Bid to Host Neutrino 2026 at Virginia Tech

About Virginia Tech

Officially, we are *Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University*.

We're located in Blacksburg, which is in southwest Virginia, USA.

The university was established in 1872.

We have an enrollment of 30,000 undergraduates and 5000 graduate students

Virginia Tech's Center for Neutrino Physics has ~40 members who span many topics in neutrino physics including theory, phenomenology, cosmology and experiment.

Center members are involved in many experiments, including Borexino, CHANDLER, COHERENT, CUORE, Daya Bay, DUNE, KamLAND, MicroBooNE and SBND.

Blacksburg, Virginia

Nestled in a mountain valley at a little over 600 meters above sea level, the summer weather is pleasant and mild.

Blacksburg is a small town of 50,000 residents, including 30,000 students.

The conference will be held during Virginia Tech's summer break, giving the town an intimate feel for conference attendees.

Blacksburg is less expensive than most large US cities.

City	Federal Per Diem Rate
Blacksburg, VA	$123
Los Angeles, CA	$182
Chicago, IL	$218
Seattle, WA	$232
San Francisco, CA	$288
Boston, MA	$309

There are more than 400 hotel rooms within walking distance of the conference venue, and

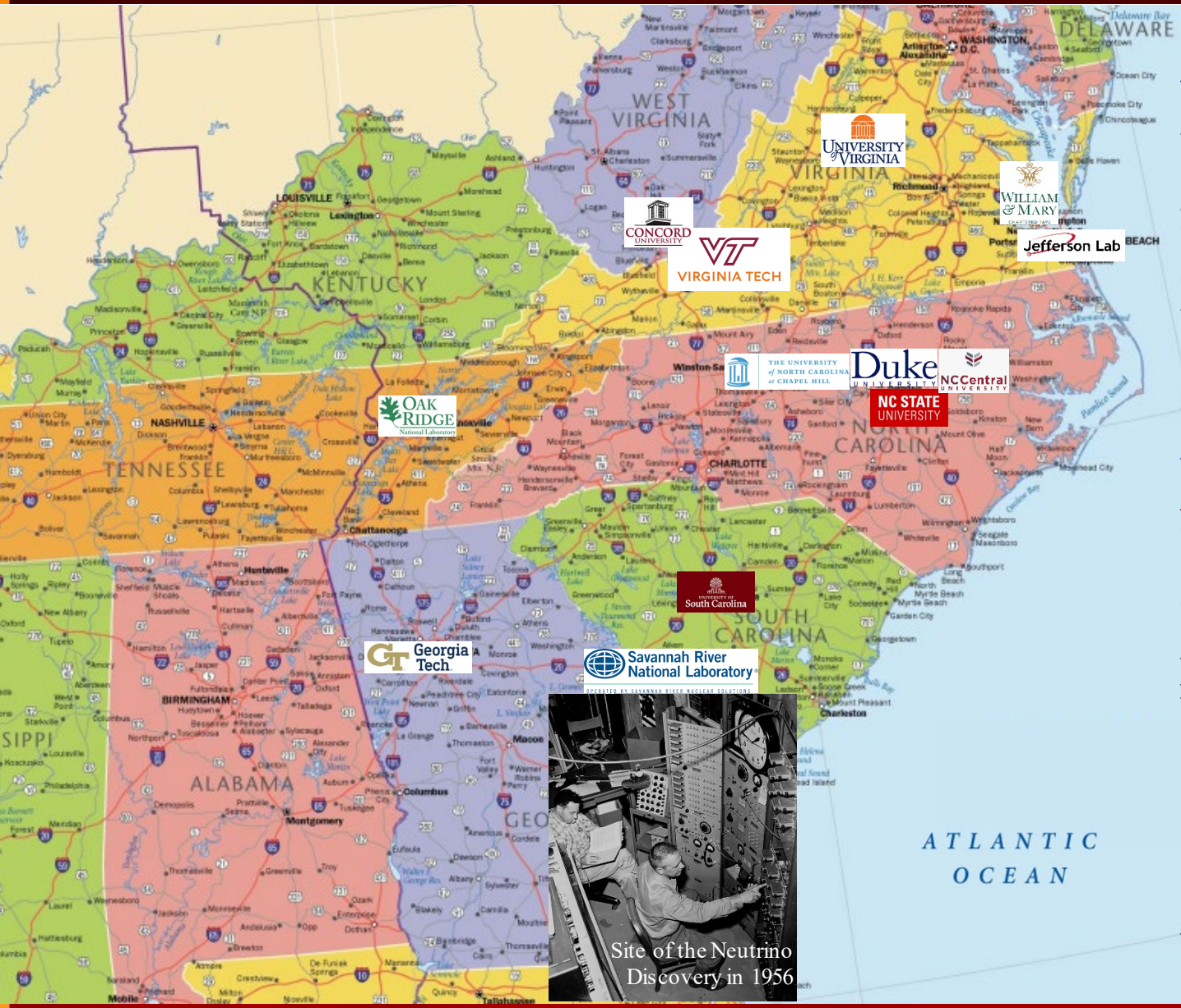
More than 1000 rooms within a 15 minute ride on a town bus.

Dorm rooms will be available as a low cost option.

Rental cars are not required:

- Your conference name tag will serve as a town bus pass, and
- We will provide shuttle buses to the Roanoke Airport on the busiest travel days.

Hosting Neutrino Where the Neutrino was Discovered



Local Organizing Committee

Phil Barbeau, Duke University
Alex Bogacz, Jefferson National Laboratory
Marcel Demarteau, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Anna Erickson, Georgia Tech
Carla Frohlich, North Carolina State University
Matt Green, North Carolina State University
Craig Group, University of Virginia
Alice Hawthorn Allen, Concord University
Reyco Henning, University of North Carolina
Elizabeth Hoffman, Savannah River National Laboratory
Shunsaku Horiuch, Virginia Tech
Patrick Huber, Virginia Tech (co-chair)
James Kneller, North Carolina State University
Mike Kordosky, College of William and Mary
Jonathan Link, Virginia Tech (co-chair)
Camillo Mariani, Virginia Tech
Diane Markoff, North Carolina Central University
Gail McLaughlin, North Carolina State University
Jeff Nelson, College of William and Mary
Jason Newby, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Thomas O'Donnell, Virginia Tech
Roberto Petti, University of South Carolina
Kevin Pitts, Virginia Tech
David Radford, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Kate Scholberg, Duke University (co-chair)
Ian Shoemaker, Virginia Tech
Patricia Vahle, College of William and Mary
Bruce Vogelaar, Virginia Tech
John Wilkerson, University of North Carolina

Conference Co-Chairs

Kate Scholberg
Duke University

Research: Super-K, T2K, SNEWS, COHERENT (spokes), DUNE

Honors: 2016 Breakthrough Prize for Fundamental Physics, APS Fellow, National Academy of Science

Committees: Snowmass Neutrino Frontier Convener, Neutrino IAC

Patrick Huber
Virginia Tech

Research: Neutrino Phenomenology, GLoBES, Daya Bay, CHANDLER

Honors: 2016 Breakthrough Prize for Fundamental Physics, APS Fellow

Committees: Snowmass Neutrino Frontier Convener, Applied Antineutrino Physics IAC, NuFact IAC

Jonathan Link
Virginia Tech

Research: MiniBooNE, Daya Bay, CHANDLER (spokes), COHERENT

Honors: 2016 Breakthrough Prize for Fundamental Physics

Committees: Snowmass Neutrino Working Group Convener, Heavy Quarks and Leptons IAC

We Have Hosted Many Successful Conferences

The Center for Neutrino Physics has extensive experience hosting conferences:

Sterile Neutrinos at the Crossroads

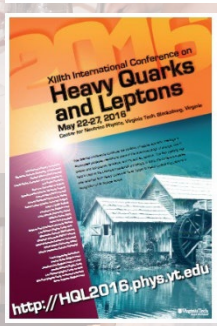
September 25-28, 2011
60 registered participants
J. Link and P. Huber co-chairs of the LOC
http://www.cpe.vt.edu/snac

The International Neutrino Summer School

July 10-21, 2012
80 registered students
P. Huber chair of the LOC
http://inss2012.phys.vt.edu/

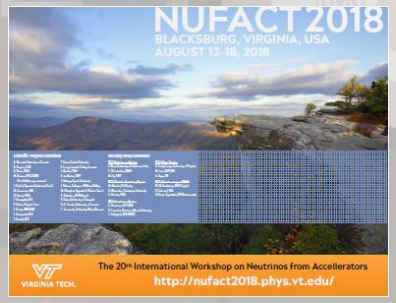
Heavy Quarks and Leptons

May 22-27, 2016
100 registered participants
J. Link chair of the LOC
http://hql2016.phys.vt.edu/



NuFact

August 12-18, 2018
150 registered participants
P. Huber chair of the LOC
http://nufact2018.phys.vt.edu/



We have a good working relationship with Virginia Tech's conference office (CPE), who will handle the conference organization and logistics.

CPE have organized other successful large conferences, including IUPAC's World Polymer Congress which had over 1900 registered participants.

We are capable of hosting an online or hybrid conference, if necessary.

The Conference Venue

The Moss Arts Center

This is a state-of-the-art performance hall opened in 2013.

The concert hall seats 1260 people and has excellent acoustics and sightlines.

The attached lobby and exhibit spaces will host the coffee breaks and poster sessions.

The Moss Arts Center is a part of the university, so the facility cost will be negligible.

The building is fully handicap-accessible, and the university can accommodate all accessibility needs.

Banquet Facility

Latham Hall has banquet seating for 700 people in Blacksburg.

Other options include:

The Hotel Roanoke has seating for 1200, but is a 45 minute drive from campus,

or

There is a new banquet space opening on campus soon, but we don't yet know the details.

All are university facilities.

Excursion Options: The Blue Ridge Parkway

The Blue Ridge Parkway is a world-renowned scenic byway known for its panoramic views and pristine nature.

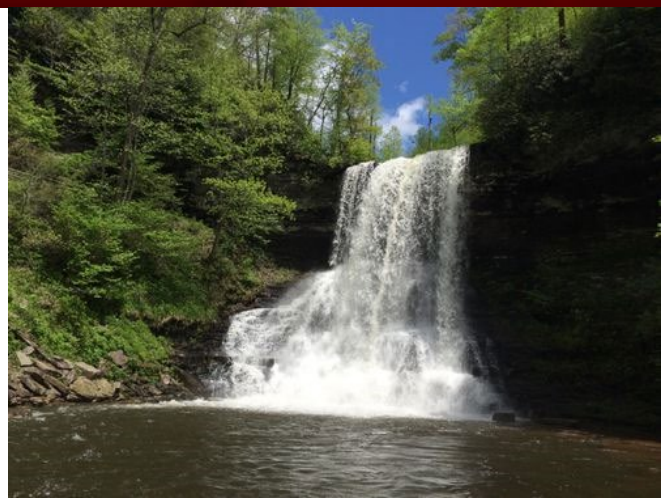
Less than an hour from campus

Bluegrass Music

Wine Tasting

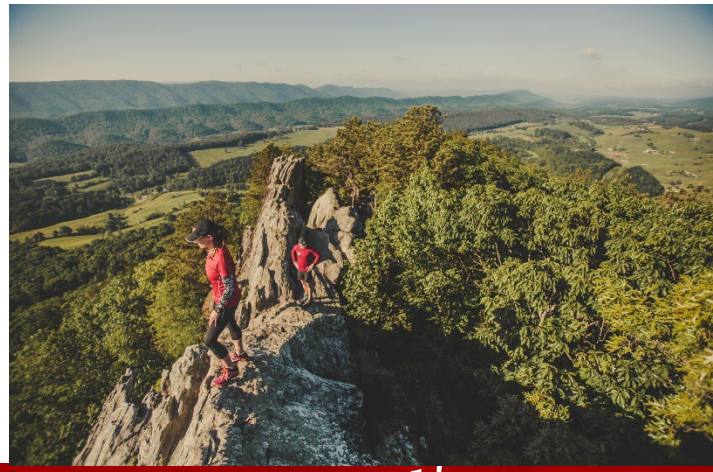
Excursion Options: Outdoor Activities

The Blacksburg area is known for its outdoor activities, including many hikes known for their natural beauty and spectacular views, suitable for a range of abilities.



The Cascades is a 6.4 km roundtrip hike along a shaded trail to a 20-meter waterfall in the Jefferson National Forest.

McAfee Knob is an 13 km roundtrip hike to a stunning rock overhang with spectacular views of the Appalachian Mountains for several miles in all directions.



The Dragon's Tooth hike is a 7.2 km roundtrip including a scramble up a rock wall to a series of pinnacles with sweeping views of a pristine valley.

Air Travel Options

Washington DC (IAD) is 4 hours by car. Train service is coming.

Roanoke-Blacksburg Regional Airport (ROA) 40 minutes by car or 1 hour by bus

UNITED to Washington (2) & Chicago (3)

DELTA to Atlanta (4) & Detroit

U·S AIRWAYS to Charlotte (7), New York (LGA) & Philadelphia (2)

(Pre-pandemic Routes)

Blacksburg

Roanoke

Other regional airports include Richmond (RIC) and Greensboro (PTI)

Charlotte, NC (CLT) is 2.5 hours by car.

We will provide shuttles between Blacksburg and the Roanoke Airport on the busiest travel days.

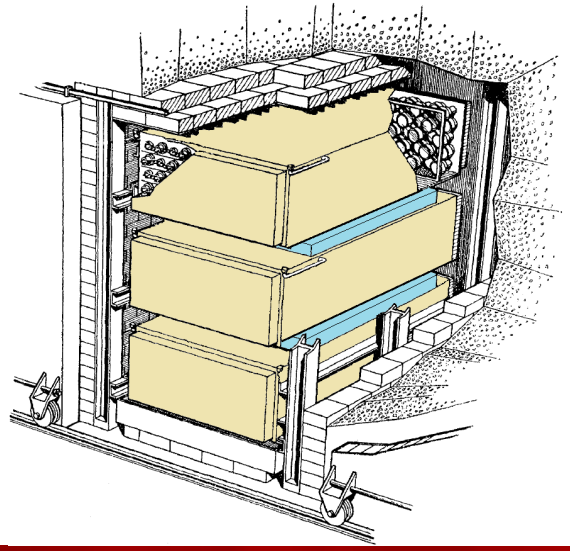
Celebrating the Discovery of the Neutrino at the Savannah River P Reactor

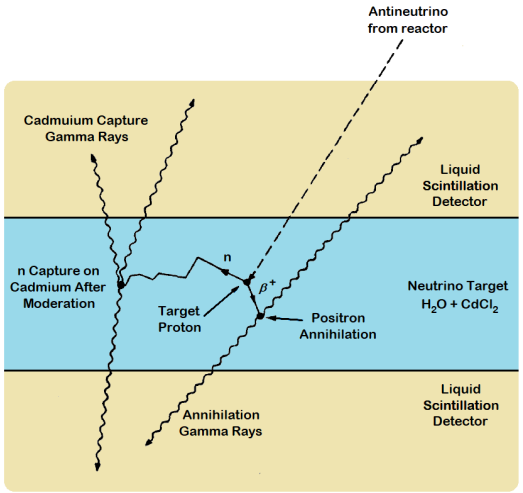
2026 is the 70th anniversary of the Discovery of the Neutrino.

We are working with the Savannah River National Laboratory to organize an event, for conference participants, at the discovery site.

This event will include a visit to the P Reactor, lectures on this historical discovery, a banquet celebration and a public lecture to mark the anniversary.

This event would precede the main conference.





We Look Forward to Welcoming You All to Blacksburg in 2026