Dear colleagues,

The fourth General ILC Workshop (ILC08) will be held at the University of Illinois, Chicago from Sunday, November 16th until Thursday, November 20, 2008. The workshop will run in parallel with the LCWS 2008 physics and detector workshops, with which ILC08 will have several joint plenary sessions. As in the past, our plans are to make these joint workshops a strong focus for the global ILC community.

The deadline for reduced registration is October 1, 2008
(http://www.linearcollider.org/lcws08/index.html)

The workshop comes at the end of a busy and eventful year for the GDE and will be its main (now annual) collaboration meeting. Following on from the smaller meetings at Tohoku University (Sendai, Japan) in March, and JINR (Dubna, Russia) in June, the workshop will continue to focus on technical progress and planning for the ILC Technical Design Phase 1 (TDP-1), which will culminate in mid-2010:

- **Progress on risk mitigating R&D**, primarily the global high-gradient SCRF programme; electron cloud suppression and ultra-small emittance generation in the damping rings (CESR-TA, ATF, DAφNE, etc.); ATF2 programme for demonstration of the final focus optics and beam stabilisation.
- **Technical progress** on engineering design work, specifically the SCRF linac (cryomodules) and development of ‘plug compatibility’ interface specifications. Global 31.5 MV/m cryomodule test (“Global S1”); development of world-wide infrastructure and SCRF test facilities; development of cost effective high-level RF power sources.
- **Machine Detector Interface** (jointly with LCWS), including CFS for collider hall.
- **Consolidation of the Reference Design and Cost-Reduction studies**: Main linac CFS issues; further discussion on cost-driven alternative solutions (accelerator physics design); further refinement/definition of the “minimal 200-500 GeV machine”. Site-dependency studies etc.

ILC08 will provide an opportunity to discuss these plans and share them with the larger community.

The goals of the workshop are to:

- Review current status of global ILC R&D and future plans, for both the baseline configuration as well as the supported alternative designs;
- Review and plan activities in and around Test Facilities (both existing and proposed);
- Identify and prioritise critical R&D milestones for TDP-1 and beyond.
- Promote and improve collaboration between groups working on ILC related R&D:
  - To encourage a broader participation from active groups around the world;
  - To attract new researchers to the field;
The workshop will follow the traditional collegiate structure with an open plenary session on the first day, followed by focused Working Groups (WG) in parallel sessions for the following two days. A final summary and close-out plenary is scheduled for the last day. There will be plenary discussions with the experimental community at strategic points during the workshop. Special plenary sessions are foreseen for selected 'young scientist' presentations on key topics.

The detailed planning is expected to emerge over the next weeks, including joint sessions between related WGs. The developing program can be found on [http://ilcagenda.linearcollider.org/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=2628](http://ilcagenda.linearcollider.org/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=2628).

Individuals wishing to make a presentation in a parallel session should contact as soon as possible the relevant WG conveners listed below.

**Working Groups**

The current planned Working Groups are summarised below.

**WG-1: Sources (electron and positron sources)**

*Conveners:*
- Axel Brachmann  (brachman@slac.stanford.edu)
- Jim Clarke   (j.a.clarke@dl.ac.uk)

*Goals TBD*

**WG-2: Damping Rings**

*Conveners:*
- Mark Palmer  (map36@cornell.edu)
- Junji Urakawa  (junji.urakawa@kek.jp)
- Andy Wolski  (a.wolski@dl.ac.uk)

*Goals TBD*

**WG-3: SCRF Main Linac**

*Conveners:*
- Hitoshi Hayano  (Hitoshi.Hayano@kek.jp)
- Chris Adolphsen  (star@slac.stanford.edu)

*Goals TBD*

**WG-4: Beam Delivery System**

*Conveners:*
- Deepa Angal-Kalinin  (d.angal-kalinin@dl.ac.uk)
- Andrei Seryi  (seryi@slac.stanford.edu)
- Hitoshi Yamamoto  (yhitoshi@awa.tohoku.ac.jp) for MDI specific

*Goals TBD*

**WG-5: Conventional Facilities and Siting (CFS)**

*Conveners:*
Goals TBD

WG-6: Accelerator Physics (simulation)

Conveners:
  Kiyoshi Kubo (kiyoshi.kubo@kek.jp)
  Daniel Schulte (daniel.schulte@cern.ch)
  Nikolay Solyak. (solyak@fnal.gov)

Goals TBD

Special sessions

  Special sessions will be arranged as needed.