

1st meeting of 2019/2020 UEC - Aug 23th 2019

Present: Sevil, Ron, Rosi, Megan, Justin, Xuan, Yacine, Peter, Ajeeta, Matt, Kelly, Teri and Kathy

New members are welcomed: Student/Postdoc Representatives: Matt Sievert, Prashanth Shanmuganathan, Ajeeta Khatiwada, General Members: Megan Connors, Ralf Seidl, Shinichi Esumi, Appointed members: Yacine Mehtar-Tani, Peter Petreczky, Zhenyu Ye and Chair Elect: Ron Belmont.

Many thanks to the outgoing members, Student/Postdoc: Jasmine Brewer, Sooraj Raghakirshnan, David Tlusty, General Members: Brett Fadem, Claudia Ratti Bjorn Schenke, Aihong Tang, Appointed Member Kenneth Barish and Past Chair: Daniel Cebra.

Many thanks to Kathy Nasta, Angela Melocoton, Kelly Guiffreda, and Teri Lazar who guide us to communicate with BNL so that we can function as the UEC.

As a group, our main role is to communicate important issues to lab management, and vice-versa. We'll meet once a month currently set for 2nd Friday of each month from 2-4pm. We'll provide a doodle form towards the end of the year to find a more globally acceptable time so that UEC members from Asia can join and to avoid the current conflict with the Nuclear Seminars in BNL.

We are organized within 5 working groups. These are: SAS, FPP, MCO, Quality of Life, and Diversity. Further information regarding the charges of these working groups can be found in our uec website: <http://www.rhicuec.org>. We request that each UEC member sign up to at least one of these working groups and provide input.

The additional committees that need to be set up are: Meeting minutes, APS/DNP Awards, DNP/APS Talk nomination, Thesis Awards, Merit Awards and possibly others. We ask UEC members to volunteer for these committees. (For example, it would be good to have an invited talk at the DNP to celebrate 20 years of RHIC running in the 2020 DNP meeting.)

To sign-up to these committees, please email Kelly, Ron, Rosi and Sevil.

To accommodate members who cannot attend these monthly meetings and to provide information to our users of our discussions, we plan to make our monthly meeting minutes public. These minutes will be posted in the <http://www.rhicuec.org/events.aspx> together with the slides. The notes will become public after circulation in the UEC email list and after the approval of the chair to ensure quality and accuracy.

Meetings:

The two meetings that UEC organizes are AUM and DNP Open Form and this year they will be chaired by Ron Belmont.

The date of the Open Forum during upcoming DNP meeting is expected to be finalized next week after consultation with Gail, the conference coordinator of DNP. It is currently penciled in for Oct 15th. Due to the short duration of the DNP meeting unfortunately this time conflicts with the women in physics dinner. One main speaker will be identified and invited for the open form and users will be encouraged to give input for the open form. Light snacks are expected to be served during the meeting.

AUM meeting possible weeks are: June 9-12th or June 16th-19th. The priority is the June 9th-12th to

highlight the 20th anniversary of RHIC running. First collisions were at 9 pm on June 12th in 2000 so the theme of AUM this year will be the 20th anniversary of RHIC running. To make it a special event, we will start thinking about inviting special guests, for example founding spokespersons of RHIC experiments, politicians and or ADL who made RHIC a reality. In order to invite congressperson or people we need to communicate with David Manning who has previously helped inviting Rush Holt to AUM during the 2015 AUM. Communicate with BNL management to make this event even more special such as possibly fireworks at 9 pm on the 12th or a party to bring the community together. Keep ADL in the loop for his help, feedback and possible access to media funds.

UEC members' homework is to check the schedules to ensure that June 9th-12th is not going to have conflicting meetings before finalizing we finalize the AUM for that week.

Like in previous years, it would be good to bring guests to stimulate discussions in our monthly UEC meetings. In light of the recent change of food services, we would like to invite Tom Daniels or Mark Davis in our next monthly meeting scheduled on Sep 13th.

FPP:

Nuclear Physics DC Days have been very influential. Users will be again invited to participate this year. Users are kindly asked to provide non-governmental email address. Kelly will investigate if listservs can be used to collect non-governmental email addresses of interested users to ensure full communication. Communicate with the users the importance of where they sign up from, i.e. their zip codes to maximize number of meetings with underrepresented states. If possible, communicate with other UEC chairs to ensure key states will have meetings with a delegation independent of whether they have constituents or not.

Quality of Life:

New catering company took over food services in BNL as of Aug 9th. Some questions are raised regarding the services that they provide. While the food quality appears to be similar to previous catering company, it appears to be they are not environmentally friendly in the sense that only disposable cutlery and to go boxes are used. Maybe this is due to the adjustment period. Trash also apparently not collected fast enough which were brought up by users to various members of the UEC. Kathy will look into the trash collection and Cutlery issue further. It is also unclear to users the implication of apparent protests of previous employees. It was mentioned that the BNL employees received a notification about this and the question of if such statements need to be given to all users. It was unclear if such a statement is useful since not all active users are present in BNL but maybe this can be blogged.

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To ensure that users can give feedback, it would be good to have an anonymous input box in our <http://www.rhicuec.org>. This can be setup as an upload of files such as pictures or just text. UEC will investigate this further as this is a useful way of collecting user input for diversity and other issues.