



LINAC08

29 September – 3 October 2008

Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Fairmont Empress Hotel & Victoria Conference Centre

Hosted by TRIUMF

www.triumf.ca/linac08

appora.fnal.gov/pls/linac08/profile.html

LINAC



LOC



- Chair: Paul Schmor
- PC Chair: Robert Laxdal
- LOC Chair: Amiya Amitra
- Coordinator: Sandi Miller
- Editor: Martin Comyn

LINAC



Background

- As foreseen and predicted 9 years ago, LINAC08 could not have been held at a worse time.
- TRIUMF's 3 day defence of its 2010–2015 Five Year Plan before the International Peer Review Committee began the Wednesday before the conference.
- Major impact on manpower and resources for the previous year – limited sleep!
- Serious manpower and hardware impacts for the set up of the Proceedings Office.
- Invitation only conference – see Tuesday's talk for discussion of SPMS ramifications.



Programme Committee Meetings



- First meeting 24-25/01/2008
- Selected 46 invited orals based upon 176 proposals (mostly) submitted via SPMS.
- Meeting conducted mainly with reference to an Excel spreadsheet containing (old) data extracted from SPMS.
- All deliberations and discussions conducted with reference to spreadsheets, not SPMS – despite detailed instructions.
- Updated SPMS on the fly during the day as classifications were changed or papers traded. Complicated by the fact that the four groups were located in different buildings on site.
- Verified data late at night following PC dinner.



Second Day Deliberations



- Initial review of overnight status.
- Each group presented their top 10 talks and 4–5 second priority talks. Also indicated whether 20 or 30 minutes.
- Identified overlaps, gaps, duplicate speakers from recent conferences.
- Further deliberations.
- Final discussion to ensure regional balance.
- Sought to nominate younger, preferably female, speakers.
- Two slots left open. One for late breaking topic/regional balance, the other for the student poster session winner.



Critique of the Method

- Dangerous in many aspects as the spreadsheet data was derived from SPMS early in the New Year.
- Not all subsequent abstract edits and updates were applied.
- However, for ease of ranking, sorting, time allocations, geographic location of **projects**, constant iterations, comments, etc., it is not obvious how the same could have been achieved using SPMS – even if there had been an SPMS expert in each group. Contrast with PAC09 SPC meeting.
- Additional SPMS fields and vote counting capability would be required to mimic the procedures and functionality.



Second PC Meeting



- Friday, 13/06/2008!
- Not many PC members could attend due to other meetings and EPAC08.
- Again an Excel spreadsheet prepared and sent to all PC members to allow non-attendees to vote.
- Totally up-to-date SPMS spreadsheets and abstract listings available at the meeting.
- Very fast convergence selecting the 36 Contributed Oral 5 minute talks – 5 hours including lunch.
- Everyone sat around 3 tables in the same room.



LINAC08 Programme



- LINAC has no parallel sessions.
- 48 Invited Orals (30/20 minutes).
- 36 Contributed Orals, 5 minutes, also presented as posters.
- 333 Posters.
- 23 Posters at Sunday's Special Poster Session for Students.
- Handling the pseudo Contributed Orals impossible in SPMS.
- Need to flag student posters as well.



The Conference

- The Fairmont Empress Hotel & Victoria Conference Centre proved to be an ideal location for the conference.
- Excellent facilities and responsive staff.
- Internet connections had been a problem for CHEP07.
- City of Victoria owned fibre connected to BCnet and academic network. 1 Gbps connectivity to all networks.
- New wireless system installed just prior to LINAC08.
- Unable to test/stress the system adequately for VCC's benefit – maximum of 242 concurrent users.



Exhibitors



- Unanimously enthusiastic.
- Good venue.
- Excellent exposure to delegates.
- Wireless Internet access allowed them to conduct their normal business during oral sessions when there was less traffic.
- Extremely beneficial for some companies – multi million dollar deals finalized during the conference.
- Most will be at PAC09.
- Many expressed gratitude for not having to register via SPMS.



Proceedings Office



- 6 editors; 1/2/1 paper reception; 1 talk down/uploads; Martin.
- 2/1/0.5 IT.
- The stable network speed was the highlight.
- Only one major interruption when **all** TRIUMF computers were knocked out when a crane accident on the UBC campus shorted out two phases and killed the UPS system.
- Software was not fully installed on all systems at start of processing on Friday morning.
- Persistent printing problems from Windows XP machines.
Note: never from Macs using AppleTalk.



Yellow Dots



- In an attempt to instill higher standards from authors in the future, editors were instructed to yellow dot all papers that required any work.
- 236 (69%) initial yellow dots.
- Exercise viewed to be extremely successful.
- Majority of yellow dot authors coming to paper reception were apologetic and indicated that they were not aware that they had not followed the instructions.
- 69 papers changed yellow to green via e-mail.
- Exercise will be repeated at PAC09.



Present Status

- 23 papers still being processed this week.
- Some outstanding Invited Orals being pursued.
- Will publish draft proceedings as soon as possible.
- Absolute cutoff at end of November.
- Need to determine which Distiller parameters were used for some papers. Initial studies indicate that using UNIX grep commands on the fileserver will provide the necessary information.
- Some interesting papers encountered.
- MSU/NSCL private LaTeX style files that have overridden the JACoW templates since LINAC98!



Statistics



LINAC08 Statistics

LINAC08 Proceedings

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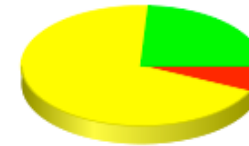
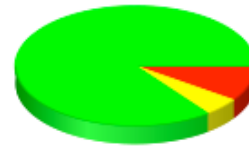
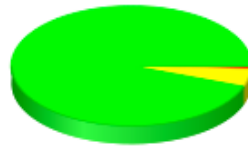
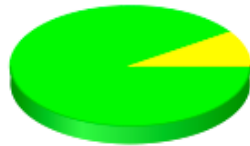


Contributions	381	
Assignable	345	90.55 %
No Files	36	9.45 %
Assigned	344	99.71 %

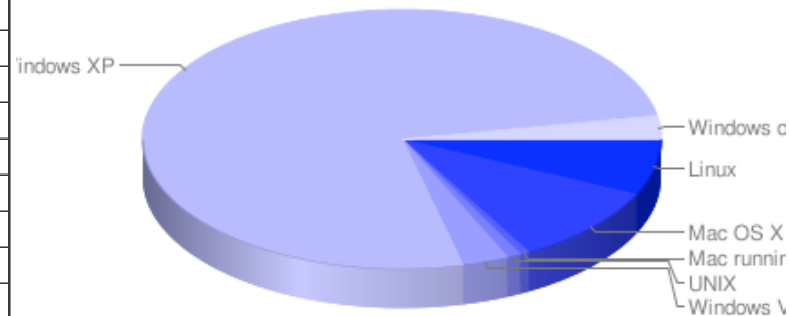
No Status	4	1.16 %
Red	3	0.87 %
Yellow	16	4.65 %
Green	321	93.31 %

QA Remaining	31	9.66 %
Final QA Failed	16	4.98 %
Final QA Passed	274	85.36 %
Publishable	273	85.05 %

Initial Paper Status		
Red	24	7.02 %
Yellow	236	69.01 %
Green	82	23.98 %



Platform	Assignable	Assigned	Remaining
Linux	24	24	100.00% 0
Mac OS X	34	34	100.00% 0
Mac running UNIX	0	0	--- 0
Mac running Windows	2	2	100.00% 0
Other	0	0	--- 0
UNIX	3	3	100.00% 0
Windows Vista	10	10	100.00% 0
Windows XP	262	261	99.62% 1
Windows other	10	10	100.00% 0
Totals	345	344	99.71% 1



615 Abstract Created	0 Copyright form Received	279 Final QA Passed
921 Abstract Initial QA Performed	251 Dot Reassignment	352 Paper Assigned
111 Abstract Owner Changed	492 Edit Complete	0 Paper Copy Received
1,031 Abstract Updated	407 File Removed	35 Paper Re-assigned
2 Abstract Withdrawn	4,063 File Uploaded	333 Poster Police
232 Abstract Withdrawn	25 Final QA Failed	0 Referee
		0 Transparency processing OK

Thanks!

- Many thanks to Jan, Charlie, Akihiko, Christine and Volker for enduring the VCC dungeon for eight days with only an afternoon of daylight.

