

MAJOR EXPANSION OF FACILITIES FOR SSRP

The National Science Foundation has recently funded a second main beam line and a general expansion of laboratory facilities for the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Project (SSRP), located next to the SPEAR storage ring at SLAC. (For a general description of SSRP, see the January 1975 issue of the *Beam Line*.) In anticipation of this additional funding, planning has been under way for several months by SSRP staff and by others at SLAC. Bill Savage of Plant Engineering has worked out plans for expansion of the SSRP building, and Joe Jurow of Mechanical Engineering has been working on the design of the new SPEAR exit chamber.

The new work will begin in earnest when SPEAR shuts down on July 14. Additions to the building and modifications to the SPEAR shielding are planned for the summer shutdown period. The new main beam line to SSRP should be operational early in 1976, and it is expected to provide much-needed relief to the congestion that has built up around the present SSRP facilities.

SSRP recently hosted a beer-and-hamburger luncheon to celebrate the funding approval for these facility expansions. About 70 guests from SLAC, the Hansen Laboratories, other parts of the University and outside participated. The award for the most distant traveller to this event went to visiting Soviet scientist Sergei Kapitza who happened to be at SLAC at the time. Kapitza has been visiting synchrotron radiation laboratories in the U.S. and in Canada, and consulting with others interested in this field of research, in preparation for the construction of a storage ring that will be used exclusively for synchrotron-radiation research in the Soviet Union.

At the present time, SSRP has only one main beam line, which is split into five separate ports that can handle five simultaneous users. On some of these ports, the demand far exceeds the available beam time--even with the extended running schedule of SPEAR. With the second main beam line that is now funded, SSRP will be able to accommodate 10 to 14 simultaneous users.

The most sought-after facility at SSRP continues to be that used for *Extended X-Ray Absorption Fine Structure (EXAFS)* studies. This technique makes possible detailed studies of the local atomic environment surrounding specific elemental constituents of complex materials. More than 20 chemists and biologists, as well as physicists, are presently competing for their small share of running time of this particular port. Brian Kinkaid, who played a major role in the development of the EXAFS facility, has just received his Ph.D. from Stanford for his research at SSRP--the first of what should be many Ph.D. theses based on SSRP work.

--Herm Winick

MERLE FLOWERS LEAVES SLAC

Merle Flowers is leaving SLAC after almost nine years of employment here. He had hoped to stay on for at least another year, but his wife's doctor recommended that they move out of this area for the sake of her health.

Merle started at SLAC in February 1967 as a maintenance assistant in the Mechanical Utilities Group, but after several months he transferred to the Liquid Hydrogen Target Group in EFD, where he has been ever since. His work in building and testing target systems, and in servicing them during operation, has been much appreciated by the experimental groups who have used the devices in their research.

Merle and his wife are planning to move to Meadow Vista, near Auburn, where Merle will have a chance to relax and go fishing for as long as he can stand it. After that we wouldn't be surprised to hear that Merle has put his excellent skills back to work on some interesting job.

Merle's many friends at SLAC wish him all the best. He will definitely be missed.

--Herb Weidner

SUMMER VISITORS AT SLAC

There will be many new faces around SLAC this summer. The younger faces will include students who are working and studying here as part of the Summer Science Program, those participating in the Youth Opportunity Program, and those who are simply working here on summer jobs with various groups. In addition to students, we are also expecting a large influx of visiting scientists, particularly during the periods of the annual Summer Institute on Particle Physics (July 21-31) and the International Symposium on Lepton and Photon Interactions at High Energies (August 21-27). Even without the Summer Institute and the Symposium, this year's crop of visiting physicists would have been substantial, since an unusually large number of theorists have made arrangements to spend anywhere from a few days to two months working at SLAC during the period from late June to early September.

In order to provide some sort of working space for our visitors, it seems likely that we will try to arrange for some temporary spaces in various buildings around the site in addition to the usual Central Lab log jam. This may lead to a certain amount of confusion for those visitors who are new to SLAC, so anything that the SLAC old-timers can do to be helpful to the newcomers will be much appreciated.

--Bill Kirk

A naturalist would scarce expect to see ye science of those colours become mathematicall, and yet I dare affirm that there is as much certainty in it as in any other part of Opticks.

--Isaac Newton