

During my time in HEP, I've had the opportunity to lead major physics efforts and to contribute to large detector construction projects. I made my first trip to CERN as an undergraduate at the University of Minnesota, helping to build the CMS detector. I continued on the L3, CMS and D0 experiments while performing my PhD work at Princeton University. As a Fermilab Lederman Fellow, I worked on CMS and D0. And now as a faculty member at Michigan State University I've continued on D0 while joining the ATLAS collaboration. On ATLAS, I am currently working on Higgs measurements and managing a Phase-1 trigger upgrade project.

My career in particle physics has benefited significantly from a strong and active support community. What has struck me the most is the importance of those who have helped guide and support my work. Networks of support at laboratories, at universities and within the field have reduced many barriers: social, intellectual and bureaucratic. The scale of our research has grown so large that we increasingly rely on our HEP colleagues for everything from data analysis to research proposals. However, the continued excitement surrounding the Higgs boson discovery has made it clear that our perception of colleague must extend beyond experimental collaborations to the general public and to our future HEP practitioners. The US LUA stands at the nexus among these colleagues: HEP experimenters, students and the public. I am eager to be a part of this important effort during this critical moment of funding uncertainty. By embracing the collaborative skills we use to perform our research, I believe we can meet the challenges of today to achieve a bright future for particle physics.