

## **RHIC and AGS Users Executive Committee Monthly Meeting**

**Second Thursday of each month, Noon-2:00 PM (Eastern)**

**2/8/2018**

# Today's Guest



**Dr. Michael Thoennessen**  
**Editor in Chief, American Physical Society**

<https://www.aps.org/publications/apsnews/updates/thoennessen.cfm>

- **2017-present Editor in Chief at the American Physical Society**
  - with responsibility to shape the future of the APS journals
- **1985 Diploma in Physics, University of Cologne**
- **1988 Ph. D. SUNY Stony Brook, Nuclear Physics**
- **1988-1990 Research Associate at ORNL**
- **1990-2015 Professor at Michigan State University**
- **2003-2007 Associate Director of NSCL at MSU**
- **2004-2016 Supervisory Editor of Nuclear Physics A**
- **2007-2013 Associate Director for Education at NSCL**
- **2015-2017 NSSC Executive Director & NSCL Director for User Relations**
- **2015-present University Distinguished Professor**

**Fellow of the APS, Chair of the DNP, DNP Mentoring award, Junior Faculty Mentoring Award, and author of 220 papers in refereed journals**

# A few talking points with Michael



- Folks on the phone: please aggressively interrupt the conversation to insert your thoughts and questions
- Changes at the Physical Review since 1893 (125 years)
  - Beautiful timeline at <http://journals.aps.org/125years>
  - PRL started in 1958 (60 years), Phys. Rev. A-D in 1970
- Open Access publishing
  - Which journals are Open Access?
  - How does open access publishing work?
  - How does the publisher pay the bills?
- Relationship with the arXiv at Cornell
  - An independent arXiv from APS?
- New Journals
  - Astronomers have started an online journal for null results. Good idea?
  - What is the future of online publishing at the APS?
- You were the Chair of the DNP, recently, a few good words about the DNP?

# UEC Membership



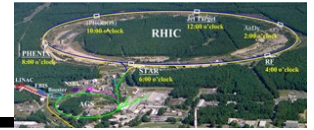
Name	Position	Term	Affiliation
<a href="#"><u>Jim Thomas</u></a>	Chair	6/17 - 6/18	<a href="#"><u>The Berkeley Lab</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Rosi Reed</u></a>	Chair Elect	6/17 - 6/18	<a href="#"><u>Lehigh University</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Lijuan Ruan</u></a>	Past Chair	6/17 - 6/18	<a href="#"><u>Brookhaven National Laboratory</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Megan Connors</u></a>	Member	6/16 - 6/19	<a href="#"><u>Georgia State University</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Brett Fadem</u></a>	Member	6/16 - 6/19	<a href="#"><u>Muhlenberg College</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Justin Frantz</u></a>	Member	6/17 - 6/20	<a href="#"><u>Ohio University</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Tony Frawley</u></a>	Member	6/17 - 6/20	<a href="#"><u>Florida State University</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Jacquelyn Noronha-Hostler</u></a>	Member	6/17 - 6/20	<a href="#"><u>Rutgers University</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Claudia Ratti</u></a>	Member	6/16 - 6/19	<a href="#"><u>University of Houston</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Sevil Salur</u></a>	Member	6/16 - 6/19	<a href="#"><u>Rutgers University</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Bjoern Schenke</u></a>	Member	6/16 - 6/19	<a href="#"><u>Brookhaven National Laboratory</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Bernd Surrow</u></a>	Member	6/15 - 6/18	<a href="#"><u>Temple University</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Aihong Tang</u></a>	Member	6/16 - 6/19	<a href="#"><u>Brookhaven National Laboratory</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Kenneth Barish</u></a>	Appointed Member	6/17 - 6/19	<a href="#"><u>UC Riverside</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Gabor David</u></a>	Appointed Member	6/16 - 6/18	<a href="#"><u>SUNY @ Stony Brook</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Peter Petreczky</u></a>	Appointed Member	6/16 - 6/18	<a href="#"><u>Brookhaven National Laboratory</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Matthew Posik</u></a>	Appointed Member	6/16 - 6/18	<a href="#"><u>Temple University</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Daniel Brandenburg</u></a>	Student/Post-doc Rep	6/17 - 6/18	<a href="#"><u>Rice University</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Alexander Jentsch</u></a>	Student/Post-doc Rep	6/17 - 6/18	<a href="#"><u>University of Texas</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Li Yi</u></a>	Student/Post-doc Rep	6/17 - 6/18	<a href="#"><u>Yale University</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Doon Gibbs</u></a>	Ex-Officio Member		<a href="#"><u>Brookhaven National Laboratory</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Hong Ma</u></a>	Ex-Officio Member		<a href="#"><u>Brookhaven National Laboratory</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Berndt Mueller</u></a>	Ex-Officio Member		<a href="#"><u>Brookhaven National Laboratory</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Thomas Roser</u></a>	Ex-Officio Member		<a href="#"><u>Brookhaven National Laboratory</u></a>

# Agenda Suggestions & Committee Reports



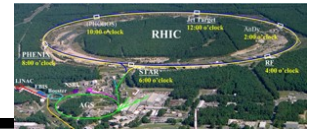
- **Site access and Science**
  - Kathy & Kelly updates, especially the Russian visa situation, Office 365
- **Meetings, Communications and Outreach:**
  - Annual Users Meeting
    - The Annual Users Meeting – Rosi
    - Thesis competition and Thesis Awards – LiJuan
  - DNP Election Results
- **Diversity**
  - Maintaining a diverse, inclusive, productive and stress free work place
    - Diversity Committee report – Justin
    - Fellowships and tracking women in Physics – Jaki
- **Funding, Politics and Programmatics**
  - Nuclear Science Day on the Hill April 9<sup>th</sup> – Jim
- **Quality of Life**
  - BNL Center after hours dining ... probably a lost cause ... do we push?
  - Day Care center ... do we follow up?
  - Water in the apartments, loss of the Service Station ... do we follow up?

# Kathy and Kelly's Corner

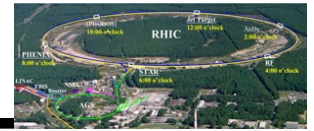


- Kathy and Kelly's notes & important news
- Russian Visas
  - The ups
  - and the downs
- Office 365
  - Coming to BNL
  - Users may not be so interested (right?)

# The Annual Users Meeting

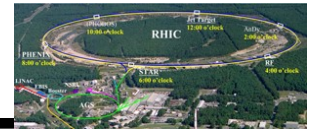


- **Our single biggest activity**
  - Workshops
  - Plenary sessions
  - Typically Tuesday – Friday, mid to late June
  - Chair of the Organizing Committee will be Prof. Rosi Reed
- **Save the Date**
  - Tell your Friends, tell our Competitors(!)
    - June 12 – 15, 2018
    - (Actually, it is very important that we advertise this date so that competing meetings don't accidentally overlap our dates. For example, the BNL Physics Department Colloquium committee, Quark Matter and the JLAB Users Meeting.)



- **The Annual Users Meeting**
  - **Poster and Web Page**





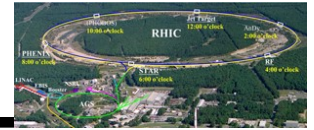
- An opportunity for LiJuan to report on additional UEC news and events plus the Annual Users Meeting
  - Thesis competition and Thesis Awards

# DNP Election Results



- DNP election results – we did well
  - An excellent slate of candidates, unusually rich in folks from the Collider and Hadronic Physics communities
    - We had an impact
    - We also benefitted from the enthusiasm and active leadership from the Chair of the nominating committee; Helen Caines (Yale). Thanks too to LiJuan and Rosi for leadership within the UEC.
  - Half of the candidates with strong ties to the RHIC and AGS communities ... won!
    - Ramona Vogt (LLNL)
    - Renee Fatemi (Kentucky)
    - Spencer Klein (LBNL)
  - The number of ballots cast in the previous two elections was about 650 out of 2700+ members. This year, 768 ballots were cast.
  - I suspect that the extra 118 ballots this year are due to the increased participation from the RHIC and AGS communities
  - It worked! We should continue to nominate candidates and urge participation in the DNP ... at all levels, including attending Fall Mtg.

# Funding, Politics and Programmatics



- **We invented two new activities last year**
  - They have tremendous merit and I would like to propose that we pursue them again this year
- 1. **Letter to Congress**
  - A letter to our congressional representatives recommending robust support for Science Funding
  - Authors to be solicited at the AUM – the timing is perfect
- 2. **Recommend a slate of Candidate for the APS/DNP Executive Committee**
  - Ask RHIC Users to send nominations to DNP Nominating Committee
  - Slate of candidates to be selected by UEC, and signatures solicited at AUM. Again, the timing is perfect ... due by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**We will need a clear set of guidelines on how to choose candidates (~March)**  
**A new committee?**

# Nuclear Physics Day on the Hill

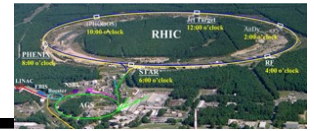


- **Lobbying Congress on behalf of the RHIC & AGS facilities, but also all of Nuclear Science**
  - A trip to DC on April 9<sup>th</sup>
  - We never criticize another facility, but we do speak to our representatives about the importance of Nuclear Science to the economy and the Nation.
  - We try to visit as many RHIC & AGS Congressional Delegations as possible
  - All UEC members are welcome and encouraged to attend
  - This is a private trip (i.e. you pay) because we can't use government resources to pay for the trip. In fact, I shouldn't even be showing you this slide :-)
- **This is a very important activity ... it does make a difference**
  - Save the date: Monday April 9<sup>th</sup>
  - If you cannot go, please recruit a colleague to go on the trip
  - So far 56 invitations out, 10 yes, 10 no and 3 maybes. Goal is ~30.

# Things to remember



- **UEC Monthly Meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each Month**
  - **October 12<sup>th</sup>**                      **Director Gibbs**
  - **November 9<sup>th</sup>**                      **Abhay Deshpande**                      **(EIC, Stonybrook)**
  - **December 14<sup>th</sup>**                      **Thomas Roser**                      **(CAD, BNL)**
  - **January 11<sup>th</sup>**                      **Kerstin Kleese van Dam**                      **(CSI, BNL)**
  - **February 8<sup>th</sup>**                      **Michael Thoennessen**                      **(Editor in Chief, APS)**
  - **March 8<sup>th</sup>**                      **Berndt Mueller**                      **(ALD, Nuclear & Particle)**
- **Primary Web address for the UEC** (it is a little slow, so be patient)
  - <http://www.rhicuec.org>
- **Communication with the UEC**
  - [rhic-uec-members@listservers.net](mailto:rhic-uec-members@listservers.net)
- **Communication with the UEC Leadership & Management Team**
  - **Jim Thomas**                      [jhthomas@lbl.gov](mailto:jhthomas@lbl.gov)                      [portjeffny@gmail.com](mailto:portjeffny@gmail.com)
  - **Rosi Reed**                      [rosijreed@lehigh.edu](mailto:rosijreed@lehigh.edu)                      [rosijreed@gmail.com](mailto:rosijreed@gmail.com)
  - **LiJuan Ruan**                      [ruan@bnl.gov](mailto:ruan@bnl.gov)                      [ljruan@gmail.com](mailto:ljruan@gmail.com)
  - **Kelly Guiffreda**                      [guiffreda@bnl.gov](mailto:guiffreda@bnl.gov)                      [guiffreda4@gmail.com](mailto:guiffreda4@gmail.com)
  - **Kathy Nasta**                      [nasta@bnl.gov](mailto:nasta@bnl.gov)                      [knasta1979@gmail.com](mailto:knasta1979@gmail.com)



## Backup Slides

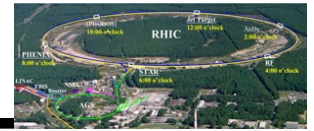
# What do we do? (its not just food and rusty water)



- **BNL LD-16 Committee Handbook - AGS/RHIC Users Executive Committee**
  - The Group's purpose is to provide an organized channel for the interchange of information between the Laboratory administration and those who use BNL's nuclear, high-energy, and heavy-ion, radiobiological, and testing facilities. Representing a wide spectrum of research workers, the group will make known to the BNL administration the needs and desires of those actively engaged in leading research projects, while providing a means for BNL to inform them of current and future plans for the Laboratory. It is expected that this will enable the Laboratory administration better to evaluate the needs of its users' so they can more efficiently plan their use of Laboratory facilities.

Our primary purpose is to communicate important issues to lab management, and vice-versa. BNL is a User Facility and so Users and Management need to communicate constructively in order to ensure a successful laboratory.

# UEC Working Groups and Committees



- **Site Access and Science**
  - Badging, training, the EIC, etc.
- **Funding, Politics and Programmatics**
  - Washington DC trip, Petitions, Letters, etc.
- **Meetings, Communications and Outreach**
  - AUM, DNP, open forums, etc.
- **Quality of Life**
  - Food (especially access to food at odd hours), Housing, Transportation, Day Care (or lack there-of), etc.
- **Diversity**
  - Maintaining a diverse, productive and stress free work force

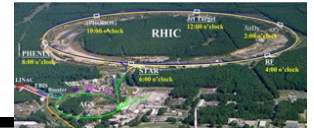
Please propose new ideas and activities!



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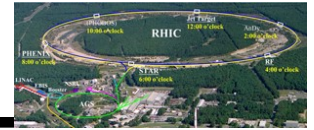
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# Communication with BNL Management



- For the past several years, Kathy has done an outstanding job of organizing monthly meetings with BNL Management
  - RHIC and Light Source Chair's attending
- We should keep doing that ... if she has the energy to continue organizing those meetings
- But I would also like to invite BNL managers to our Monthly UEC meetings in order to have a pleasantly stimulating discussion about research and life at BNL.
  - Eg. EIC discussions, NSAC Long Range Plan discussions
- I propose to invite one Manager per month to our meetings
  - Lunch time (Eastern) to keep it casual
  - Noon to 2:00 PM (Eastern) if we have a guest
  - Noon to 1:00 PM (Eastern) business meeting, only, if we don't have a guest

# How are LBGTQ issues handled around the world



- It is useful to note how our colleagues and competitors from around the world deal with Diversity and Inclusion issues
- For example, the restrooms at Cambridge Massachusetts City Hall are labelled:

**1, 2, 3 and 4**

**Swiss style private stalls in public places**