UEC Meeting Notes 6/18

- Congress is making progress on big things like FY 2025 appropriations and the National Defense Authorization Act.
- Regarding FY 2025 appropriations and funding for the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation, the House Appropriations Committee plans to advance both the FY 2025 Energy and Water bill (DOE) and the Commerce-Justice-Science bill (NSF) on July 9. The House typically releases funding details a few days ahead of the full Committee mark up. We expect funding for DOE and NSF to be at or below FY 2024 spending levels given the cuts proposed by House Republicans for non-defense programs.
- The Senate hasn't released its schedule yet, but Senate Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) announced that the Committee plans to start advancing appropriations bills the week of July 8.
- Miriam and Leland have been leading the advocacy support letters for the LC-130 planes needed to support NSF's contribution to CMB-S4 and other physics, astronomy, and climate projects. They have all the signatures and are finalizing formatting. There are at least 11 universities, six societies and associations, and over 150 signatures. At this stage in the appropriations process, the letter is meant to influence the FY 2025 Senate defense appropriations bill and future conferencing for a final defense bill.
- There are major science and technology authorization bills of relevance to HEP in emerging technology areas we are tracking:
  - The National Quantum Reauthorization Act: The House is trying to get is passed on the floor with unanimous consent and the Senate Commerce Committee is actively drafting a bill.
  - Artificial Intelligence legislation, including a DOE AI Initiative: The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee has a marker bill ready to be introduced if the Senate moves on a larger AI innovation package. Prospects are 50/50 whether it is included in a final appropriations, supplemental spending package, or attached to the NDAA.
- Each of the major Office of Science Advisory Committees and program offices, including HEPAP and HEP, submitted major facility priority plans to Office of Science leadership and they will prioritize the various facilities to help with future planning.
- It's our understanding that it is not clear whether the document will be public facing but we think the HEP facilities, especially coming on the heels of P5, will be high on the priority list but it's something that we're tracking closely.