

Research Director's Report

20 November 2008



Sakue Yamada

LCWS08

The LCWS08 and ILC 08-workshops are going on in Chicago right now. For many years, the LCWS workshops have brought together the physics and detector communities to discuss recent advances relevant to the linear collider. Many parallel sessions organised around physics and detector topics repeated the tradition. The physics sessions, in particular, are crucial to advance the project and the motivation of its people. This is also a very good occasion for the physics and detector community to communicate with our accelerator colleagues.

For the detector activities, I am pleased to list a few progresses. The common task groups (apart from the Machine Detector Interface group which already started last April) met for the first time during the workshop. These groups were formed recently with the nomination of conveners and deputy convener as following: Karsten Buesser and Phil Burrows for the MDI group, Catherine Clerc for the engineering tools, Marcel Demarteau and Franco Grancagnolo for the detector R&D group, Akiya Miyamoto and Norman Graf for the software panel, and Michael Peskin and Keisuke Fujii / Georg Weiglein for the physics panel.

These groups are expected to carry out practical work from which all the Letter-of-Intent (LOI) groups can benefit. Among them, the detector R&D panel and the physics panel were reinforced by also inviting members from the wider community; the former from R&D collaborations and the latter with elected members from the regional bodies. Thus the groups can react to new development, both experimental and theoretical, and also help in improving the organisation of future ILC workshops with a wider scope.

As many of the members are attending the workshop, it was a very good chance for the groups to make face-to-face meetings to discuss their planning. The conveners or the deputy conveners will join the Physics and Experiment Board which meets once a month. The board was also able to have a brief meeting together with the new members. Because of the heavy schedule of the workshop, these meetings could be only short, but nevertheless such face-to-face meetings are very effective for the groups to get started.

The International Detector Advisory Group (IDAG) also met for the second time during the workshop. Following the open presentation by each LOI group, there was an interview with each group. In its own meeting IDAG discussed how to proceed with the LOIs in detail regarding the schedule and task distribution among its members. Considering that the LOI groups wish to have their LOIs examined quickly and IDAG takes its role seriously to scrutinise the documents carefully, a well-organised planning is important. Through the elaborated consideration on the schedule, I observed that IDAG wants to be ready to start as soon as the expected LOIs are submitted.

For the LOI groups this workshop is extremely valuable as it is the last occasion that many members get together to discuss their plans for their letter of intent and to examine their status of preparation towards it. This includes advancing discussions with the accelerator partners on matters of the machine-detector interface.

We often meet in telephone conferences, which are very useful and convenient. On the other hand, a few occasions in a year to meet people of different roles in person and to consider issues together are extremely important and productive. This workshop allowed us to go up one more step forward.

-- Sakue Yamada



The task group for detector R&D met over lunch on Wednesday.