

As a member of the Fermilab UEC, I would be particularly interested in identifying and strengthening communication channels between Fermilab and the university groups which use the Fermilab facilities in order to best address what kind of support is needed in Washington for effective funding of the U.S. HEP program. Fermilab's restored funding is wonderful news and hopefully similarly good news will continue for the foreseeable future, although the university groups did not receive any benefit from the supplemental funding. If future budget disputes or issues arise which threaten the funding of Fermilab and/or its users, the best defense is to have strong, informed support from as many sources as possible. The recent presentations from Mike Holland and Adam Rosenberg at the Fermilab User's Meeting in June clearly under-scored the importance of having a united community which is well-informed of the issues facing the HEP program. Presently it seems that while many critical people are very well-informed of how HEP is perceived in Washington, many "ordinary" users are not aware of the issues which face HEP in regards to funding decisions (*e.g.* one of our best cases for funding support may lie in demonstrating the economic impact of the human resources produced in the training of high-energy physicists, although so far no economic studies demonstrating this have been commissioned, or claiming that HEP is the most fundamental of all sciences is offensive to the many scientists from other disciplines that are responsible for much of the science policy decisions, etc.) Broad community knowledge of how HEP is perceived outside of our usual circle of advocates is invaluable, because it helps us to formulate stronger defenses of our program. I also believe that having as many physicists engaged with these problems as possible will strengthen our position if future hardships arise, in addition to bringing valuable insight into new ways to address such fundamental questions as "why is high energy particle physics useful?"

In a complementary vein, I would also like to explore new outreach methods to engage the public with HEP. For anyone who has recently attended a publicly-oriented astrophysics colloquium, I think that it is clear that the astrophysicists have managed to do an exceptional job presenting their work to the public. For instance, the animations that have been produced to explain the Sloan Digital Sky Survey are engaging and of very high quality. I would like to explore the possibility of producing similar outreach materials for the HEP experiments and accelerators. With the turn-on of the LHC fast approaching, it should be natural and relatively straight-forward to engage the public's interest in HEP, which I would gauge to be already quite high based on my conversations with fellow airline passengers while commuting to Fermilab. I believe that the main thing that remains to be done is to focus this vague public interest and to help the public realize what wonderful and fundamental science they receive with the investment of their tax dollars. Partly this is a matter of taking the time to do so, and the more members of the HEP community that are engaged with this task, the more effective our efforts will be.

Although effective communication between the Fermilab and its users regarding funding issues and HEP community outreach with the public are my two main areas of interest, I also appreciate the value of quality-of-life issues at Fermilab. Although I am presently based at the University of Pittsburgh, I resided in the Fermilab village between August 2002 and August 2005. The significant amount of time that I spent at Fermilab allowed me to become familiar with many of the features of life at Fermilab, both work-related and extra-curricular. I particularly enjoyed the bicycling paths in and around Fermilab during my time while I was resident there, as well as the public lectures, the monthly film series, and the rotating exhibits which are featured in the second floor mezzanine in the high-rise. Balancing the need for such resources and deciding which to maintain in the transition period following

the end of the Tevatron operation will require careful stewardship. Since high quality-of-life will also help to facilitate the ease with which the remote LHC operations center will function and also perhaps the development of Project X, I believe that maintaining a good quality-of-life at Fermilab is essential and I would consider this a priority as a member of the Fermilab UEC.