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# How the BNL CAC Was Formed

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**BNL CAC Meeting**  
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# How the BNL CAC Was Formed

*August 1997:*

## Brookhaven Executive Round Table (BER) hosted by DOE

- Formed by “special” stakeholders with formal responsibility for Lab operations, to the community
- “A forum for frequent, routine and executive-level communications about BNL, and to integrate activities within the community related to BNL”
- Originally met biweekly; continues to meet approximately two to four times per year, or as requested by a member



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***November 1997:***

## **Site-Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Workshop hosted by DOE**

- SSABs governed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA)
- Open forum with 22 attending
- SSAB members from six DOE facilities discussed their experiences and answered questions
- Attendees' survey result: Both for and against establishing an SSAB



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*January-March 1998:*

## The Exploration Committee hosted by DOE

- SSAB Workshop input insufficient for DOE action
- DOE proposed/BER endorsed committee to “explore and discuss the broad community’s views about whether or not to establish an SSAB at BNL”:
  - “Are diverse elements of the community willing to participate in an SSAB?”
  - “Are those elements of the community ... willing to commit the time and energy necessary to make this advisory board work for all?”



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- Committee asked 1,500 local/regional organizations and individuals the two questions
- Committee's report to the BER:
  - Clear willingness to participate, commit time/energy
  - Recommends formation of a “citizen committee”
- BNL chose to form a “citizen committee” to advise Lab director
- May 1998: BNL Director John Marburger invited 30 organizations and individuals to join what would become the “BNL Community Advisory Council”.
- CAC met for the first time in September 1998



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