**National Spherical Torus eXperiment Upgrade** 

# NSTX-U / Magnetic Fusion Science Meeting

Feb. 15, 2021





### Final FESAC LRP report officially released

- "Power the Future: Fusion & Plasmas" Available at: <u>https://usfusionandplasmas.org/</u>
- Approved unanimously by FESAC on Dec. 10 (subject to edits, now finalized in this release)
- The community is sending a unified, consistent message (NAS BP 2018 → CPP 2020 → FES-LRP 2020) to congress, OMB, DOE, and the public
  - $\circ \quad \mbox{Critical to enable continued support, new activities} \\ \mbox{and growth} \rightarrow \mbox{this is exciting!}$



### Critical roles for NSTX-U within the FESAC Long Range Plan

- Recommendation: Utilize research operations on DIII-D and NSTX-U, and collaborate with other world-leading facilities, to ensure that FPP design gaps are addressed in a timely manner
  - "...advancing understanding of transport and stability physics for sustaining disruption-free, high-average power-output operation; energetic particle and burning plasma physics relevant to a high-fusion-gain FPP; and plasma-material interactions and material choices for exhaust solutions."
  - "Areas of emphasis for NSTX-U include low aspect ratio physics, PMI control, and liquid metal PFC evaluations. A broader set of opportunities on DIII-D and NSTX-U to close key gaps in a timely fashion should be pursued when doing so proves cost effective and accelerates progress toward an FPP."
- Recommendation: Strengthen the innovative and transformative research program elements that offer promising future opportunities for fusion energy commercialization: stellarators, liquid metal plasma-facing components, IFE, and alternate concepts.
  - "Development of liquid metal plasma-facing-component concepts in non-plasma test stands and existing magnetic confinement facilities should be targeted and should build on PFC concepts developed in the existing domestic program."

### Some upcoming events

- Feb. 17, 2021, <u>Webinar</u> release of NASEM report on "Key Goals and Innovations Needed for a U.S. Fusion Pilot Plant"
- April 19-23, 2021 (virtual), <u>US Transport Task Force</u>
  - March 8: deadline for plenary & contributed talks
- (???) Sherwood theory conference ???
- May 10-15, 2021 (virtual), <u>IAEA-FEC</u>
  - April 9, 2021: Conference "pre-prints" due
  - May 31, 2021: Nuclear Fusion manuscripts due
  - If you haven't already, please let me know if you have results to be included in the NSTX-U Research Overview paper and poster (talk is rapporteured)
    - Should be work that's new since FEC 2018 as published in Kaye et al. Nucl. Fusion 59, 112007 (2019): <u>https://doi.org/10.1088/1741-4326/ab023a</u>
  - I intend to have a draft of the Nucl. Fusion paper done by March 26
- June 21-25, 2021 (virtual), EPS Plasma Physics Conference
  - New & updated contributed abstracts deadline: Feb. 21
- Sept 6-10, 2021 (virtual), <u>EU-US Transport Task Force</u>

### **NSTX-U Team talks**

#### Last week (Feb. 8)

- "Executive Summary" overview of NSTX-U Five Year Plan (2021-2025)
  - Mostly highlighting "Deliverables"; see <u>FYP</u> document and <u>PAC-41 talks</u> for details
- Brief discussion of program structure, governance, science working groups → finalizing governance, Science Working Groups, and User Group now (send any last input to Stan Kaye ASAP)

#### **Today** and coming weeks (Feb. 15, March 1 & 8)

- NSTX-U collaborators to give ~15 minute talks on activities
- Suggested content:
  - An overview of the planned research & diagnostic activities for NSTX-U in this five year period (feel free to include progress since funding commenced)
    - Please highlight which Objective(s) and Thrust(s) from the <u>NSTX-U Five</u> <u>Year Plan</u> the research addresses
  - An estimated schedule of activities
- Key needs or requirements, including on- and off-site personpower resources

### FYI: Much information found at <u>nstx-u.pppl.gov</u>



**NSTX-U** 

## Today

Time (ET)	February 15		
1:35	Thome	Predict-first modeling and scenario development for non-inductive operation	
1:50	Sabbagh	Disruption prediction and avoidance and real-time applications	
2:05	Raman	Plasma current ramp-up studies in support of non-inductive scenario development	
2:20	Crocker, Lin	Predictive understanding for fast ion driven instabilities and associated anomalous transpo	
2:35	Heidbrink, Stagner	Confined fast ion diagnostics	
2:50	Wirth	Divertor thermography/spectroscopy	
3:05	Unterberg	Heat flux mitigation studies	

### Agenda for collaborator talks

Time (ET)	February 15	March 1	March 8	
1:35 Thome		Schuster	Mordijck, Fitzpatrick	
1:50 Sabbagh		Kolemen	Luhmann	
2:05 Raman		McKee	Allain, Koel, Woller	
2:20 Crocker, Lin		Rhodes	Baek	
2:35 Heidbrink, Stagner		Brower	Levinton	
2:50 Wirth		Soukhanovskii	Tritz	
3:05	Unterberg			