



PERSIS S. DRELL
DIRECTOR

February 6, 2009

Dennis G, Kovar,
Associate Director, Office of High Energy Physics
SC-25, Germantown Building
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. S.W.
Washington, DC 20585-1290

Dear Dennis,

Over the last 10 years, with the support of PEP-II and *BABAR* by the Office of HEP and our international partners, the *B* Factory has accumulated an enormous sample of beauty, charm, and tau events. This data sample is expected to continue to yield many important scientific measurements and discoveries in the coming years. The data also represent an excellent opportunity for student and postdoc training in particle physics analysis, who will drive the full exploitation and production of these anticipated future results.

François LeDiberder, Spokesperson for *BABAR*, has developed a draft proposal to enhance the scientific exploitation of the *BABAR* data by instituting a program designed to attract and train a cadre of graduate students from third-world countries. These students would be trained and mentored by SLAC and *BABAR* physicists to make them scientifically productive HEP researchers. Additional graduate students could enhance the physics productivity of *BABAR* at this stage in substantial ways. The program would also enhance connections and strengthen third-world participation in HEP, with DOE and SLAC playing a visible role as stewards for the successful exploitation of investments in the *B* Factory program.

Given the significant investment to produce the *B* Factory data sample, a modest proposal to enhance the number of graduate students exploiting the data sample could bring significant rewards in terms of physics productivity. For these reasons, I find the concept to be an interesting and innovative approach, worthy of further consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Persis S. Drell'.

Persis S. Drell
Professor and Director

cc: Glen Crawford
John Kogut
Steve Kahn
David MacFarlane
François LiDeberder