

The stated purpose of the USLUA is to provide a forum for discussions of US participation in the LHC research program with a focus on how best to enhance scientific participation in the discoveries from this research. As a member of the Executive Committee, I would concentrate my attention on three areas.

Unfortunately, the most important issue for our community today is "sustained funding" for high energy physics. A key activity of the USLUA, in conjunction with similar users' organization from Fermilab and SLAC, is going to Washington, DC in the spring to talk with members of Congress and the Executive Branch offices (including the Office of Management and Budget and the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the White House) to advocate for our field. Developing a common "ask" and communicating this clearly and consistently is critical to our future. USLUA's approach to inviting younger physicists to participate based on lightning talk at the annual meeting has proven highly successful. We need to maintain the high level of preparation and participation in the "DC trip".

On the more mundane side, USLUA provides practical help on living and working at CERN. It appears that some US institutions provide excellent health care coverage to students and employees (and their families) based at CERN; others provide more limited access. While this is an issue for LHC participants from other countries as well, we need to make sure our community's needs are met.

Communicating our excitement about LHC science, and explaining the US role, to a broad audience is critical to the long-term future of our efforts at CERN. In particular, QuarkNet programs and International Masterclass programs developed by the CERN experiments are great ways to reach out to high school teachers and students. Participants love them, and local newspapers often report on these activities. They also provide a forum for younger physicists to engage in outreach and education. USLUA should work to expand these activities and provide training for the LHC participants to help them advance professionally.

I am currently a Professor of Physics at the University of Cincinnati. I primarily work on the LHCb experiment, although the younger physicists in our group are also completing some BaBar analyses. In the past, I have worked on fixed target neutrino and charm experiments at Fermilab and the SLD and BaBar experiments at SLAC. I am excited by the LSST experiment and did a bit of work related to calibrations, but chose to focus on LHCb instead as "first light" receded into the future at the rate of almost a year per year. I have served on the SLAC Users Organization Executive Committee as co-chair of the DC trip subcommittee. Cincinnati has had a QuarkNet program for more than 10 years, and local high school students have participated in the Masterclass program for many years, starting with LEP data, moving to CMS data, and we are planning to use LHCb this coming summer. All candidates for the USLUA Executive Committee bring unique perspectives and qualifications. I look forward to working with a diverse group of people and ask for your support.