

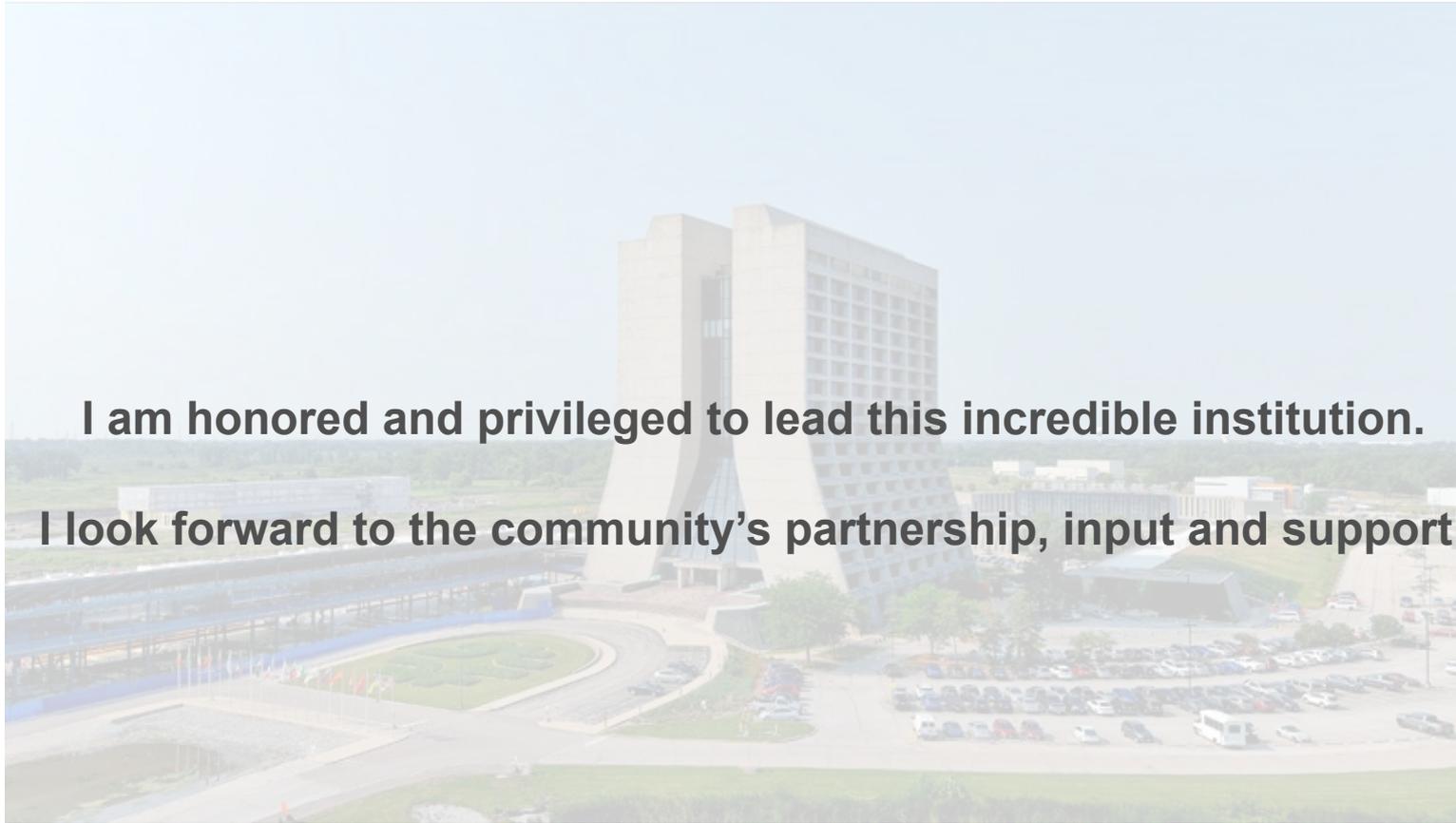


## Vision and priorities for Fermilab

Lia Meringa

Community Advisory Board Meeting

May 26, 2022

An aerial photograph of the Fermilab main building, a large, modern structure with a prominent central tower. The building is surrounded by a large parking lot filled with cars, a landscaped area with a circular driveway, and other campus buildings in the background. The sky is clear and blue.

**I am honored and privileged to lead this incredible institution.  
I look forward to the community's partnership, input and support!**

# My path to Fermilab and back

## Education

1983 B.S. Physics, University of Athens, Greece

1986 M.S. Physics, The University of Michigan

1987 M.S. Mathematics, The University of Michigan

1989 Ph.D. Physics, The University of Michigan

*Ph.D. thesis in Accelerator Physics at Fermilab*

## Career

1989 – 1992 Postdoc, SLAC

1992 – 2002 Scientist, JLab

2002 – 2008 Director, CASA, JLab

2008 – 2015 Head, Accelerator Division, TRIUMF & UBC

2015 – 2018 Associate Lab Director, Accelerators, SLAC

2018 – 2022 PIP-II Project Director, Fermilab



Fermilab Main Control Room circa 1988  
Photo credit: J. Reyna, MCR operator



# My inspiration

- The endeavor  
Make a difference, contribute to something of lasting value, enable new scientific & technological breakthroughs
- The team
- The fact that we all stand upon the shoulders of giants



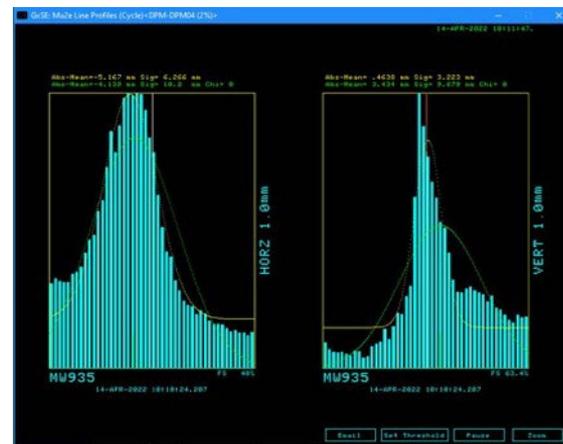
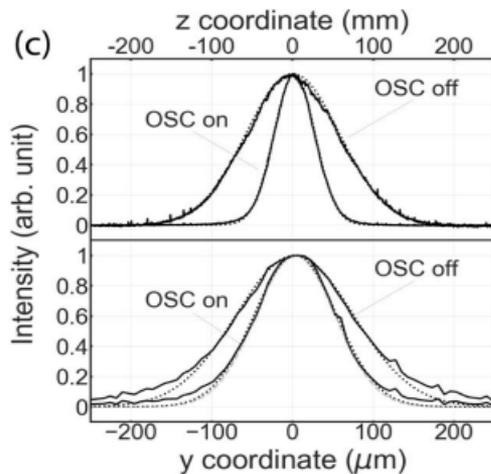
Helen Edwards  
Master Builder of Accelerators: 1936-2016



Accelerator physicist Helen Edwards and lab director Leon Lederman on July 3, 1983, the day the Tevatron achieved a new world record in energy--512 GeV

## First week on the job...

- PIP-II received CD-3 start of construction approval
- First experimental demonstration of Optical Stochastic Cooling paper accepted by Nature
- Successful beam delivery to Mu2e beamline



## Conversations with our elected officials



*“National labs, like Illinois’ own Fermilab, have pushed the boundaries of scientific discovery with unmatched dedication to their research missions,” said Durbin. “During our meeting, I reiterated my commitment to securing federal funds for the groundbreaking research being accomplished at Fermilab.”*

*-- May 10, 2022 press release from Sen. Durbin’s office*

U.S. Senator Dick Durbin in Washington, D.C

# Conversations with our elected officials



U.S. Senator  
Tammy Duckworth



U.S. Representative  
Bill Foster



U.S. Representative  
Sean Casten



U.S. Representative  
Lauren Underwood

## A vision for Fermilab

- Early thoughts on the lab's vision are based on first-hand experience, the Fermilab Stakeholder Input Summary Report (gathered during the Director search) and other reports
- To take these considerations to the next level...
- I am starting my tenure as director with a “listening tour” with the goals:
  - To meet with every lab employee, Fermilab user representatives, U.S. HEP community representatives, national and international partners, DOE, FRA, CAB and other stakeholders
  - Based on the interactions, refine and solidify our vision, and form a Laboratory Plan this summer, which is the roadmap to ensure we continue to...

# A vision for Fermilab



**Lead the world in particle and accelerator physics and technology innovation, underpinned by a *diverse* and *world-class* workforce, *transformed* business systems and operations, a renewed, sustainable campus and *enabling* regional, national and international partnerships.**

# Six Strategic Thrusts: Pillars of our vision for Fermilab

1. Deliver groundbreaking discovery science and technology innovation
2. Safely and successfully complete the ~\$5.5B portfolio of projects in a timely manner and deliver the 2014 P5 vision; engage in new P5 process
3. Continue to diversify and empower our workforce
4. Continue to transform business systems and operations driving excellence and integration between science and business; execute sustainable campus strategy integrated with science vision
5. Forge strong alliances with UChicago, Argonne, URA and other institutions, and our international community
6. Develop a strategic plan for Fermilab's next 20 years

\*P5 is the US strategic plan for particle physics



Photo credit: Kurt Riesselmann

*Thanks to Nigel Lockyer!*

# My highest near-term priorities

## 1. Safety: remains our top priority

- One of my core values is the safety of our employees, users, the public and the environment. Training is a key component of safety; I hold myself accountable for completing my training requirements and expect everyone to do the same including following all safe work practices.

## 2. Focus on people

- Engage and listen to our employees – “listening tour” will help shape our future
- Build a strong, diverse, integrated leadership team
- Complete a climate survey in 2023

## 3a. Secure LBNF/DUNE-US (however, that’s not our only priority)

- Complete a successful LBNF/DUNE-US CD-1RR review

## 3b. Continue to improve our business systems and operations

- Prioritize, develop and execute improvement plans to drive excellence

## 4. Ensure a vibrant future for Fermilab and U.S. HEP

- Engage in Snowmass process; prepare and organize Fermilab’s input to the next P5 process
- Launch two new Working Groups:

Science Priorities and Fermilab Proton Intensity Upgrade Central Design Group (CDG)

# More on Snowmass...

- The Particle Physics Community Planning Exercise (a.k.a. “[Snowmass](#)”) is organized by the Division of Particles and Fields of the American Physical Society.
- Snowmass is a scientific study and provides an opportunity for the entire particle physics community to come together to identify and document a scientific vision for the future of particle physics in the U.S.
- Snowmass will define the most important questions for the field of particle physics and identify promising opportunities to address them.
- As a premier DOE high energy physics laboratory, Fermilab is heavily involved in the Snowmass process.
- The Snowmass meeting will be held in Seattle July 17 to 26.



# Coming soon to a lab near you

- PIP-II ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place this summer. Please be on the lookout for an invitation to the VIP event!
- Construction on the Integrated Engineering and Research Center building (adjacent to Wilson Hall) is scheduled to be completed later this year.



# Summary

- Fermilab's mission is strong, compelling and beautiful!
- We have a world-class team supporting Fermilab's mission
- Fermilab is at a critical juncture. By defining a bold -- yet realistic vision -- a strategic plan, and acting decisively and with a sense of urgency, Fermilab will ensure the U.S. continues to be a global leader in High Energy Physics, and we will help set the direction of the lab and U.S. HEP for many decades to come.
- We are deeply committed to continuing our strong partnership with the Fermilab Community Advisory Board and look forward to your input and engagement.



**Thank you to the Community  
Advisory Board for your ongoing  
commitment to Fermilab!**



# New beginnings: We are delighted to welcome 20 healthy baby bison born this year!



Photo: Cleo Garcia



Photo: Ryan Postel



Photo: Cleo Garcia