

Calendar

Tuesday, October 19

3:30 p.m. DIRECTOR'S COFFEE

BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over

THERE WILL BE NO ACCELERATOR PHYSICS AND TECHNOLOGY SEMINAR TODAY

Wednesday, October 20

3:30 p.m. DIRECTOR'S COFFEE

BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over

4:00 p.m. Fermilab Colloquium - 1

West

Speaker: H. Georgi, Harvard University

Title: Women and the Future of Physics

Wilson Hall Cafe

Tuesday, October 19

Golden Broccoli & Cheese

Hickory Smoked BBQ Pork \$4.75

Japanese Breaded Pork Cutlet \$3.75

Hawaiian Marinated Chicken with Grilled Pineapple \$3.75

Toasted Almond Chicken Salad \$4.75

Supreme Baked Pizza \$2.75

Chicken Fajita Tacos \$4.75

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

[Chez Leon](#)

Weather



Chance Drizzle 55°/46°

[Extended Forecast](#)

[Weather at Fermilab](#)

Current Security Status

[Secou Level 3](#)

Electric Arc Burns Technician at Stanford Linear Accelerator Center



The electrical accident at SLAC occurred in the above-ground Klystron Gallery, similar to the basement gallery shown in the photo. (Click on image for larger version.)

A contractor's electrician working at SLAC suffered serious burns on Monday, October 11, while installing a breaker switch next to a live 480-Volt electrical panel in the Klystron Gallery of the linear accelerator. An electrical arc, described as a "fireball" by the co-workers who rescued him, ignited the electrician's clothing, causing 2nd and 3rd degree burns over 60% of his body. As of today, a week following the accident, the worker's condition has been upgraded from critical to serious, and is sufficiently stable to remove him from a ventilator.

In an all-hands meeting the day after the accident, SLAC Director Jonathan Dorfan told the lab workforce: "We are at a turning point in the life of our laboratory and now is the time for change. The safety culture at SLAC must improve. There is no alternative."

Director's Corner

Good Morning!

As CERN marks its 50th anniversary today, it is a good time to note that we are fast approaching the time of first physics results from the LHC and the tremendous boost it will give to particle physics worldwide.



Mike Witherell

The LHC promises more than the long-awaited discovery of whatever Higgs boson might exist. Dark matter is abundant in the universe, and the chances are very good that we will find out what it is made of at the LHC. As attractive as the prospects are for finding exotic new physics like supersymmetry or extra dimensions at the Tevatron, we will be able to search for them in expansive new territory when the LHC results start coming in.

The LHC accelerator and the CMS and ATLAS experiments are large, complex instruments to build and to operate. Problems will come up over the next few years, and innovative physicists and engineers will solve them. The tremendous physics payoff at the LHC will be well worth this heroic effort.

Announcements

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Dorfan exhorted each employee to "deliberate with the utmost seriousness what we can do to identify, root out, and change any behavior or process that could be unsafe."

A DOE Type A investigation team has been assembled and begins its investigation of the incident today at SLAC. All work activities have been suspended since the accident, and will resume only after the completion of several well-defined steps designed to raise the safety consciousness of the entire workforce. Some work, such as electrical work, and hoisting and rigging, will be suspended indefinitely. In a memorandum distributed on Monday, October 18, Dorfan told the SLAC workforce that he took the "extraordinary step of turning off the accelerators indefinitely to allow us to focus all our energies on one imperative: SAFETY. Safety comes first: No questions! Safety is something that all of us must value above all."

Fermilab Director Michael Witherell joined Dorfan in sending wishes for a speedy recovery to the wife and family of the injured worker. "We will not know exactly what happened until the investigation is complete," Witherell said. But in the interim, he added, "this incident serves as a reminder that much of the work we do is hazardous. To avoid accidents, we need to continue and even improve the practices that we know work: careful planning, appropriate training, protective equipment, and approved procedures. We simply can't afford to become complacent."

New Chez Leon Prices

Effective 10/13, Chez Leon changed its price for lunch from \$10.00 to \$12.00 per person. Effective 11/1, Chez Leon will change its price for dinner from \$23.00 to \$25.00 per person.

Fermilab Lecture Series this Friday
Timothy N. Wittman, Adjunct Professor of Architectural History & Historic Preservation, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago will present "A Confluence of Art, Science, and Economic Practicality: The Development of the Skyscraper." this Friday, October 22 at 8:00 p.m. in Ramsey Auditorium.

[more information](#)

Fermilab Association of Rocketry
The Fermilab Association of Rocketry is having its monthly club meeting on October 20 at 5:00 p.m., in the lower level of the village barn. The winter building sessions will begin after the meeting. If you have something you want to build, bring it with you. Or just come, hang out and talk about rockets!

[more information](#)

Power Outage News

MI-65

October 25 – Power will be off to the MI-65 service building and tunnel for 5 hours starting at 2 PM on Monday.

MI-40

October 27 – The power will be off to the MI-40 service building and tunnel for three and a half hours starting at 8:30 AM on Wednesday.

In the News

From the *Rapid City Journal*, October 13, 2004

NSF asks for deep-lab proposals

By Bill Harlan

The National Science Foundation on Wednesday asked for site proposals for a "deep underground science and engineering laboratory" — or DUSEL.

"This is great news," California physicist Kevin Lesko said. "It's out, and it's out before the election. The NSF is doing what they said they'd do."

[Read more](#)