GREG LANDSBERG - statement

The next few years are crucial for Fermilab. We will be moving from a vigorous existing program in astrophysics, collider physics, and neutrino physics into a somewhat uncertain future. With the focus in hadron collider physics inevitably shifting toward the LHC operations and with competing neutrino facilities running elsewhere, the Fermilab future will depend crucially on our ability to start a new major onsite project. Clearly, the International Linear Collider could serve this role, but there are other possibilities that we need to consider, including a new generation of neutrino experiments with high-intensity beams.

Fermilab has been serving as a major intellectual center of the US astroparticle physics for the last two decades, and we need to ensure that this momentum is not lost. The next few years will bring excellent opportunities in astrophysics, with the Dark Energy Survey experiment coming online; neutrino physics, with anticipated exciting results from MINOS and MiniBoone; and in the energy frontier collider physics, with very successful operation of the Tevatron accelerator as well as the CDF and DØ experiments. With the collider dataset doubling every year in the next two or three years, the Tevatron could offer stiff competition to the early runs of the LHC. Finally, the very success of the US participation in the CMS experiment at the LHC depends crucially on the existence of the LHC Physics Center at Fermilab, where the core of the US CMS activities take place. Excellent theoretical support of these efforts offered by the Theory Division would continue to enhance our experimental program.

This situation provides us with a real challenge, in which we need to make a serious investment in the future, while at the same time retaining our existing strengths. To meet this challenge requires careful alignment of Fermilab's priorities, serious lobbying for the future of the Fermilab program in Congress, and strong support of the ongoing major activities while they remain competitive. I find it very interesting and challenging to represent the Fermilab User community in these exciting times. This is my primary reason for standing in these elections.