

Minutes: Oct 31 Phone Conference

The meeting began at 2:30 pm CDT. Between 25 and 30 persons were on the line for most of the meeting.

In addition to the co-conveners, attending were: M. Blanke, R. Briere, T. Browder, K. Flood, D. Hitlin, H. Jawahery, D. Kaplan, M. Kohl, D. Leith, D. MacFarlane, G. Paz, B. Ratcliff, I. Rothstein, P. Rubin, A. Schwartz, K. Seth, T. Skwarnicki, R. Tschirhart, R. Van de Water, J. Va'vra, M. Voloshin, Y. Wah, J. Zupan
[If you attended and are not listed, please send us an e-mail with your name so we can add you.]

Discussion followed the agenda in the co-convener slides that were posted on the Working Group webpage. Items were:

1. Goals of Workshop / Goals of Working Group
It was emphasized that from DOE's perspective that the "consensus" from this workshop needs to include persons working on the Energy and Cosmic Frontiers. If this winds up being a case of our talking to ourselves, it will not be a success.
2. Discussion of Physics Topics / Questions for focus
Considerable discussion, especially around the first question addressing flavor physics in the LHC era. There was some back-and-forth discussion whether it would help to identify a small list of absolutely critical flavor physics measurements, rather than emphasizing a potentially broad program. Also, the suggestion was made to add a question about what theory calculations are needed (will do).
3. Input to Working Group.
There was a brief review of request for written input (up to six pages from experimental groups).
4. Plans for workshop meeting / parallel sessions / posters
The overall plan for the parallel sessions (about 10 hours) was described. The possible poster session was discussed. This is being considered by the workshop organizers, but no firm plan has been made. It may be a good way for younger participants to be involved. It was agreed that if there is a poster session, then it would be unfortunate if our working group were less represented than the other working groups. It was also commented that the discussion session may provide an opportunity for short talks, which might provide an opportunity for young people.
5. Possible Talks.
Five theory talks are listed, the first addressing the overall role of flavor physics in the LHC era. Suggestions for theory speakers were invited, and some possible speakers were suggested. An opinion that Lattice QCD did not belong on the list was made; others disagreed. Experimental talks were also discussed. Several people commented that it would be better to organize presentations around physics topics, rather than facilities or individual experiments. This would require a high level of coordination between different groups. At least in the B-physics case,

such “self-organization” may be practical. The co-conveners will follow-up with the experimental groups to explore how this might be done.

6. Discussion Session.

Approximately two hours will be set aside at the end of the Thursday parallel session for a “discussion” period. Several models were discussed. The general favorite appeared to be opening the floor for comment on a few pre-planned discussion questions (referred to by one person as the “provocateur model”).

7. Working Group Report.

The plan for a 30 page report was sketched, with little detail. It was emphasized that to ensure a smooth process and coherent document, that the co-conveners will maintain editorial control, although they may solicit assistance with various sections. Drafts will be made widely available for comment. It was suggested that the co-conveners explore having a “blog” to facilitate comment on the drafts.

There was some additional discussion on what physics topics fall within the interest of the Heavy Quarks working group. Some comments were aimed toward broadening beyond “flavor physics” to include other phenomena that may involve exotic heavy-quark states, for instance. One response emphasized the need for there being an “intensity” connection, since ultimately DOE’s interest is what facilities are really needed in the future. A concern was also expressed that if we could dilute our focus too much by including such topics. It was agreed that written contributions are welcome on any topic, and that we will attempt to assess the physics case on its merits.

There were questions and discussion on the topic of how the “brochure” document from this workshop will be written. This is in the hands of Harry Weerts and JoAnne Hewitt, and the process is not known yet.

A final request for suggestions of theory speakers by e-mail was made.

The meeting ended shortly after 4:00 pm CDT.