

CLAS Collaboration Meeting

Welcome

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Thursday, March 12, 2026



Q&A with Jens and David

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- Compute resources *
 - The situation with the farm is critical. The progress with data processing is extremely slow recently. Is this problem known by upper management? and if so, what is planned to get out of this situation?
- Staffing *
 - Hall B staff cuts are concerning and feel disproportionate. Two lost to ISP and two not replaced (one staff and one postdoc).
- Future projects *
 - What are the perspectives of the lab management concerning the last approved experiment in Hall B, especially RGH (transversely polarized target) and muCLAS12? Will the lab support the construction and running of these experimental programs?

Computing: Data processing on JLAB Farm

- We (ENP) are in a challenging situation regarding the availability of computing resources, and the situation is complex:
 - In 2024, ~10% of ENP computing capacity was taken offline to power non-ENP hardware.
 - The farm25 nodes were delivered but have not yet been connected, due to infrastructure limitations and issues with the 50A rPDU's.
 - A block of farm19 nodes (20% of our compute) has been offline since December, waiting for parts to arrive.
- The bottom line: ENP/CEBAF computing availability is currently about a factor of two lower than projected just a year ago.
- ENP computing projections, provided by the halls as part of the 5-year planning process, have generally been quite accurate. However, although the projected demand is acknowledged, the corresponding resources have not materialized.
- Beyond the shortage of resources, we are also facing distribution and utilization challenges:
 - In early 2025, as planned the prior year, ENP's internal fairshare was redistributed, reducing B and D by one-third each to support an experiment in A. This reduction was expected to be offset by additional hardware, which has not yet been realized.
 - Shortly after, the scheduling and accounting system was modified to better support single-CPU jobs.
- These fair-share redistributions, combined with the new single-CPU reservation policy, have had unintended side effects, including periods of underutilization of the farm.
- There is no simple answer to distributing extremely scarce resources, but the current situation is not sustainable – processing only a shift of data (~1% of nominal CLAS12 run) per week is clearly insufficient.

Q&A with Jens and David

- Lab future
 - What are the efforts made towards enabling JLab at 22 GEV? *
- User financial support
 - We are all aware that the laboratory is currently facing financial constraints. In the past, several foreign institutions had established Memoranda of Understanding for activities at the Lab; although these agreements were not formally renewed, the collaborations have continued in practice. From the perspective of external users, could you kindly clarify what level of support from the Lab can be currently expected for the ongoing activities?
- Operations philosophy
 - The phrase "doing less with less" was used in a recent All Hands meeting. What does "doing less" mean? Specifically: Is this fewer accelerator hours, which represents only a savings on electricity, as the remaining accelerator staff are still employed? Is this reduced maintenance, even though past experience shows this leads to fewer ABUs? Is it trimming detector support so that only completely "standard" equipment can be used? Is it less support for electronics, or computing?

Agenda

- Day 1:
 - Hall and project reports, new institute applications and Software WG session
 - Student / Postdoc meeting during lunch
- Day 2:
 - NPWG and a joint NPWG/DPWG on SIDIS and beyond
 - Membership Committee during lunch
- Day 3:
 - DPWG and HSWG sessions
 - Q&A with Jens and David
- Day 4:
 - PAC and RG updates, Scientific Compute, collaboration discussion and business reports

Announcements

- Publications:
 - Must be submitted to the JLab publications DB by the lead author, after collaboration approval and before journal/arXiv submission. Physics Division approval is needed and usually quick.
- Pass X Review:
 - RG-E pass 1 approved
 - RG-E / RG-K awaiting RICH constants in CCDB
- PAC 54:
 - Deadline is 4 May at 09:00 ET
 - Abstracts to myself and WG Chairs this week
 - Full proposals to review committee first week April
 - Committees review and provide final recommendations by last week April
 - LOIs to Chair 2 weeks before PAC deadline

Safety

- Statewide Tornado Drill
 - This morning at 09:45. End by 10:00
 - RAVE notifications will be sent
 - Shelter in-place
 - F113 (this room) is a designated tornado shelter so please stay where you are. You **MUST NOT** leave the room
 - Others may come in
 - We "should" be able to continue with the meeting as normal throughout

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Have a great meeting and productive discussions

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