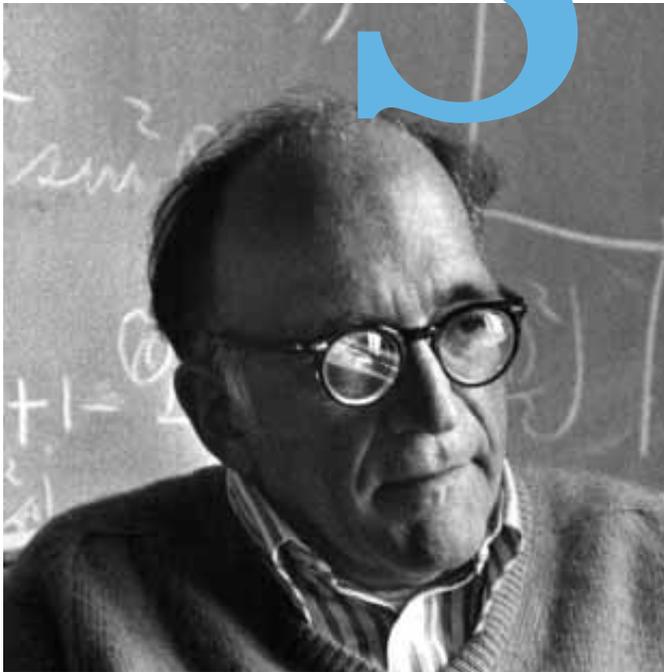

FOREWORD



SIDNEY DRELL and SLAC have histories which are inseparable. Right from the beginning, when SLAC was no more than Project M housed in a warehouse on the Stanford campus, Sid left the more familiar and comfortable world of academe to join the adventure of creating a great new laboratory. A major challenge he faced, as a theorist, was to create the kind of intellectual climate more typically found in university departments, and in those days not commonly found within this country's accelerator laboratories. This turned into an incredible success story. Quickly the SLAC theory group became very well known, not only for the variety of talent it attracted, but especially for its unique personality. To this day this personality persists: uncompromisingly high intellectual standards, a good mix of applied and formal theory, a close interaction with the experimental community, a breadth of vision, an essential humanism, and an informality and lack of pretension which keeps the pursuit of physics something not only deeply satisfying but also just plain fun to do. It is no accident that this "SLAC style" is a mirror of Sid's own persona.

Generations of students and postdocs who have passed through the laboratory—such as John Ellis of CERN who discusses future options for particle physics in this issue—as well as we old-timers, will attest to his overwhelming influence in creating this environment.

Sid's research contributions, within and beyond the SLAC program, have been legion and broad-ranging, of fundamental importance. And his impact on SLAC has extended well beyond that of theoretical physics. From the beginning of SLAC he was invaluable in the building of the laboratory, its staff, and its program. He has, as deputy director, played a quiet, but vital role in the overall management and orchestration of the SLAC program. His calm guidance, based on the highest scientific standards, an unwavering integrity, and an astute understanding of human nature, has been in most demand in just those periods of SLAC history that have been the most stressful. And his wise counsel is always sought by the international particle physics community on how to deal with the broad issues facing the field.

BUT SID'S INFLUENCE has extended far beyond particle physics, in a real sense to the entire planet. As he himself recounts in this issue, he was drawn into the public policy issues of strategic defense and arms control already in the 1960s, and his credo and contributions can better be discerned by his own words than by any of mine. Making headway on political and social issues is much slower going than on physics, and Sid's modus operandi has been to patiently work "from the inside," a method which was strongly challenged during the Vietnam years. Sid, confronted personally at that time, responded with steadfastness and great integrity. He exemplifies for everyone the value and necessity of his form of public service. One small expression of his influence is that some of his students and other physicists passing through the SLAC environment have chosen to move their careers out of physics and into public affairs. Quite a few others, while staying within physics, have been especially active in the social issues created by the big-science character of particle physics.

THEN THERE IS SID'S IMPACT on me. I first encountered Sid as an undergraduate at MIT, where he taught courses I took, and in addition sponsored evening informal journal-club seminars for undergraduate physics majors in his home. We happened to emigrate to Stanford together in 1956, he on the faculty, I as a graduate student. I soon was privileged to be one of his many thesis students, something which then evolved into writing our textbooks. It was absolutely natural that I too should join SLAC, and to continue the close association. Sid has been everything to me, as a teacher and mentor, as a second father, as an esteemed colleague, as best man, and as simply a dear friend. Sid, it is a time for warm congratulations on your long and distinguished career at SLAC, and for best wishes for many happy retirement years—years which we at SLAC trust will continue to be shared with us.

bj

James Bjorken

