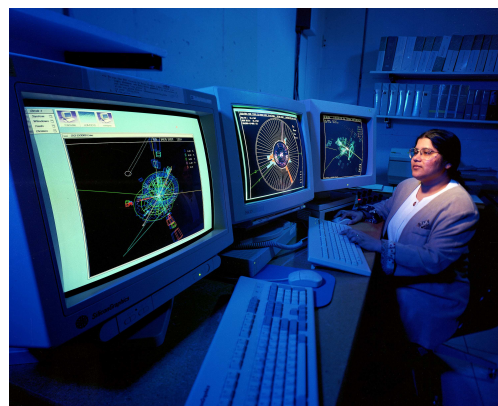


Federal Funding for the Physical Sciences and High Energy Physics

**Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab)
Users' Organization**

**Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC)
Users' Organization**



This is a wonderfully exciting time in physics research. Recent discoveries have revealed profound mysteries about the origins and evolution of the universe, and have motivated high energy physics experiments crucial for unraveling these mysteries. Understanding the universe is thus intimately linked to the exploration of its smallest components. The high energy physicists we represent, who come from universities and research institutes around the United States and the world, are studying these questions at SLAC and Fermilab.

Federal investment in the physical sciences by the Department of Energy's Office of Science and the National Science Foundation provides the basis for continued scientific discoveries, the advanced technologies needed to make them, and the education of successive generations of scientists and engineers. We thank the Congress for its steady support of this investment, and the recognition that physical science is crucial to the prosperity of the nation.

The ongoing Federal investment has kept the United States in a position of leadership in high energy physics research. Based on priorities determined by the high energy physics community, the Department of Energy has outlined in the 2006 budget request its plan for maintaining this leadership and taking advantage of the scientific opportunities presented by recent discoveries. The plan includes capitalizing on past investments through full operation of existing facilities; conducting research using the Large Hadron Collider in Europe; pursuing a mid-term particle astrophysics, cosmology, and neutrino physics program; and taking a major role in a future International Linear Collider.

We ask for your continued support for high energy physics in this year's budget, and for funding research in the physical sciences at a constant level of effort, which is crucial for maintaining the nation's leadership in science and technology.