

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize

*By Mason Inman*



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prestigious annual survey of very large databases, the Winter Corporation's Top Ten.

[See whole story...](#)

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*By Davide Castelvecchi*

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## Director's Corner

*By Jonathan Dorfan*

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[See whole story...](#)

## APS Awards

*By David Harris*

Three SLAC researchers were awarded prizes at the annual American Physical Society meeting in Denver on May 2. John Seeman (AD) shared with Katsunobu Oide (KEK) the Robert R. Wilson Prize, awarded 'for technical leadership and direct contributions to the development of high luminosity B factories at KEK and SLAC. These machines have set new world records for luminosities in colliding-beam storage rings.'

[Changes](#)

- [Flexible Spending Accounts Update](#)

## EVENTS

- [APS Awards](#)
- [WIS Seminar: Jillian Manus](#)
- [Boheim Photos on Exhibit in Redwood City](#)
- [Cycling for Charity](#)
- [Celebrate Juneteenth at SLAC!](#)
- [Kids Day@ SLAC](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

barrel part of the muon system, one of BABAR'S five main particle detectors.

[See whole story...](#)

## [Boenheim Photos on Exhibit in Redwood City](#)

Chuck Boenheim (SCS) and his family spent much of last August touring the island of Shikoku in Japan.



They drove 2,000 kilometers of winding back-country roads to visit the famous 88 temples of that island, which date back to the eighth-century monk Kobo Daishi.

[See whole story...](#)

[See whole story...](#)

## [Celebrate Juneteenth at SLAC!](#)

*By Jasmine Rogers*

This year the Black Association of SLAC Employees (BASE) invites you to come and join our 15th annual Juneteenth Celebration!

BASE hosts this annual event to celebrate the end of slavery in this country as well as the gathering of friends and family. Juneteenth began in Texas and Arkansas and celebrations are now held nationwide.

[See whole story...](#)

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Last update Thursday May 20, 2004 by [Emily Ball](#)

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## Director's Corner

By Jonathan Dorfan

The mills of international high energy physics may grind slowly, but they certainly grind very, very fine. Several laboratories around the world have been developing conceptual designs, technologies and hardware for a linear collider with an energy range of 500 GeV to 1 TeV. The time has come to choose and the selection process is rigorous.



Photo by Diana Rogers

The International Linear Collider Steering Committee set up the International Technology Recommendation Panel (ITRP) with the charge to 'recommend a Linear Collider technology to the International Linear Collider Steering Committee .....based on all relevant scientific, technical, schedule and cost considerations.' This panel, composed of 12 experts, four from Asia, four from Europe and four from the U.S., came to SLAC on April 26 and 27 to take stock of the NLC collaboration.

SLAC's rigorous preparations for the visit paid off as we were able to demonstrate the outstanding in depth knowledge of everyone involved in the project both here at SLAC and at the other laboratories in the NLC collaboration. The first day was a combination of presentations and a hands-on tour of the NLCTA. The tour started in the control room, where our guests could see stable beam in the test accelerator, and continued to a series of stands in End Station B, each focusing on a different aspect of NLC technology.

The second day was spent on in depth questioning on NLC topics and discussion among the panel.

We got our message over. We showed that NLC incorporates 40 years of SLAC experience and success in the development, implementation and operation of electron/positron linacs and storage rings; that SLAC is accustomed to taking bold steps and our associated technical choices have an excellent record of success. We showed that the design also incorporates the vast experience of the full NLC collaboration which includes the powerful cadre of Fermilab, Berkeley, Livermore and Brookhaven. We showed that we have a long standing collaborator in Japan's KEK laboratory and that both labs have

[Changes](#)

- [Flexible Spending Accounts Update](#)

## EVENTS

- [APS Awards](#)
- [WIS Seminar: Jillian Manus](#)
- [Boheim Photos on Exhibit in Redwood City](#)
- [Cycling for Charity](#)
- [Celebrate Juneteenth at SLAC!](#)
- [Kids Day@ SLAC](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

chosen the same 'warm' technology for the linear collider. Above all we demonstrated that our technology works and that we are ready to go ahead to design finalization.

I thank everyone who contributed to the success of the ITRP visit. You did an outstanding job. Your enthusiasm was infectious and you demonstrated the highest level of professional competence to the members of the ITRP. I know that the NLC design for a linear collider is the best for the exciting physics of the next decades, and whatever the final ITRP decision may be, SLAC presented its case in the best possible way.

The Stanford Linear Accelerator Center is managed by [Stanford University](#) for the [US Department of Energy](#)

Last update Tuesday May 18, 2004 by [Emily Ball](#)

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector

By *Davide Castelvechi*

BABAR is getting ready for the most extensive overhaul in its five years of operation. During the accelerator's and detector's yearly down time, starting August 1 this year and again next summer, crews will completely replace the barrel part of the muon system, one of BABAR's five main particle detectors. A team led by Charlie Young (EA) manages the SLAC portion of the project, which is a US-Italian collaboration involving scientists from several universities and from Italy's INFN. It is globally managed by Roberto Calabrese of Università di Ferrara and Stew Smith of Princeton University.

The current system, made of resistive plate chambers, catches an estimated 50 percent of the muons that cross it. The new one will bring that close to 100 percent. "With the new system," Young says, "we can exploit the full potential of the detector."

The new muon system will employ a technology called limited streamer tubes (LSTs), developed by Italian physicists and used successfully in the SLD as well as at a number of other labs. The 12-foot-long, one-inch-thick plastic tubes are filled with gas that is ionized by the passage of highly energetic particles. High-voltage wires running inside the tubes magnify and pick up the resulting ionization signals.

LSTs will replace the current muon detectors in 12 of the 18 concentric gaps in the iron barrel, BABAR's massive, hexagonal outer structure. Six layers of brass will fill the remaining gaps. The LSTs will mainly pick up muons, the only particles that can easily zip through the iron layers. The additional layers of brass will improve efficiency by blocking other types of particles.

An Italian company that specializes in the production of particle detectors is manufacturing the core of the LSTs under the watchful eye of Italian and U.S. physicists, and shipping them to Ohio State and Princeton.

Meanwhile, a SLAC team has set up working space at End Station A (ESA) to manufacture thin copper



*Angelo Cotta Ramusino of INFN Ferrara works on the the electronics for testing LST tubes. (Photo by Davide Castelvechi)*

[Changes](#)

- [Flexible Spending Accounts Update](#)

## EVENTS

- [APS Awards](#)
- [WIS Seminar: Jillian Manus](#)
- [Boheim Photos on Exhibit in Redwood City](#)
- [Cycling for Charity](#)
- [Celebrate Juneteenth at SLAC!](#)
- [Kids Day@ SLAC](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

planes and strips. Glued on each layer of LSTs, the strips will help locate the ionization signals, while the planes will provide grounding.

The strips will also go to Princeton and Ohio State, where physicists will assemble and test the LST modules, and ship them to SLAC for installation.

In all, 700 finished modules will get here, including 100 for spares. Mark Convery (EB) and his colleagues will arrange all modules in racks in the CEH for three phases of quality control. "Our plan is to test all of them in parallel," Convery says. Just by sitting there, the modules will prove themselves by detecting cosmic rays, the free high-energy particles supplied courtesy of the Universe.

A group of engineers, led by Angelo Cotta Ramusino of Ferrara are working on read-out electronics at the CEH.

During the ten weeks of down time this summer, crews will get a month and a half of access to the gaps in the iron barrel. They will install modules during the day and evening and test them at night. "We'll be doing at least two shifts a day, maybe three toward the end," Convery says. 200 modules will go in this year, and the remaining 400 in 2005.

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

The Stanford Linear Accelerator Center is managed by [Stanford University](#) for the [US Department of Energy](#)

Last update Tuesday May 18, 2004 by [Emily Ball](#)

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

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*Award winners from SCS (l to r): Igor Gaponenko, Yemi Adesanya, Artem Trunov, Daniel Wang, Wilko Kroeger, Tofigh Azemoun and Jacek Becla. (Photo by Diana Rogers)*

was coming," Becla said, "Too many people started complaining that we were ignored last year."

On March 3 the Winter Corporation announced the awards, with the BABAR database in first place in a newly created category: Most Data in a Hybrid System. The database is called a hybrid because it uses both hard disk drives and tape drives to store the data. The second place database, run by the UK Meteorological Office, weighed in at 184 terabytes, about a fifth the size of the BABAR database.

While this award brings well-deserved recognition, the BABAR database is already well known within the database community as a pioneering project, in part because of presentations by the BABAR database team at database conferences.

"Database gurus are still very interested in things we're doing," said Yemi Adesanya (SCS), a database

The information in the BABAR database, if printed out, would fill about 25 billion books, nearly 1000 times the number of books in the world's largest library, the Library of Congress.

In 2002, the BABAR database group applied for the Winter Corporation award, but since the database was a special type that didn't fit into the survey's existing categories, it didn't win an award. The group knew that their database dwarfed the others, so they applied again in 2003, not knowing what to expect.

"When I first submitted the survey, we didn't have much hope," said Jacek Becla (SCS), BABAR database manager. As the date for the announcement of the award got closer, however, the group had inklings that this year would be different. "I sort of knew it

[Changes](#)

- [Flexible Spending Accounts Update](#)

## EVENTS

- [APS Awards](#)
- [WIS Seminar: Jillian Manus](#)
- [Boheim Photos on Exhibit in Redwood City](#)
- [Cycling for Charity](#)
- [Celebrate Juneteenth at SLAC!](#)
- [Kids Day@ SLAC](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

developer on the project. Becla added, "They want to hear the story of what we did and why we did it this way."

When the database was being planned in 1996, the database group talked to professors and professionals to find the best system for handling the reams of data that would come pouring out of BABAR. No one was sure what system would be best, Becla said. The group took a chance on a new object-oriented database technology created by Objectivity, Inc. in Mountain View. Their leap of faith has paid off famously.

Numerous DOE science projects—from combustion and proteomics studies to climate models and nuclear physics—collect huge data sets, and many look to the BABAR database for guidance, Becla said. "Everybody's talking about petabytes in the next couple of years. Everybody has similar issues to ours, so there's a lot of common ground."

Many other databases are quickly catching up with BABAR's, especially since all new BABAR data is being stored in another data storage system, designed at CERN, rather than in the BABAR database. But for the near future, the group thinks they'll hold their title. "It's very likely that we will be the largest next year," Becla said, "even though we've stopped growing."

The Stanford Linear Accelerator Center is managed by [Stanford University](#) for the [US Department of Energy](#)

Last update Tuesday May 18, 2004 by [Emily Ball](#)



# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## Compact Light Sources

*By Mason Inman*

Today there's a gap between conventional laboratory x-ray sources and state-of-the-art facilities such as SSRL, comparable to the difference between a laser and a light bulb. Synchrotron facilities produce intense beams of nearly parallel, monochromatic light over a wide range of wavelengths. Most laboratory x-ray sources, on the other hand, produce much less intense, lower quality beams.

Ron Ruth (ARDA) is working to close this gap by developing a tabletop x-ray source that can fit in a typical lab, but that will provide x-rays comparable with some of the beamlines on the recently-retired SPEAR2 synchrotron.

To bring this idea to fruition, Ruth founded Lyncean Technologies, Inc., in 2001 with two former SLAC employees, Jeffrey Rifkin and Rod Loewen. The company is funded by more than \$7 million in grants from the Protein Structure Initiative, a project administered by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, a branch of the National Institutes of Health. Ruth made the first public announcement of the device on April 16 at the Keystone Structural Genomics Conference, stating that the company has just begun constructing a prototype and plans to start testing in early 2005.

The technology is under license from SLAC. If it works as planned it will be able to supply x-rays for a wide variety of work including protein-structure analysis and soft-tissue imaging. "The Compact Light Source (CLS) can address the full spectrum of scientific applications which require the type of x-ray beams available at the large synchrotrons, except those that require the highest flux," Ruth said.

Ruth makes an analogy, comparing facilities such as SSRL to supercomputers, and current laboratory x-ray sources to hand-held calculators. The CLS would be like a personal computer or workstation—a big step up from the calculator, but still affordable and powerful enough for many applications.

"The CLS will boost productivity by providing high-quality x-ray beams right at the fingertips of researchers in all fields of x-ray science," Ruth said. "Some of the most exciting future applications for our source are in health care. New medical imaging techniques that provide exquisite detail of soft tissue are being developed at synchrotron beamlines today. The CLS will bring these out of the laboratory and into the hospital."

[Changes](#)

- [Flexible Spending Accounts Update](#)

## EVENTS

- [APS Awards](#)
- [WIS Seminar: Jillian Manus](#)
- [Boheim Photos on Exhibit in Redwood City](#)
- [Cycling for Charity](#)
- [Celebrate Juneteenth at SLAC!](#)
- [Kids Day@ SLAC](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

At facilities such as SSRL, x-rays are produced by forcing a beam of electrons through a series of magnets that causes the electrons to undulate, accelerating them side to side as they travel around the synchrotron's ring. Any time a charged particle such as an electron is accelerated, it gives off light, and SSRL was designed so the electrons would give off a range of frequencies of light, from x-rays to infrared.

The CLS will undulate the electrons using a laser rather than magnets. Though the electrons will zip around this tabletop device with much less energy than those in SSRL, they will also get shaken more vigorously by the laser. This technique, based on work by Ruth, Loewen and Zhirong Huang (ARDA), should produce a high-quality x-ray beam comparable to those from some large synchrotrons. The CLS's x-ray beam will have much lower intensity overall, but the quality should be in the ballpark of the large facilities—but without the source being the size of a ballpark.

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

The Stanford Linear Accelerator Center is managed by [Stanford University](#) for the [US Department of Energy](#)

Last update Tuesday May 18, 2004 by [Emily Ball](#)

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## 7th Grader's Science Project

*By Evie Pless*

I recently had the unique opportunity to test my science fair experiment at SLAC.

My name is Evie Pless, and I am in seventh grade at La Entrada. This year I focused my science fair project on laser communication. After developing and building a laser communication device that transmits sound signals, I tested my device over a variety of distances. When I learned I was invited to participate in the California State Science Fair I decided to try to test my device over even farther distances. I was fortunate to come in contact with Neil Calder, Director of Communications at SLAC.

Mr. Calder organized my visit and gave up part of his Saturday to help me, for which I am very grateful. Testing the communication device at SLAC was interesting and a lot of fun. Merely being in the Klystron Gallery, SLAC's famous two mile building, is fascinating. I also enjoyed learning about SLAC which, beforehand, I knew very little about.

Not only was my visit at SLAC enjoyable, it was a very productive testing session. To transmit sound, the laser in my device pulses rapidly—the pulse width depending on the signal. This is known as pulse width modulation. I was fortunate to be able to use SLAC's facility because outdoor testing had proven to be difficult and less controlled. At SLAC I collected valuable data and was able to reach my peak distance. This event and information will improve the quality of my project, and I hope it will promote interest in SLAC at the California State Science Fair. I feel privileged to have taken this trip—it was a memorable experience.



*Evie Pless (l) and Morgan Jones (r) work on their science fair project in the Klystron Gallery. (Photo by Neil Calder)*

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time

*By Mason Inman*

SLAC will soon implement a whole new system for ordering and tracking chemicals throughout the site. The system is designed to make ordering easy, keep track of chemicals throughout their lifecycle, and increase efficiency.

The system has side benefits of helping the environment while saving time and money. The main motivation behind it, however, is to keep better records on chemicals.

"In the early 2000s, requirements became more restrictive for facilities of SLAC's size," said Lawrence Byers (ES&H). More chemicals have to be reported on now, he said, and those chemicals each require more reports. "The primary driver for this move to a new system was that SLAC needed a better way to manage the information about our chemicals."

In SLAC's new system, all chemical ordering, delivery, tracking, reporting, and disposal information will flow through one central information system. This system ties together the costs of purchasing and disposing of chemicals, encouraging efficiency in the use of chemicals and of less toxic alternatives.

Using less toxic alternatives cuts the amount of tracking and reporting necessary to government agencies, saving time and money. Using less chemicals overall cuts the amount of tracking as well, but also saves money on the materials and on shipping. The result is that rather than chemical vendors benefiting from customers using more chemicals, they benefit from customers being more efficient.

SLAC was introduced to the new system by the non-profit organization, Chemical Strategies Partnership (CSP) of San Francisco, which was founded in the late 1990s by the Pew Charitable Trusts. These types of systems originated about 10 years ago with General Motors Corp., who found that tracking their chemicals more closely throughout their whole lifecycle allowed them to become more efficient. The system was then picked up by much of the auto industry, and later the electronics industry and many other large corporations.

Over the last three years, Byers has worked with CSP on assessing SLAC and adapting the system to the site. In recognition of his efforts, DOE gave Byers one of its first annual Pollution Prevention and Environmental Stewardship awards on Earth Day, April 22.

Changes

- [Flexible Spending Accounts Update](#)

CSP did a free assessment of SLAC's chemical use, tracking and disposal in summer 2001. "SLAC was attractive to them to study because we'd be the first DOE institution and the first academic institution to put this in place," Byers said.

## EVENTS

- [APS Awards](#)
- [WIS Seminar: Jillian Manus](#)
- [Boheim Photos on Exhibit in Redwood City](#)
- [Cycling for Charity](#)
- [Celebrate Juneteenth at SLAC!](#)
- [Kids Day@ SLAC](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

Several Chemical Management Services (CMS) vendors already had such chemical tracking backbones in place. Implementing a commercially available system was judged to be much cheaper than creating a home-grown one, at an estimated price of more than \$1 million according to Byers. "That's why we turned to this system. It was felt we could satisfy our new regulatory reporting obligations at a lower cost."

For several weeks starting July 1, SLAC's new CMS vendor, Haas TCM, will be conducting a baseline chemical inventory to prepare for this fall's planned switch over to the new tracking system with the support of lab owners, work area representatives and ES&H. For orders, each group will get a personalized Web store along the lines of Amazon.com, making future ordering as easy as 'one-click' shopping. The Web store will also store order histories, which can be sorted by work area or time period, and will track all orders from the warehouse to the work area.

For more information on the upcoming changes, see the ES&H Web site: <http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/esh/cms/>

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

The Stanford Linear Accelerator Center is managed by [Stanford University](#) for the [US Department of Energy](#)

Last update Tuesday May 18, 2004 by [Emily Ball](#)

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## It's Not Just the Volts

*By Davide Castelvecchi*

The National Electrical Safety Awareness Month banner at SLAC's main entrance should serve as a reminder on the risks of making electrical measurements.

Using the wrong kind of multimeter can result in electric shock or, in the case of voltage surges, in a flare that can cause fire, injury, burns, permanent blindness, or death.

Accidents are more likely to happen if a multimeter is old, broken, damaged or in bad condition, says SLAC Electrical Safety Engineer George Burgueno (ESH). "Be sure the leads and probes are intact and clean," he says.

Even a brand-new test tool can pose a hazard if improperly used. The correct voltage rating alone does not offer sufficient protection against voltage spikes.

Meters are rated according to the safety standards of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). The new IEC-1010-1 standard has replaced the older IEC 348 and offers a significantly higher level of safety, Burgueno says.

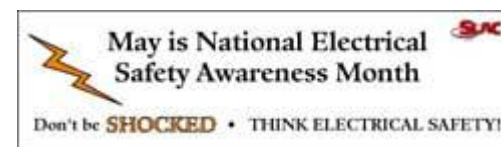
Under IEC-1010-1, meters are rated based on voltage and category. The category can be I, II, III or IV. Higher-category meters can withstand the voltage spikes that can occur at or near high-energy power lines, regardless of their nominal voltage.

All meters used at SLAC must have an IEC-1010-1 category III or higher rating. "Make sure that any meters that don't have at least a IEC-1010-1 category III rating not be used," Burgueno says.

All outdoor lines or high-energy equipment require the use of category IV meters.

Burgueno reminds us that it is always safer to de-energize electrical equipment and apply lock and tag than it is to work on energized equipment.

Furthermore, those who work on energized equipment (Hot Work) must have written authorization and



[Changes](#)

- [Flexible Spending Accounts Update](#)

use the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

Any questions on electrical safety can be addressed to Burgueno (Ext. 2039) or ESC chair Perry Anthony (Ext. 4354).

EVENTS

- [APS Awards](#)
- [WIS Seminar: Jillian Manus](#)
- [Boheim Photos on Exhibit in Redwood City](#)
- [Cycling for Charity](#)
- [Celebrate Juneteenth at SLAC!](#)
- [Kids Day@ SLAC](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

All multimeter users should read Fluke's ABCs of Multimeter Safety, a great source of safety tips available on-line at: [www.fluke.com/download/library/1263690\\_w.pdf](http://www.fluke.com/download/library/1263690_w.pdf)

ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

The Stanford Linear Accelerator Center is managed by [Stanford University](#) for the [US Department of Energy](#)

Last update Tuesday May 18, 2004 by [Emily Ball](#)

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

## Welcome New Employees

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

### FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

### POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)



*Photo by Diana Rogers*

Welcome to our newest employees, shown at the May 11 New Employee Orientation. Left to right: David Kiehl (REG), Albert Conceicao (REG), William Glesener (PEL), Arthur Scholz (REG), Stacey Block (ASD), Peter Amnuaypayoat (REG), Kathy Pham (REG), Brian Horwitz (REG), Roger Canfield (REG), Ken Banuelos (MD), Christopher Jamison (PUR), Jana Thayer (REG), John Thayer (REG), George Kuraitis (SEM), Christopher Rife (SG), Albert Sheng (ACC) and Manuel Trigos (MD).



# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## MILESTONES

Service Awards

5 Years

Dolgashev, Valery (ARDA), 6/14  
Kabel, Andreas (ACD), 6/1  
Laurent, Lisa (KLY), 6/1  
Luitz, Steffen (SCS), 6/1  
Rogers, Joe (ESRD), 6/14  
Sartain, Kenneth (ESRD), 6/7  
Van Hoover, Zoe (ACC), 6/8  
Weisend, John (EFD), 6/1

10 Years

Paz, Joan (ESD), 6/1  
Stupakov, Gennady (ARDA), 6/6  
Todaro, Robert (PUR), 6/13  
Young, Andrew (ESD), 6/14  
Yu, Nancy (NLC), 6/13  
Corbett, William (ASD), 6/1  
Miller, Edward (ESD), 6/15  
Rokni, Sayed (RP), 6/15  
Simmons, Robert (ESD), 6/5

25 Years

Clendenin, James (AD), 6/1

30 Years

Miranda, Dal (ESD), 6/10

40 Years

Morales, Harold (ASD), 6/2

Retired

Changes

Antrim, Ron (PUR), 5/14

- Flexible Spending Accounts Update

Deceased

Colon, Carol, formerly with HR, age 72, on April 29, 2004

Helm, Richard Henry, formerly with NLC, age 81, on May 2, 2004

EVENTS

- APS Awards
- WIS Seminar: Jillian Manus
- Boheim Photos on Exhibit in Redwood City
- Cycling for Charity
- Celebrate Juneteenth at SLAC!
- Kids Day@ SLAC
- Upcoming Events

To submit a Milestone, see:

<http://www.slac.stanford.edu/pubs/tip/milestoneindex.html>

See Awards and Honors at <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/slac/award>

ABOUT TIP

- Staff/Contact
- Submission Guidelines

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Last update Tuesday May 18, 2004 by [Emily Ball](#)

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## International Travel Changes

DOE Order 551.1B, Official Foreign Travel, has been incorporated into the SLAC contract and this changes some of the requirements associated with foreign travel for our SLAC travelers.

### Trip Reports

The DOE no longer requires that a detailed trip report be submitted after your foreign travel. The expense report along with the abstract of the trip is all that will be required to close out the trip. The abstract should consist of major highlights, benefits, and results of meetings at each location. When more than one traveler follows the same schedule, the same abstract can be used by all travelers. (Reminder: The travel expense report and abstract still need to be submitted to the Travel Reimbursement Office within 20 days of the traveler's return.)

### Foreign Travel Approval

Foreign travel requests to sensitive countries ([http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/travel/sensitive\\_country\\_list.htm](http://www-group.slac.stanford.edu/travel/sensitive_country_list.htm)) must now be submitted to the Travel Reimbursement Office 55 days prior to departure for submittal to the DOE via the FTMS (Foreign Travel Management System) for country clearance and DOE approval. Requests for travel to non-sensitive countries remain unchanged with submissions due to the Travel Reimbursement Office 45 days in advance of departure.

To expedite approval processing through the FTMS, all fields in the travel request must be filled out completely. A common field that is often filled out incorrectly or left blank is the 'after hours' contact information, which should be the name and number of the planned lodging location, and not the host contact.

Contact: Alison Twombly, Travel Reimbursement Office, Ext. 4346, [atwombly@slac.stanford.edu](mailto:atwombly@slac.stanford.edu)

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## Flexible Spending Accounts Update

Starting in mid-May, participants in the Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) will see some changes. ProBusiness was bought by ADP last year and is being transitioned to the ADP platform during the next few weeks.

### Key Things for You to Know

ADP deactivated FSA debit cards on May 15. If you try to use your current card after that date, your transaction will be denied.

ADP will issue new FlexDirect cards to all plan participants and you should receive the new card by mid-June.

For any FSA expenses between May 15 and May 29, please use a ProBusiness claim form, which you can download at [www.probusiness.com](http://www.probusiness.com)

For any FSA expenses after May 29, please use the claim form that ADP sent to you in late April, or download one after May 29 from the Benefits Web site at: <http://benefitsu.stanford.edu>

### New Conveniences Offered by ADP

- Better online tools
- Daily, rather than weekly, reimbursement processing

For additional information, please call the ADP/ProBusiness Employee Service Center at (800) 269-0020 or contact Benefits (Ext. 2356).

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## APS Awards

*By David Harris*

Three SLAC researchers were awarded prizes at the annual American Physical Society meeting in Denver on May 2. John Seeman (AD) shared with Katsunobu Oide (KEK) the Robert R. Wilson Prize, awarded 'for technical leadership and direct contributions to the development of high luminosity B factories at KEK and SLAC. These machines have set new world records for luminosities in colliding-beam storage rings.'

On winning the prize, Seeman said, "the award was a pleasant surprise and quite an honor. It also says a lot about the laboratories and all the universities that made these accelerators and detectors work. We have had a great collaborating environment over the years."

Two dissertation awards were presented to graduate students who conducted their research at SLAC. Shahram Rahatlou (BABAR) of UC San Diego, was awarded the Tanaka Dissertation Award 'for his role in the development of the tools needed for the analysis of B factory data, including the tFIT program, a unique and comprehensive fitting framework for time-independent analyses. The tools he developed played a key role in the observation of CP violation in the B system by the BABAR collaboration. These tools will be essential to the ongoing program of work as the B factories continue to probe the origins of CP violation.'

Dmitry Teytelman (ARDA/Stanford) was awarded the Dissertation in Beam Physics Award 'for his development of new feedback architectures and algorithms for the diagnosis and control of coupled-bunch instabilities in circular accelerators.'



*APS award recipients (l to r):  
Shahram Rahatlou (BABAR)  
Katsunobu Oide (KEK), Ikaros Bigi  
(University of Notre Dame), Anthony  
Ichiro Sanda (Nagoya University),  
Dmitry Teytelman (ARDA) and John  
Seeman (AD). (Photo by Bill Cronin)*

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## WIS Seminar: Jillian Manus

### Truth or Fiction: Careers in Publishing and Politics

Member of Gov. Schwarzenegger's Transition Team, and Chair of the Governor of California's Remarkable Women's Conference

Tuesday, May 25  
Noon-1:00 p.m.

Bldg 48, Redwood Rooms C&D (*note location*)

Everyone Welcome—Bring your lunch and a friend!

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## Boeheim Photos on Exhibit in Redwood City

Chuck Boeheim (SCS) and his family spent much of last August touring the island of Shikoku in Japan.



*A photo taken at Kanonji. (Photo by Chuck Boeheim)*

They drove 2,000 kilometers of winding back-country roads to visit the famous 88 temples of that island, which date back to the eighth-century monk Kobo Daishi. Boeheim currently has an exhibit of some of his photographs at the Canyon Coffee Roastery, 3203 Oak Knoll Drive, Redwood City.

The display will run until the end of June, Monday-Saturday 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sunday 6:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## Cycling for Charity

By Linda DuShane White

If a co-worker asked you to take a week and cycle to L.A. with him, you might think he was joking. But for Neal Adams (SCS), a SLAC employee for 28 years, and Karl Amrhein (SCS) at SLAC for 3 years, June 6-12 will find them doing just that. AIDS/Life Cycle 3 is a 585 mile ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles, a joint project to benefit the HIV and AIDS programs of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the LA Gay and Lesbian Center.

Adams made a similar trek in 2001. "I wanted to do something I'd never done before, riding hundreds of miles and training for that." Adams says that although he knew AIDS was a good cause, once he became more involved with the group and met people during the training rides the cause took on a deeper meaning for him.

Each rider pledges to raise \$2,500. According to Adams funding for AIDS research has dwindled in recent years.

This will be the first AIDS fundraising ride for Amrhein, an experienced long distance cyclist. "My wife kind of talked me into it. She is going to be a volunteer roadie on the Medical Team."

Amrhein's most challenging ride to date was one he took a few years ago. He rode 200 miles with a group from Seattle to Portland, then continued on his own for 900 more miles. For the two weeks it took to get from Portland to the Bay Area, he rode pulling a trailer with his camping gear, just for the adventure of it. Amrhein was low key about his accomplishment. "It's a cycling route down the coast. There are some hills."

All Experience Levels

The 1,900 riders range from novice cyclists to experienced racers. Some have lost family or friends to AIDS and wear photos on their backs in memoriam. Others have themselves been diagnosed with HIV and are in the 'Positive Pedalers' group.



Karl Amrhein (l) and Neil Adams (r)  
(Photo by Diana Rogers)



Changes

- [Flexible Spending Accounts Update](#)

## EVENTS

- [APS Awards](#)
- [WIS Seminar: Jillian Manus](#)
- [Boheim Photos on Exhibit in Redwood City](#)
- [Cycling for Charity](#)
- [Celebrate Juneteenth at SLAC!](#)
- [Kids Day@ SLAC](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

The logistics for an undertaking on the scale of AIDS/Life Cycle 3 are mind boggling. A team of several hundred volunteers see that the cyclists have everything they need. Adams describes it as “a rolling city” and Amrhein adds, “Beside the riders there is the infrastructure to support the riders, people who set up and clean up the camp, the lunch stops, 24 hour medical team with doctors, nurses and staff to assist in everything from bee stings to dehydration and more serious stuff.”

Adams describes the lifeblood of the road trip: trucks. A caravan of trucks carries gear; kitchen trucks bring hot meals; semi-trucks have “Nice, hot showers all built in.”

The riders’ only responsibility is to set up their own tents each night and, “To get 80 miles down the road.”

Those interested can check on the progress of this pair and/or pledge support at:

Neal Adams’ ALC3 Web Page: <http://www.aidslifecycle.org/1345/>

Karl Amrhein’s ALC3 Web Page: <http://www.aidslifecycle.org/2241/>

## ABOUT TIP

- [Staff/Contact](#)
- [Submission Guidelines](#)

The Stanford Linear Accelerator Center is managed by [Stanford University](#) for the [US Department of Energy](#)

Last update Thursday May 20, 2004 by [Emily Ball](#)

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## Celebrate Juneteenth at SLAC!

*By Jasmine Rogers*

This year the Black Association of SLAC Employees (BASE) invites you to come and join our 15th annual Juneteenth Celebration!

BASE hosts this annual event to celebrate the end of slavery in this country as well as the gathering of friends and family. Juneteenth began in Texas and Arkansas and celebrations are now held nationwide.

Guests at this year's event will enjoy great food, music, games, a raffle and more!

This year honors the first black female aviator: Bessie Coleman. There will be photographs, posters and biographical information about this fascinating aviator!

Stay tuned for ticket sale information! Please come and join us!

Friday, June 18

3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Cafeteria Picnic Area

Adults \$10

Children 12 and under \$5



*You can't say no to a face like that! (Photo by Diana Rogers)*

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

## FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

## Kids Day @ SLAC

*By Lisa Mongetta*

Mark your calendars for Thursday, August 19. Kids Day @ SLAC 2004 promises to be another exciting fun-filled event for kids 9-16. This year's program will accommodate up to 234 kids, and includes new workshops in Anthropology, Safety, Facilitation, Biochemistry and Welding. Registration packets will be distributed July 22, with enrollment closing on August 12, or when all workshops are filled.

Congratulations go out to the winner of last year's Kids Day Artwork Contest. Tenny Kachatourian, age 12, sponsored by Anahid Yeremian, took first place. Her artwork will be the featured logo for Kids Day 2004. She has won free registration to this year's event, and lunch with an honored SLAC guest. The Artwork Contest will be held again this year.

We are seeking volunteers to function as Workshop Escorts, Drivers and Registrars on the day of the event. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting day!

# INTERACTION POINT

May 21, 2004

[Back to SLAC Homepage](#)

## About Us:

[Back to TIP Homepage](#)

In this issue:

[FRONT PAGE](#)

### FEATURES

- [Director's Corner](#)
- [BABAR to Overhaul Muon Detector](#)
- [Mammoth Database Wins Grand Prize](#)
- [Compact Light Sources](#)
- [7th Grader's Science Project](#)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

- [Keeping SLAC on Track, One Chemical at a Time](#)
- [It's Not Just the Volts](#)
- [Welcome New Employees](#)
- [Milestones](#)

### POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- [International Travel](#)

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