

Weekly NPP Update (25 Nov 2019)

In response to the request for more timely communication expressed in the responses to the CultureIQ survey, we are starting a weekly update of goings-on in NPP. We hope you find this informative and useful. If you have suggestions how we can improve format or content, please let us know by emailing to capasso@bnl.gov. (If you would like to keep your comments confidential, Fran will be glad to honor your request.)

Berndt & Dmitri

- The preparations for the FY 2020 RHIC run are nearing their end. The STAR detector is ready for data taking during the second year of the Beam Energy Scan II campaign. The end-cap Time-of-Flight detector supplied by GSI has been refurbished and reinstalled. The cool-down to 4.5K will begin on December 2. The full run schedule and the slides from the first weekly Machine/Experiment Meeting can be found on the RHIC planning webpage https://www.c-ad.bnl.gov/esfd/RMEM_20/rhic_planning.htm
- This year's fall meeting of the High Energy Physics Advisory Panel (HEPAP) was held on November 21-22 in Bethesda, MD. After status reports from the agencies, the meeting focused on the preparations for the 2020/21 Snowmass/P5 planning process and on a review of the progress made towards the goals of the 2014 P5 plan. The full agenda and slides of the presentations are found at <https://science.osti.gov/hep/hepap/Meetings>
- Our monthly HEP management call with DOE Office of High Energy Physics (OHEP) leaders was held on November 18. We provided updates on various ongoing efforts:
 - ATLAS upgrades progress, including planned presentations to the Director of the Office of Science, Chris Fall.
 - Preparation of a LSST data center proposal from BNL.
 - Pre-Snowmass meetings/discussions and the BNL participation in the process
 - Progress with 21cm PUMA proposal, which has been accepted to proceed to the next stage by Astronomy & Astrophysics Decadal Survey
 - Visit of DUNE Project Director Tim Bolton to BNL on November 14-15
 - DUNE "Module of Opportunity" workshop at BNL last week.
 - Feedback to OHEP on funding during a possible Continuing Resolution
- The CBETA project took another step forward towards its goal of achieving Milestone 11 (four-pass beam recirculation with energy recovery) by the end of December 2019. The electron beam accomplished a third pass through the main cryo-module reaching an energy of 114 MeV. The next challenge will be to reduce the time needed to restore the same conditions when beam operations start each morning.
- A task force led by George Goode continues to finalize the schedule to prepare for a successful Accelerator Readiness Review (ARR) of the Brookhaven Linac

Isotope Producer (BLIP) and the Target Processing Laboratory (TPL). A visit by two high-level administrators from the Office of Science visited BNL last week for a briefing on the BNL plans. In parallel with scrubbing of the schedule, the work on a revision of the BLIP/TPL Safety Assessment Document (SAD) is continuing with high priority.

- The ALDs participated in a meeting of the Inclusion and Diversity Management Steering Committee (I&D MSC) that reports to Laboratory Director Doon Gibbs. The MSC heard and responded to comments and suggestions from the Employee Resource Groups. One paramount theme was that many members of the EERGs are concerned about making their voices heard without repercussions. Generally, we heard that the survey was not effective in bringing the concerns of minority groups among employees to light. There was also a general sentiment that the process of developing actions in response to the survey results is unfolding too slowly.