



January 24, 2010

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To: Attendees of the Detector R&D Workshop
From: Chip Brock Past Chair, Division of Particles and Fields
Re: DPF Task Force on Instrumentation in High Energy Physics

Thank you for your attendance and participation in the Detector R&D Workshop at Fermilab. The broad conclusion at the close of the Saturday session came as the answer to a leading question: "Should our community attempt to craft a national program of Detector R&D?" The answer I heard was "yes" and that the DPF is the appropriate organization to envision such a national approach to this important subject. We agreed at the workshop that "next steps" were in order and this note will describe my plan for these "next steps."

We are undertaking a multi-month study which we are calling the *DPF Task Force on Instrumentation in High Energy Physics*. I'm pleased that both Marcel Demarteau of Argonne National Laboratory (and my co-organizer of the workshop) and Professor Ian Shipsey of Purdue University have agreed to jointly lead the project. The "deliverable" of the Task Force will be a report to Patricia McBride and me by the fall of 2011. Patty is now the DPF chair for 2011 and I have one more year on the Executive Committee in the position of "past chair."

Charge

We have a charge which you can find on the DPF Newsletter website (<http://www.dpfnewsletter.org/>). Comments are welcome until January 31, 2011.

Schedule

The Task Force should be charged, formed and beginning its deliberations by mid February, 2011. There are three points on the calendar during which community discussions and through the year, Task Force ideas should be openly discussed:

1. TIPP 2011 (<http://conferences.fnal.gov/tipp11/>) is scheduled for June 9-14, 2011 in Chicago, Illinois.
2. The APS "April Meeting" (<http://www.aps.org/meetings/april/index.cfm>) is scheduled for April 30-May 3 in Anaheim, California.
3. DPF2011 (<http://www.hep.brown.edu/~DPF2011/>), scheduled for August 9-13, 2011 at Brown University.

At DPF2011 we expect that the report and recommendations should be quite mature and that open discussion at a special session at Brown will inform the final report which we are asking for by September 30, 2011.

Membership

Ian, Marcel, Patty McBride, and I are discussing the Task Force membership and we are consulting with colleagues. In broad terms, I anticipate its membership to be along the following lines:

1. **Leadership:** Marcel and Ian will co-chair the Task Force
2. **Explicit Laboratory Membership:** We have asked each of the five DOE national laboratories to recommend an individual to represent their programs.
3. **Explicit University Membership:** We are currently looking for five university faculty who are broadly experienced in these matters.
4. **Expert members:** Without allowing the committee to become too large, we anticipate inviting some individuals—without regard to their lab-university affiliation—to join because they have particular expertise or responsibilities.
5. **Ex-officio members:** Howard Nicholson, who recently completed several successful years as a visiting physicist at the DOE Office of High Energy Physics, will bring both an experienced picture of what may be possible, what might be difficult to accomplish within DOE and NSF, and a strong desire to see this subject to a healthier future. His current independence is appropriate for a DPF study. In addition, the DPF Executive Committee would like for one of the “chair line” to be an ex-officio member of the Task Force and I have agreed to do that.

So, with two leaders, two ex-officio individuals, ten representative members, and no more than four expert members, the Task Force will have approximately 14-18 members. While a large number, there are multiple topics to cover and overlapping subdivision would be appropriate.

The open discussion brought up several interesting and important points, some of which are incorporated in the charge and some of which the Task Force will be cognizant of, but which would be more appropriate for “next, next steps.” These include matters of university culture with respect to Ph.D. degrees, whether APS more broadly should be brought into this discussion, and whether other fields and professional societies should similarly be explicitly engaged. We felt that the charge is challenging enough and that if they are successful, we will have a platform from which we might build.