

Dear Susan:

Thank you for the update from the Division of Nuclear Physics (DNP) during the July NSAC meeting on plans for Town Meetings, which will precede the development of a new Long Range Plan (LRP) for nuclear science. The involvement of the DNP in the planning process is very important to its ultimate success.

As in the past, NSAC asks that the groups who organize Town Meetings prepare a White Paper documenting the efforts in their subfield(s). In order to make the reports most useful to the LRP writing group, there is some basic information that should be included in them. Specifically, we ask that White Papers provide answers to the following questions for their subfields.

- What scientific question(s) is this sub-field trying to answer?
- What *major* scientific accomplishments and discoveries have occurred since the last long-range plan?
- What are the challenges being addressed in the near future (<3 years) and over the duration of the next long-range plan (10 years)?
- What resources, in order of priority, will be needed throughout the duration of the next long range plan to address the scientific questions?
- How does the U.S. effort in this sub-field fit into the global picture?
- What will be the impact of the future program on other fields of science and on society?

While the schedule is not finalized, I expect that a LRP working group will meet during May, 2007, to consider future options for our field. This means that White Papers should be completed by the first of April, 2007, so that they can be distributed to the working group membership prior to the meeting. I appreciate the burden that this places on many members of our community. I ask that you convey to them my thanks for their willingness to participate in this important process.