RHIC/AGS Users Meeting Q&A, June 21, 2007

About Me:

- *Coming on board ~ Sept. 1*
- *Personal research on RHIC Spin, but reasonable familiarity with heavy ion (PA on STAR White Paper 2005) & AGS programs*
- *Will withdraw from STAR, STAR mailing lists by end of August, but continue to consult with supervised students/ postdocs for ~1/2 - 1 year*
- *STAR vs. PHENIX bias? Know STAR's strengths, but also weaknesses, better than PHENIX's -- Caveat PHENIX: I'm a quick study!*
- *ALD interactions with users/staff: ask hard, important questions internally -- goal: forge consensus/open processes/ crisp decisions -- use wise councils for advice, rely on Sam Aronson, Peter Bond for smooth transition*
- *Have learning curve to climb on BNL budget, organization, user quality-of-life issues*

Major RHIC/AGS Scientific Goals

- **Optimizing RHIC science impact in "LHC turn-on era"**

while

- **Launching RHIC-II CD stages in FY08**

while

- **Identifying (with user input!) optimal tradeoffs between ongoing operations and RHIC-II upgrade funding**

while

- **Sharpening/broadening eRHIC science case (make ~$700M upgrade compelling to entire NP community!)**

while

- **Arguing for funding/accommodating targeted fundamental interaction studies on AGS (e.g., new μ g-2, deuteron EDM)**

while

- **Establishing stable funding for BNL theory efforts in support of RHIC/eRHIC programs**

Major RHIC/AGS Scientific Goals, continued

while

- **Ensuring health of combined ATLAS-RHIC Computing Facility**

while

- **Developing continued BNL technical and intellectual leadership within ATLAS and Daya Bay projects**

while

- **…**

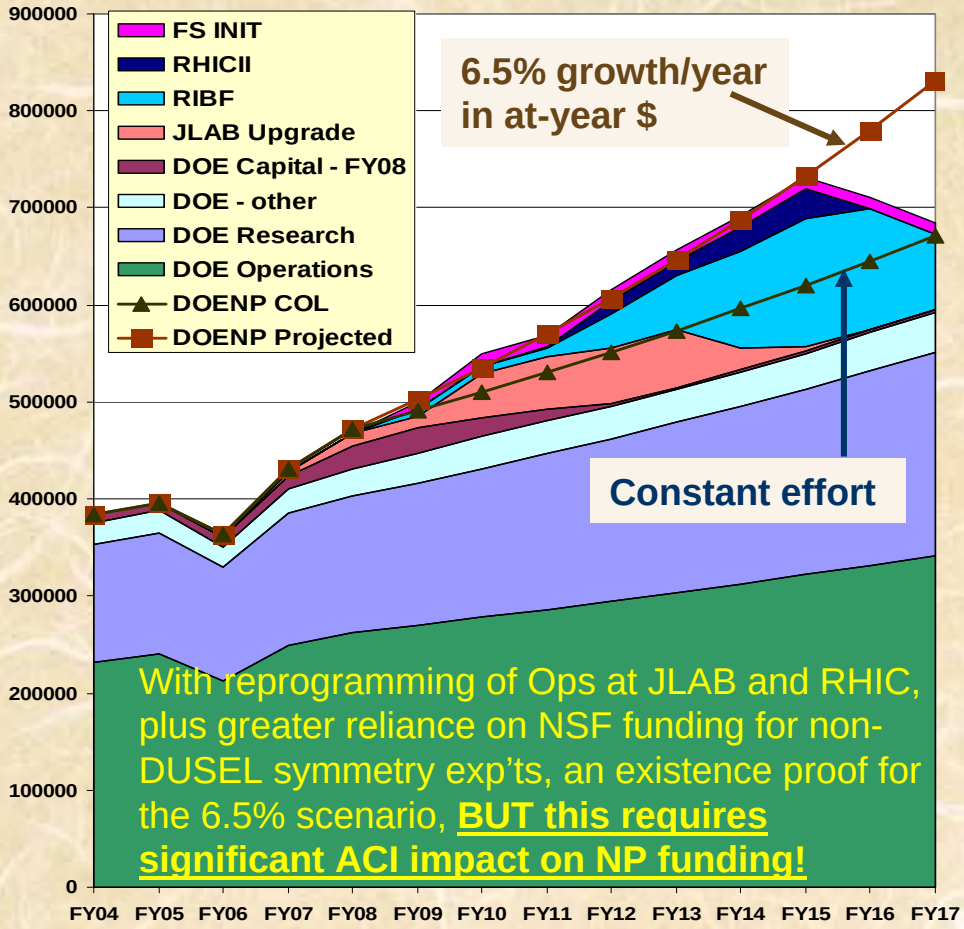
Some Challenges Posed by U.S. Nuclear Research Program

- **Healthy funding needed to achieve LRP goals ⇒ ACI success and relevance critical !**

  ⇒ need input from users on scientists trained at AGS/RHIC addressing national needs; national impact of high-level computing and other technical advances made at BNL

- **Timeline to launch major new facility (e.g., eRHIC) ≈ lifetime of major new facility !**

  ⇒ essential to find resources (esp. scientists) to plan long-term future despite pressing commitments to ongoing research, detector development



- **Long-term future likely to include only one NP facility with QCD focus**

  ⇒ inevitable RHIC-JLab tension -- take account in planning; try to partner; emphasize strong, innovative BNL staff + user base to keep RHIC/AGS in favorable position; educate community re collider ops. cost

- **As major NP labs get even bigger, university labs harder to keep alive!**

  $\Rightarrow$ Critical to find continuing ways to partner with university groups in development of RHIC/AGS upgrade plans