

Laser safety committee

Meeting minutes Sept 20, 2012:

- This was the last LSC meeting for our LSO Ken Barat, who is retiring end of September.
- Update on LSO search: The search for a new laser safety is underway, several candidates have been identified for interviews.
- Ken Barat updated on plans for getting a lab laser technician. Many people agree on the need and value of a laser technician, but the details of funding and assignment remains an issue. Ken mentioned that pooling resources would be more cost effective than having each department hire their own individual technicians.
- Laser lab design issues (Ken Barat)

Ken reminded us of some past problems between the expectations of construction/facilities and laser users, when construction/facilities work has to be performed in laser laboratories. Often the respective groups are not aware of the other's concerns. Workers need access to the laser laboratories in a timely manner to perform their work, and laser users want to minimize the disruption the work may have on the lab.

Ken suggested trying to improve the communication between the groups, to avoid misunderstandings and properly address safety issues. This will likely have to be initiated by the LSO.