
Users Meeting subcommittee report

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54th annual Users Meeting in 2021

- Users Meeting subcommittee organizes the annual Fermilab Users Meeting, invites the whole scientific community to show what new results were obtained by HEP at Fermilab, highlights the past and future experiments and gives young scientists a platform to present themselves to the user community.
- Items to discuss: where we stand since last UEC meeting --- made some progress, we need to finalize theme and think about who to invite onsite in case of semi-virtual event
 - Proposed dates
 - Meeting Theme
 - Keynote speaker:
 - Preliminary budget/ URA VSP application

We have tentative dates for UM 2021

< July 2021 >						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

< August 2021 >						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

UM-2021

NP-2021

UM-2021

- Tentative dates: **week of July 26-30th or week of August 2-6th, 2021**
- **NewPerspective2021** dates **August 9-12th or week of August 16-19th, 2021**
- We have communicated these tentative dates with the conference office and the Directorate office.

Keynote speaker

First choice:

- **Andrea M. Ghez.** Professor of Physics & Astronomy and Lauren B. Leichtman & Arthur E. Levine chair in Astrophysics, is one of the world's leading experts in observational astrophysics and heads UCLA's Galactic Center Group. Best known for her ground-breaking work on the center of our Galaxy, which has led to the best evidence to date for the existence of supermassive black holes, she has received numerous honors and awards including the Crafoord Prize in Astronomy from the Royal Swedish Academy of Science (she is the first woman to receive a Crafoord prize in any field), Bakerian Medal from the Royal Society of London, a MacArthur Fellowship, election to the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society. She was one of the recipients of the 2020 Nobel Prize in Physics for "the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the center of our galaxy".

Second choice:

- **[3 members of the Event Horizon Telescope Project: Katie Bouman, Shep Doeleman, and Avery Broderick.]** Each of these physicists was brought up as a candidate due to their work on 2019 year's groundbreaking black hole image. Although all three are outside scientists, some Fermilab users did contribute to this project and we think there will be wide interest in the topic. We have grouped them together here. In particular, we favor Katie Bouman, who is faculty at Caltech. In addition to her scientific achievements, we think we can ask her to speak about the impact of a community for science and communicating science to the general public. Avery Broderick, also a great communicator, is a professor at the University of Waterloo. We would be remiss if we did not mention that Shep Doeleman, at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, was Principal Investigator of the project. He spoke recently at Northwestern University and we might be able to reach out through connections.

Third choice:

- **Max Tegmark.** Professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the scientific director of the Foundational Questions Institute. He studies the impact of Artificial Intelligence in society. Several UEC members, including those who worked on AI-related topics, mentioned that they found the broader focus of the impact on society much more compelling a topic than policy or methods, particularly to the public.

Fourth choice:

- **Jennifer Doudna.** Jennifer Anne Doudna ForMemRS is an American biochemist known for her pioneering work in CRISPR gene editing, for which she was awarded the 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry along with Emmanuelle Charpentier. She is the Li Ka Shing Chancellor's Chair Professor in the Department of Chemistry and the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology at the University of California, Berkeley. She has been an investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute since 1997.

Theme for UM-2021

- Propose meeting theme for UM-2021:
- **Challenges, Resilience, Sustaining our research in science and its impact in the Broader World**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bhhGpM1g74ysOMwYRGMMtWHAI0oRFV3Hv5k0fInPBng/edit>

2017: 50th Anniversary

2018: A vision of Science and Culture

2019: Your Community, your Science. It's about everyone that makes it happen

2020: Defining the decade (An inclusive gathering to highlight leading-edge-science, celebrate Fermilab achievements and look to our future as a community)

Semi-virtual or fully virtual event

- Lab's plans on bringing users onsite during this summer: Given the ongoing pandemic, we are keeping the option of holding the Users meeting either fully virtual or considering semi-virtual depending on the lab's onsite access permissions:
 - **Lab is currently allowing a few hundred (~1000 (800 are employees, 200 contractors)) essential employees to access the Fermilab's Wilson hall**, we asked Kenney, Amber ES&H section approval to reserve a few conference rooms including the auditorium for onsite employees to attend in-person users meetings events by obeying the COVID social distancing policies.
- If essential people can attend in-person users meeting events, we might plan on inviting a few speakers (including the keynote speaker) to onsite to give their talks depending on their willingness to give onsite or virtual talks

Semi-virtual or fully virtual event

Assumptions:

Number of registrants: ~ 200-500

Auditorium 20-30% capacity: ~100

Speakers/Poster presenters (~20)

+

Lab's senior people (~40)

+

Early career members (~40)

- If there are any free spots then we allow daily sign ups for first come first serve basis

UM-2021 preliminary Budget numbers

- Conference office provided preliminary budget numbers for in-person UM is about \$20K, and in fully virtual case is about ~\$1100

URA travel support

- Sophie Middleton (UM Deputy) applied for the URA Visiting Scholars Program for \$10K travel grant to support eligible early career scientists to attend Users Meeting/NewPerspectives 2021.

Meet and Greet feedback

- What do you know about UEC's Users Meeting planning committee? **Response:** That they organize the annual user's meeting.
- If you have attended the past Users Meetings what do you like the least? **Response:** Can't think of anything.
- What dates you think are better for organizing this years Fermilab's Annual Users Meeting? **Response:** Summer I think it's good.
- Do you have a meeting theme to suggest? **Response:** 2021: Back to the Lab
- If you have attended the past Users Meetings what do you like the most? **Response:** I found the talks about immigration issues quite useful.
- What are your thoughts on the zoom webinar format? **Response:** I guess I'm used to it right now. It's not just "zoom" fatigue, but "video call" fatigue in general. I hope there's at least a possibility to do some activities in person.

special talks, activities, workshops, etc.

- Agenda from 2020: <https://indico.fnal.gov/event/23109/timetable/#20200810>
- Richie is working with Sandra Charles's EDI office on connecting her office to the broader users, and planning D+I event at the UM 2021
- Scientific Job Skills Panels (how to give a good talk, job applications, mentoring)
- Science Communication training, Community Fair, with local vendors and resources
- Celebrations: 50th Anniversary of the commissioning of the Main Injector and Recycler accelerators,
- What else can we offer our community?
Examples: Public speaking skills workshop, career advice/panel, more inclusion and diversity talks/activities, more training?
- We will collect the Feedback on improving the UM at Meet-and-greet.

Summary minutes from UM sub-committee

Action items:

- Dates
- Themes
- Speakers
- Budget

Points

- We have tentative dates for organizing the UM-2021: First choice is the **week of July 26-30th** and **second choice is the week of August 2-6th, 2021, and NewPerspective 2021 dates will be August 9th-12th ... or the week after**
- Keynote choices in the priority order: **Andrea M. Ghez**. She was one of the recipients of the 2020 Nobel Prize in Physics for “**the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the center of our galaxy**”. She is a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles. We haven’t have a women keynote speaker at the Users meeting for a longtime.
[3 members of the Event Horizon Telescope Project: **Katie Bouman, Shep Doeleman, and Avery Broderick.**] Each of these physicists was brought up as a candidate due to their work on last year’s **groundbreaking black hole image**.
Max Tegmark. Professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the scientific director of the Foundational Questions Institute. He studies the impact of Artificial Intelligence in society.
Jennifer Doudna. Jennifer Anne Doudna ForMemRS is an American biochemist known for her pioneering work in CRISPR gene editing, for which she was awarded the 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry along with Emmanuelle Charpentier.
- We are working with the UM theme “Challenges, Resilience, Sustaining our research in science and its impact in the Broader World” and how to tie it with the Keynote
- We are planning for semi-virtual meeting in the best case scenario with Covid cases going down and vaccines are rolled out quickly in this summer, or fully virtual meeting if the Covid cases goes up.
In case of in-person event, we are working on the prioritization scheme of who gets to come on-site and how we would rotate groups,
- We will start the doing the necessary paper work in the Fermilab’s events portal for organizing the (semi) virtual users meeting in this summer.
- Conference office approved preliminary budget for about ~ \$20K for in person event, and \$1100 for fully virtual event
- We applied to URA Visiting Scholar program proposal request for supporting early career members travel to participate in UM2021 - deadline Monday, February 22nd 2021
- More women - as a keynote speaker?
- We will collected the Feedback on improving the UM at Meet-and-greet.