





# **UEC Users Meeting Subcommittee**

Cindy Joe June 19, 2020

### **Users Meeting 2020: "Defining the Decade"**

Our best bet is the August dates: week of August 10<sup>th</sup> Still looking at 4-5 half(-ish)-days, timed to coincide with the largest number of people

Still planning virtual program, even if some people are back to the office by then



### Calendar

### **May 2020**

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### **July 2020**

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### **June 2020**

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### August 2020

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# The URA is on board: spoke to Ted, our URA contact

- He doesn't see any conflicts right now with Marta's schedule with the August 10 dates, but will verify
- He likes the ideas I mentioned about this year's UM being a little different. He's going to talk to Marta as well, and I welcomed their input/ideas
- Visiting Scholars Program grant: they could potentially be open to other uses of the money that are in the original spirit of the grant.
  - (Reminder: the Visiting Scholars Program exists to help fund travel to Fermilab for scientific study; our grant helps us fund travel to attend New Perspectives and the Users Meeting for grad students and postdocs who would otherwise not be able to attend.)
  - We should email them with our plan and they would review it.
  - This could be a great opportunity: let's get thinking!



### What we want to accomplish with this UM

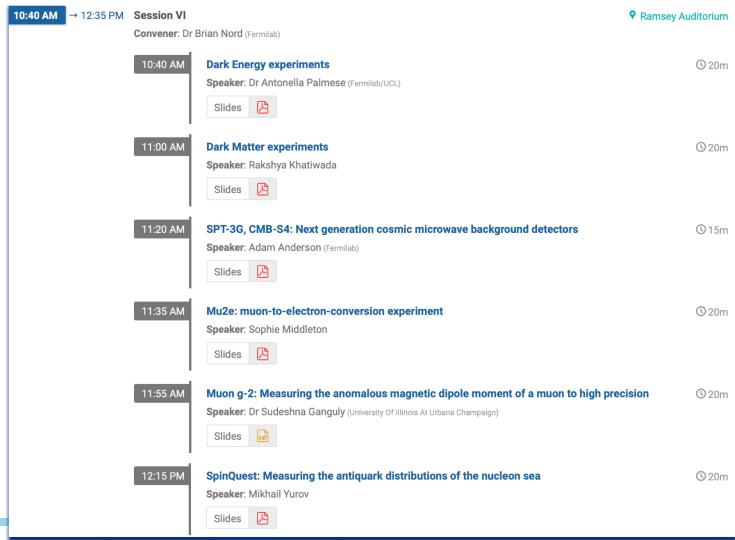
#### Some things to keep in mind:

- Bringing the community together (how? And how do we include employees and young people and make them all feel welcome?)
- Celebrate accomplishments (talks, summarize the past year)
- Educate and train (talks, training sessions like science communication, job panels, bystander training?)
- Foster collaboration (ways to meet people/network, get ideas for new projects, Snowmass)
- Allow people to present their work and advance themselves (networking, poster presentations, talks, awards)
- Have a good time (celebrations, make it fun!)
- Community disconnect: UEC and Users, Users and the lab, Scientific and non-scientific staff, early career members and larger community/jobs/plans, Black colleagues and community



# How do we make this most useful for Users and the whole community?

Recall: a typical session at last year's Users Meeting



## How do we make this most useful for Users and the whole community?

- Last year: we had many awards, experiments, and overview talks to fit in so we squeezed them all in by offering shorter talks (15-20 minutes). Every year is different but many years have had fewer numbers of longer talks (20-30 minutes).
- Our committee discussed some alternatives, including having generalized overview talks followed by shorter, "lightning-style" experiment talks. Or asking the experiments to focus their material on the future, rather than the history, of the experiment. More back-and-forth and discussion time.
- I talked to a more senior colleague who is on some experiment speaker committees and they said they were worried about this plan as they treat the Users Meeting as a venue to showcase early career collaborators:
  - "The User's Meeting is always a good opportunity to give postdocs on the job market reasonably good visibility within the Fermilab community. And this year, when there are significantly fewer speaking opportunities, I'd hate to lose yet another one."
- Please give me your thoughts—I need your perspective!



# Other possible special topics for this year (all proposals)

- COVID-19 and working (and playing) in the new age of social distancing
  - How you can contribute to the effort
  - How to deal with working remotely/in isolation and collaborating from afar
  - What groups may benefit from special sessions?
    - Parents?
    - Job-seekers?
    - Students?
- Black Lives Matter and related efforts
  - Community open discussion
  - Should we invite Brian and Chanda (or others) to (??) (also: is that putting the work on them?)
    - Other groups have been working on allyship efforts, may want to contribute (ex. Asian /Pacific Americans)
  - Allyship 101? Direct Action 101? Primer on US History and Race Relations for an international audience?
  - How to reach your elected officials



## Still remaining

- Special for this year: Snowmass community feedback
- Special celebrations: 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Booster accelerator, 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Top Quark discovery, a celebration of the life of Alvin Tollestrup
- Virtual Festa Italiana?
  - Zoom breakout rooms for chatting, music (live?), dancing, conversation, maybe some kind of activity or class?
  - Is there a catering company that will deliver a bunch of individual orders? Or can we do a "order from an Italian restaurant near you!" suggestion? Can we work out a special coupon/discount with the company that usually caters the Festa?
- Ditto for Users Meeting Dinner
  - Can we get funding for reimbursement, X amount toward "communal" dinners over Zoom?
- Can we get gift bags to be sent out by mail to registrants?



## **Alvin Tollestrup Memorial**

- Vladimir Shiltsev and team are still working on this and are OK with new dates
- Looking for 1.5-2.5 hours one of the days
- Have what sounds like a large number of guests across the world in mind
- Have plans to rename some things on site in honor



### What we want to accomplish with this UM

#### Proposed classes/training topics:

- Public speaking basics
- SciComm training (maybe by us from Andre's/Lauren's slides and input)
- Mentoring, networking
- What do employees/admins/techs want? Something job-specific, or maybe a Fermilab Physics 101?
- On-site tours via Zoom (a few more people should be back on site then)
  - Hang out with the Bison herd (with the herdsman)
  - Experiment or accelerator tours? Shutdown will be in progress.
  - Wilderness walk or intro to plants and animals at Fermilab?



### What we want to accomplish with this UM

#### Other activities:

- Cultural club contributions? Maybe Taste of Fermilab but home cooking style? Ex. an "expert" and a "volunteer" both get the ingredients and over Zoom, the expert teaches the volunteer how to do a recipe while other people watch or follow along on Zoom
- Great Fermilab Bake-Off special edition?
- A class for parents on things they can do at home with their kids? (if Fermi summer camp is closed)

## **Next Steps**

- Settle on a (new) date
- Iron out new agenda
- Solicit speakers and poster presenters
- Solicit instructors for special training classes and sessions
- Plan community celebrations and social events
- Prepare Indico and website, open registration
- Work out new technical and other logistics



# As we work on putting together an engaging program

Resources for ideas: <a href="https://zoom.us/docs/doc/Running-">https://zoom.us/docs/doc/Running-</a> **Engaging-Online-Events.pdf** 

https://blog.zoom.us/wordpress/2020/03/16/creating-culturecommunity-amid-social-distancing-work-from-home/

Last year's program:

https://indico.fnal.gov/event/20244/timetable/?view=standard

### Some thoughts:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QPbEj17o tKnEOmTv1Z VLG5wzigblgCJL61MrsD0Tho/edit#

