Welcome from the Fermilab Users Executive Committee

Ashley Back on behalf of UEC
54th Annual Users (Virtual) Meeting
2nd August 2021
What is Fermilab UEC?

- The Users Executive Committee is elected by and represents Fermilab’s user community.
- Its purpose is to provide **a forum for discussion** of scientific and administrative matters relevant to the organization and functions of the Laboratory.
- We act as an advocate for you (Users and the wider Fermilab community).
- Submit feedback at any time through the [UEC feedback form](#)!
- See [uec.fnal.gov](http://uec.fnal.gov) for more details.
**UEC subcommittees**

**Education and Public Engagement (EPE)**
Supports and Fermilab’s education and public engagement efforts; including mentoring and other Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion programs.

**Government Relations (GovRel)**
Organizes annual HEP advocacy efforts to connect with congressional offices.

**Quality of Life (QoL)**
Oversees the living and work environment for all of Fermilab’s Users and responds to feedback submitted to UEC.

**Users Meeting (UM)**
Organizes the Annual Users Meeting.
Who are we?

Jonathan Asaadi
Ashley Back
UEC Chair 2020/21

Reddy Pratap Gandrajula
UM Chair, QoL, EPE

Ketino Kaadze
GovRel Chair

Manolis Kargiantoulakis
EPE Chair, UM

Sophie Middleton
UM Deputy

Monica Nunes
UM, EPE

Isobel Ojalvo

Alexx Perloff
EPE Deputy, UM, QoL
Secretary & Webmaster

Aleena Rafique
QoL Deputy

Nadja Strobbe
GovRel Deputy

Yuanyuan Zhang
QoL Chair
UEC Virtual Meet & Greet

• First ever virtual Meet & Greet back in January.
• Attendance was a little lower than normal, but each subcommittee still received some useful feedback.
• The 2020-2022 UEC members were also announced in a [Fermilab News article](https://fermilabnews.fermilab.gov).
Highlights from EPE

One of the ongoing goals of our EPE subcommittee is to form a better connection with the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI).

- Connected our UEC site and resources alongside the LRG list, to increase awareness of our presence.
- In turn, we hope to leverage the resources we have to further the EDI mission and help LRGs.
- Receive the emails sent to LRGs → can then disseminate within our communities.
- Promote volunteering, mentoring and other opportunities through our new outreach-mentoring@fnal.gov mailing list.
2021 virtual DC “trip”

Like last year we had a virtual “trip”, meeting with congressional offices remotely.

This year’s HEP advocacy effort had over 70 participants, including delegates from US LUA, SLUO and APS DPF, who organize the effort alongside UEC.
Key statistics for the DC “trip”

2021 Advocacy effort status:

- Scheduled/met with 298/537 offices (55%). *Met with 56% during 2020 virtual advocacy.*
  - Most meetings were on Zoom this year.
- Packets delivered to 328/537 offices (61%). *Delivered to 65% during 2020 virtual advocacy.*
  - Packets were delivered by email.

On the whole offices seemed responsive and receptive to our message - many meetings lasted 30 minutes or more.
Our message to Congress

We contact Congress to deliver a clear and concise message:

- We represent over 6000 scientists from over 180 institutions across the country working on exciting science.
- As a community, we are well focused with a clear plan outlined in the P5 report.
- We are succeeding at implementing this plan, making optimal use of the funds given to us, by staying on time and on budget.
- The science that we perform uniquely trains the future innovators of the world, both in academia and the broader economy.
  - Our science is important to the United States.
  - We drive tomorrow’s innovations.

Slide adapted from S. Bhattacharya, K. Duffy, J. Zennamo and S. Rappoccio
Michael Cooke (DOE) coordinated a group of community stakeholders to develop materials for public engagement: hosted at usparticlephysics.org.
New materials: Quantum Information Science

Particle Physics and QIS are tightly connected: Physicists bring ideas, technologies, expertise to construct sophisticated, large-scale instruments. QIS offers solutions to our fundamental problems (interactions of quarks, birth & death of BH, etc).

Particle Physicists have constructed world’s largest superconducting systems or developed superconducting quantum sensors to search for DM. Superconducting cavities maintained qubits for world-record times (secs.)

QIS Research centers already benefit from expertise and workforce in our field!
Connections with EDI and Snowmass

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are very important values for our community. Some offices could have views that strongly conflict with the views of our trip participants could feel, such that they feel uncomfortable meeting those offices.

All participants should be able to participate in the trip in a safe and dignified manner, so we ensured everyone was aware they could refuse or accept a meeting without judgment by other trip attendees. And that, the acceptance (refusal) of a meeting would not be taken as a tacit agreement (disagreement) with the ideology or behavior of a given congressional office.

These meetings are also opportunities to share the importance of these within values in our community. We were able to include some statements of our values in the material and hope to include more next year.

We have also been working closely with CEF06 - Public Policy & Government Engagement on how what we have learnt can improve future advocacy.
The QoL Subcommittee continues to work diligently resolving feedback items submitted by the community.

- A lot of recent feedback has been focused on lab re-opening plans, badging and rent increases in the village.
- Our “Spotlight on the Community” panel (on Thursday), hosted by the QoL subcommittee, will touch on lab re-opening and badging.
- There will be a Village Town Hall Meeting to answer question on rental rate increases on Wednesday, August 11th at Noon.
  - Please submit questions by end of business Monday, August 9th by using this [google form](https://forms.gle/).

Summary of feedback submitted via [uec-feedback@fnal.gov](mailto:uec-feedback@fnal.gov) or through the [Feedback Form](https://feedback). The blue cumulative histogram shows feedback entries resolved by the QoL team.
How to join UEC?

- UEC members serve a two-year term with six new members starting in Sept/Oct each year.
- We will be sending out a call for nominations by the end of this week.
- You need to collect 10 digital signatures and return your nomination form to usersoffice@fnal.gov.
- Once we have closed the nomination period, the election will be open for at least two weeks.
Welcome from the UEC, we hope you enjoy the week!
Extra slides...
Dear colleague letters

- NSF:
  - Senate 41 (FY21 - 40)
  - House 155 (FY21 -177)

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

[[DATE]]

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
Senate Appropriations Committee
188 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein,

As the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, we write to respectfully request that the National Science Foundation (NSF) receive an appropriation of at least $10.2 billion in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

The NSF is an independent federal agency created by Congress to promote the progress of science, secure the national defense, and advance the nation’s health, prosperity, and welfare. It is also the only federal research agency that supports fundamental research in these important fields – biology, computer science, economics, engineering, educational research, geosciences, mathematics, and social and behavioral sciences. The scientific research and educational programs supported by NSF are integral to the continued success of America’s innovation enterprise.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]
[Title]