela Gonzales exhibit opening reception			
July 21	LBNF/DUNE construction groundbreaking at SURF (& Fermilab)			
July 26	Arrival of ICARUS detector from CERN			
August 12	PubSci at the Two Brothers Roundhouse, Aurora			



# Additional events: Incomplete list

Date	Event
July 31 – August 4	2017 Meeting of American Physical Society Division of Particles and Fields, held at Fermilab; biggest in 20 years (700 people)
September 6	Panel discussion at Harold Washington Library (with C2ST)
October 2017	Western DuPage and Geneva Chamber of Commerce events held at Fermilab
October 10, 17, 24	Dark Matter Day events at Dark Matter Coffee in Chicago
October 19	Adler After Dark with programming led by Fermilab in honor of 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary, including commissioned music piece in conjunction with Northwestern University
October 31	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration held for scientists and students at Univ. of Chicago
November 5	Second Spanish-language Ask-A-Scientist
November 13	IEEE Milestone Award Symposium
December 19 (TBC)	All-hands meeting to wrap up 50th celebrations



# Ongoing/year-long activities

Revitalized speakers' bureau for local talks

Anniversary-related colloquiua & public lectures at Fermilab

Fermilab "ambassadors" to Chicago-area community events

Expansion of Fermilab classroom presentation modules to include computational thinking; engineering; neutrinos

Upgrading/refreshing exhibits across site, including Lederman Science Center & FFSE van

DIFF (Daily Image from Fermilab)

Fermilab booths at ~6 local festivals, including Spanishlanguage festival in Aurora, plus Neutrino Day at Sanford Lab Collecting video and written anecdotes



# Getting non-employee users involved

- UEC rep on 50<sup>th</sup> planning committee (2015)
- Users recruited to help with activities through Fermilab news articles, online form, direct requests, email to users list (Open House only)
- Users invited to celebrate during scientific symposium, birthday celebration (on-site users), DPF meeting
- Users involved in most public-facing outreach activities (presenters, volunteers, ambassadors, organizers)
- Users submitted written anecdotes
- 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary symposium closely coordinated between 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary symposium and users meeting; attention paid during symposium to including users as speakers
- June 15 birthday celebration: For users too!



## **Open House: All hands on deck**

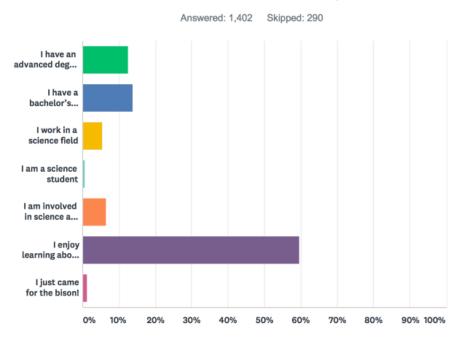
#### Objective #1: Draw 20,000 people

- 20,000 people registered from August 2 to Sept 1
- 1,151 people worked the event including Fermilab employees, vendors and volunteers
  - 592 employees/users (badged) signed up to help
  - 256 employees worked in their day to day role
  - 146 non-badged workers signed up to help
  - 157 vendors worked on site
- 10,000 people (approximately) attended the Open House
- What happened to the rest?
  - 76% said that they had a change of plans or other reason for not attending. 24% claimed temperature as the reason.



#### What was the visitors' connection to science?

#### Q24 How interested and involved are you in science?



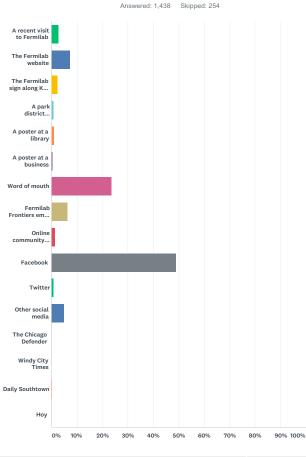
ANSWER CHOICES RESPONSES		
I have an advanced degree in science	12.48%	175
I have a bachelor's degree in science	13.84%	194
I work in a science field	5.49%	77
I am a science student	0.71%	10
I am involved in science as a hobby	6.56%	92
I enjoy learning about science	59.56%	835



#### How did people hear about the Open House?

Fermilab Open House Survey

#### Q6 How did you hear about the Open House?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A recent visit to Fermilab	2.71%	39



#### Objective #2 - Did we do what we set out to do continued

- Show visitors a working accelerator laboratory and have the public interact with employees in their work space in a way that is educational, inspirational and positive in a safe environment.
- 85% of those who attended the gave overall event ratings of excellent or good.
  - 47% excellent
  - 38% good
  - 6.17% neutral
  - 5.14% fair
  - 2.77% poor



#### Objective #2 – Did we do what we set out to do continued

- Comments from the "Share a story" question on the survey: 400 total comments
  - It's clear that all the workers, volunteers and scientists are incredibly passionate about their work. This truly provides an engaging experience for visitors from all backgrounds and experience levels.
  - I was very impressed with all the scientists who were so willing to share their knowledge. PLEASE host another one, I really want to see and learn more.
  - The Neutrino experiment and the Fermilab employees volunteering at that location were animated and engaging. They appeared to be having the time of their life and made learning a blast! The physicist trading cards were and especially clever touch. Bravo!



#### Objective #2 – Did we do what we set out to do continued

- What could we do to make the next Open House even better? 900 visitors commented.
  - I could not get a ticket to the 15<sup>th</sup> floor tour or Mr. Freeze.
  - Have buses with air conditioning. It was hot. I had to wait for a bus.
  - Have an admission ticket and allow less people to attend.
  - I did not have enough time extend the hours.
  - Have a two-day event.
  - Let participants walk to buildings (from Minos to the Lederman Science Center).
  - Serve beer instead of coffee.



# Objective #3 – Did we do what we set out to do, introduce or reintroduce

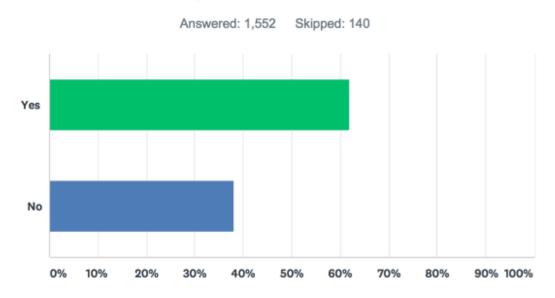
• Introduce or re-introduce Fermilab to the public as we display our science, architecture and natural areas. Emphasize the message that we are open to the public every day. Encourage the public to start planning their next visit to Fermilab by directing them to our website which communicates all of the ways the public can get involved with science at Fermilab.



#### Objectives – Did we do what we set out to do, introduce or re-introduce

Fermilab Open House Survey

#### Q4 Was this your first visit to Fermilab?



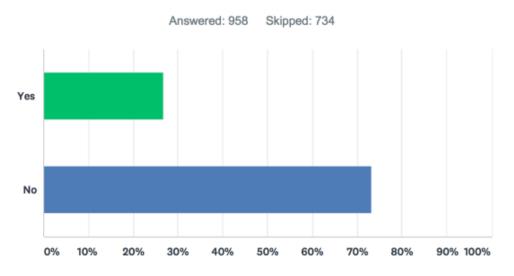
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	61.92%	961
No	38.08%	591
TOTAL		1,552



#### Objectives – Did we do what we set out to do, introduce or re-introduce

#### Fermilab Open House Survey

# Q5 If yes, did you know that the Fermilab site is open to the public before coming to the Open House?



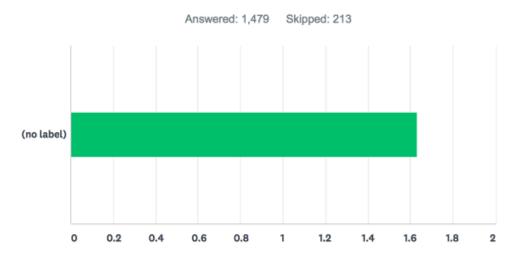
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	26.83%	257
No	73.17%	701
TOTAL		958



#### Objectives – Did we do what we set out to do, introduce or re-introduce

Fermilab Open House Survey

#### Q16 How likely are you to visit Fermilab again?



	VERY LIKELY —SEE YOU SOON!	LIKELY	ABOUT AS LIKELY AS NOT	UNLIKELY	VERY UNLIKELY – I DIDN'T HAVE A GOOD TIME	VERY UNLIKELY – I LIVE FAR AWAY	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	53.48% 791	37.32% 552	5.14% 76	1.15% 17	2.50% 37	0.41% 6	1,479	1.63



# Objective #4 - Did we do what we set out to do, receive positive feedback

- Receive positive feedback from the media and public via news articles, surveys, social media or word of mouth after the 2017 Open House.
  - Feedback via social media about the event started at the beginning of the day on Sept. 23. A common thread of positive feedback were about the bus system and organization of the event.
  - The "Orange Shirts" were helpful and friendly
  - People enjoyed the day and had a great time learning. A respondent said that, "I felt like I was inside of a giant Science Channel Special."
  - https://www.facebook.com/events/1396735527062030/?active\_t ab=discussion
  - Coverage in local newspapers



#### Objective #5 – Did we do what we set out to do continued

- Reinforce the director's message that lab employees should see Fermilab as one lab and increase morale of employees by creating an opportunity for all employees to work as one on the day of the event.
  - The common threads in the feedback that was received from employees was that employees had a fun day welcoming the public to the lab and interacting with the public. Most employees do not interact with the public day to day.

#### Feedback from workers – what could we do better next time

- Upgrade the bus product to include air conditioning and an upgraded public address system.
- Elevate the service level of the visitor registration system to include ticketing and cancelation features.
- Schedule a day that is 65 degrees and cloudy.
- Disburse the crowd so that they do not spend so much time at Wilson Hall. Get visitors out and about more quickly.
- Improve the lunch service or provide a different solution.
- Needed more helpers and workers on the day of the event.
- Increase training of all helping on the day of the event.
- We had 10,000 people at the lab and some areas seemed to be at capacity.



# Ongoing challenges: User communication, outreach in general

- All-user list is large & dominated by users who aren't frequently on site
  - We are conservative about sending messages to the full list
  - Some users subscribe to daily/weekly news digests
- Pool of (non-Open House) outreach volunteers did not increase as much as we had hoped during 2017
  - Ambitious plans for expanding some initiatives: some were not completely fulfilled did not always come to fruition
  - Core group (communication, education offices, stalwart volunteers) made sure that booths were staffed, activities were executed
  - Must re-evaluate priorities heading into 2018



## **Questions?**



