

OVERVIEW OF THE CONFERENCE

The 1989 Particle Accelerator Conference was the 13th in the series of such conferences. It was also the silver anniversary of the first meeting of the Organizing Committee to begin planning the conferences. In the intervening years, the conference has grown enormously, with the field. It is now the most frequently used place of publication for North American accelerator engineers and scientists. In addition, our colleagues from all over the world now attend and use the conference as an important means of communication and publication. Because of the breadth and detail of the material presented, the Particle Accelerator Conference and its European counterpart compete with the International Conferences for technical interest.

The 1989 Conference was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Chicago. Approximately 1100 people attended (about the same as the 1987 Conference) and 656 papers are included in this Record. These papers covered a vast scope of effort on many different aspects of particle accelerators and their applications in many branches of science, medicine, and industry. It is, in fact, impossible for us to pick out any single paper or topic and label it the "outstanding" part of the conference. There were simply too many outstanding papers and topics. Superconducting cyclotrons, linear accelerators and synchrotrons, storage rings, synchrotron-radiation devices, free-electron lasers, rf systems, and beam dynamics all had significant advances to be discussed.

Over the years, the conference has also grown in length. The Program Committee struggled to fit the papers that they accepted into four days. It was finally possible only by having three parallel sessions on one day. The third session covered work on one of the burgeoning fields of accelerator work, free electron lasers. The Organizing committee has always taken the view that parallel sessions should be held to a minimum in order that attenders can avoid too many agonizing decisions. It is clear from the trends of the past that our field will continue to expand in interest and in numbers of active people. The resulting crowding of papers has caused the Organizing Committee to explore ways to ease the problem, including possibly lengthening the conference.

The Conference banquet was held at the Field Museum of Natural History, in surroundings that added considerably to the elegance of the affair. A high point of the evening was the presentation of the annual award of the Nuclear Physics and Plasma Sciences Society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers to L. Jackson Laslett, whose contributions to accelerator science have spanned and added insight to many different aspects of the field over many years (in fact, since the earliest days. After his graduate work with Ernest Lawrence, Dr Laslett was one of the builders of the first cyclotron in Europe just before World War II). He is active to this day in accelerator work, a career that has spanned almost a half century and still continues.

A new feature of this conference was a forum sponsored jointly by us and the Topical Beams Group of the American Physical Society (now becoming a division of the Society). This lively evening was devoted to consideration of the future of our field. A more detailed account of the forum is included in this volume. The collaboration with the Topical Beams Group and the forum were fruitful and we can hope for continued collaboration at future conferences.

The Conference was organized under the auspices of the Organizing Committee by people from the Argonne National Laboratory and the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. Their names are listed on the opposite page. The groups worked so hard and so well that a mere listing does not do justice to their contribution. Knowing that we speak for all attenders, we give them heartfelt thanks for their dedicated work.

The 1991 Conference will be held in San Francisco. Matthew Allen of SLAC is the Chair. The 1993 Conference will be held in Washington, D.C.. Christoph Leeman of CEBAF is the Chair. There is a tentative plan to hold the 1995 Conference in the area of Waxahachie, Texas.

Donald Young and Francis Cole
Conference Co-Chairs