

# RHIC/AGS Users Open Forum

Rene Bellwied (Wayne State University)  
UEC Chair

A short introduction to the UEC  
Accomplishments of the past year (Thanks John !)  
Steve Vigdor, the new Associate Lab Director (ALD)

# Present UEC membership

UEC Member 3-year term:

Helen Caines, Yale  
Jim Sowinski, Indiana  
Chuck Whitten, UCLA

Student/Postdoc Reps.  
1-year term:

Sarah Campbell, SUNYSB  
Christine Nattrass, Yale

Appt. Member 2-year term:

Michael Murray, Kansas  
Gerco Onderwater, University of Groningen

Continuing Members:

John Hill, Iowa State, Chair  
Brant Johnson, BNL, Past Chair  
Abhay Deshpande, SUNYSB  
Barbara Erasmus, Subatech  
Matthias Grosse-Perdekamp, UIUC  
John Lajoie, Iowa State  
Bill Morse, BNL  
Greg Nelson, Loma Linda  
George Stephans, MIT  
Julia Velkovska, Vanderbilt

# Ex-Officio Members

**BNL Director :**

**BNL Deputy Dir. For Sci. & Tech.:**

**Assoc. Lab. Dir. for HEP and NP:**

**Chair of Collider-Accelerator Dept.:**

**Chair of Physics Department:**

**Accelerator Division Head:**

**Exp. Support Facilities Head:**

**Director of Users' Center:**

**Sam Aronson**

**Doon Gibbs**

**Steve Vigdor**

**Derek Lowenstein**

**Sally Dawson**

**Thomas Roser**

**Phil Pile**

**Susan White-DePace**

# Present Users Center Staff

**Kelly Guiffreda  
Angela Melocoton  
Regina Robinson  
and Susan White-DePace**

plus the users center staff is expanding as we speak...

# The New Users Center



- All under one roof: housing, badges, users center, bank, rental car (soon to come)
- Online Training, Guest-ID's
- RHIC News Online (biweekly)
  - <http://www.bnl.gov/rhic/news/>
- Contact
  - <http://www.bnl.gov/userscenter>
  - E-mail: [userscenter@bnl.gov](mailto:userscenter@bnl.gov)
  - Phone: 631-344-3333

# The Four UEC Working Groups

## Site Access and Science

- Physical Access (Visa, Guest Appointment, Gate Access)
- Computer Access (Cybersecurity, Scientific Computing)
- Safety, Training, Scientific Computing and data transfer issues

## Funding, Politics, and Programmatics

- Funding: Facility Operations, Research, and User Support.
- Political Action: Interactions with DOE, OSTP, OMB, Congress
- Programmatic Issues of broad user interest (e.g., test beams)

## Meetings, Communication, and Outreach

- Annual Users' Meeting and semi-annual Users' Group Meetings
- Quarterly Open Forums, Monthly UEC Meetings, and Web Pages.
- User communication, including outreach to the wider community.

## Quality of Life

- Housing, Transportation, & Food; Recreation and Socialization
- Liaisons to Association for Students And Postdocs (ASAP)
- Site Enhancements (better lighting, foot paths, maintenance)
- Agenda input for Open Forums at BNL and User Group Meetings

# UEC Working Group Members

| <b>SAS</b>          | <b>FPP</b>   | <b>MCO</b>       | <b>QOL</b>     |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| <b>White-DePace</b> | <b>Hill</b>  | <b>Bellwied</b>  | <b>Johnson</b> |
| Erazmus             | Bellwied     | Caines           | Campbell       |
| Hill                | Caines       | Campbell         | Hill           |
| Johnsom             | Deshpande    | Deshpande        | Murray         |
| Lajoie              | Erazmus      | Grosse-Perdekamp | Nattrass       |
| Nelson              | Johnson      | Hill             | Nelson         |
| Oderwater           | Lajoie       | Johnson          | Onderwater     |
| Sowinski            | Morse        | Nattrass         | Stephans       |
| Velkovska           | Murray       | Stephans         | White-DePace   |
| Whitten             | Sowinski     | White-DePace     | Whitten        |
| Bellwied            | Velkovska    |                  | Bellwied       |
|                     | White-DePace |                  |                |

# UEC candidates – this year

- Chair
  - Abhay Deshpande (Stony Brook)
  - Hank Crawford (Berkeley)
- Student/Postdoc Members
  - Mike McCumber (Stony Brook)
  - Christine Nattrass (Yale)
  - Astrid Morreale (UC Riverside)
  - Dylan Thein (UT Austin)
- Members
  - Manuel Calderon (UC Davis)
  - Claude Pruneau (Wayne State University)
  - Carla Vale (BNL)
  - Brant Johnson (BNL)
  - Justin Frantz (Stony Brook)
  - Renee Fatemi (MIT)

# The past year

- This was a very busy year with a strong variety of issues in all four sub working groups of the UEC.
- The outgoing chair, John Hill, did a marvelous job in coordinating and expediting all the issues we had to deal with. Thanks John !
- We were involved in many topics, some were openly discussed (cyber security, continuing resolution, quality of life issues, NUFO), some required some more 'behind the scenes' work (gender bias issues, high-energy density initiative, dealing with new regulations on site).
- So the UEC was very busy, and in the following you'll see a short summary of most sub working group activities.

# Summary of past year (SAS)

- New Cyber Security Regulations
  - Organized cyber security survey
- New Foreign National Regulations
  - Trying to understand issues on a case by case basis
- BNL now has a Homeland Security Office and a Counter-Intelligence Unit (CIU)
  - Represent users in their interactions with HSO and CIU

# Summary of past year (FPP)

- Involvement in Continuing Resolution and New Budget discussions
  - Letter writing campaigns together with APS
- Involvement in stopping the HED initiative
  - In concert with APS
- Congressional Visits Day
- Involvement in NUFO
- Planning Three-Chair Visits in the Fall
- Talk to your local Congress people

# Summary of past year (MCO)

- Monthly UEC meetings
  - Issues: FPP, QOL, SAS
- Quarterly Open Forum Meetings
  - Speakers: Mike Holland (Washington), Steve Pierson (APS), Tom Ludlam, Tom Schlagel, John Amabile, Randy Biegelman
- Annual Users Meeting
  - Workshops a good idea ?, Format ?, Timing ?

# Summary of past year (QOL)

- The BNL Café
  - See next page
- Lighting for the RHIC ring street
  - In the middle of \$4 Million priority list for lighting improvements for this fiscal year, highest priority for next fiscal year
- New ASAP (Assoc. of Students & Postdocs) lounge
  - Open house yesterday, 4 p.m., close to gym, Bldg.462
- Kitchen improvements for Dormitories
  - Moving ahead
- The gym floor project
  - Almost done (end of June), 'wet floor slip issue'
- RHIC online newsletter (<http://www.bnl.gov/rhic/news>)
  - John Haggerty - coordinator
- Plans for next year: housing !! Revive 3<sup>rd</sup> party idea

# The café



Choose from a variety of finishes  
Custom or stock designs  
Complete modular system

**Coffee Café (proposed)**  
Monday – Friday  
7:30 am – 7:30 pm

- ☀ Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Tall(12oz) \$1.45, Venti (20oz) \$1.70
- ☀ Espresso Solo \$1.50, Doppio \$1.90
- ☀ Cappuccino Tall \$2.70, Venti \$3.55
- ☀ Bundt Cake \$ 1.65
- ☀ Asst. Muffins \$ 1.75
- ☀ Scones \$ 1.85
- ☀ Asst. Biscotti \$ .95
- ☀ Croissants \$ .95
- ☀ Asst. Bagels \$ .95
- ☀ Apple Fritter \$ 1.85
- ☀ David's Cookies \$ .95

Located in the lobby of the users building, right in front of the users center.

Funding is forthcoming (from BSA, estimate around 40 K, likely early next fiscal year).

After that it takes about five weeks to complete procedures,



# National User Facility Organization (NUFO)

- <http://www.bnl.gov/nufo>
- <http://www.nufo.org>
- Advocate user facilities funded by Office of Science and NSF
- Letter writing campaigns in support of funding increases.
- Visit local Congress people in district and in Washington with diverse group of local scientists (faculty/students from NP, HEP, material science, nanotechnology, chemistry etc.)

# Personal comments on the future

- Major National Labs (LBNL, BNL) are trying to 'diversify', i.e. less emphasis on single large facility (RHIC), more diverse program (material science, nano center, light source etc.).
- Major push from Office of Science, mostly for renewable energy (ARPA-E, BP deal). But fundamental research should benefit as well. 25% increase in the next years (ACI or Innovations Agenda)
- We are a major facility users group with strong future plans (RHIC-II, eRHIC)
- We need to stay competitive and we need to start comparing ourselves to other users groups at BNL and at other national labs. There are common goals (see NUFO)
- But we also need to understand our own goals better (eRHIC ?, LRP ?) and communicate well with the lab management, the DoE, NSF, and the lawmakers in Washington.
- These are interesting times.
- More on these issues from Steve Vigdor, the new ALD.