

# Fall 2010 WG21 Meeting Information

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## 1 Overview

The Fall 2010 WG21 meeting will be hosted by the Computing Division of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. We are located roughly 40 miles west of Chicago.

The main Fermilab web site (among the oldest in the world) is <http://www.fnal.gov/>, where you will find a number of useful links. We recommend, in particular, <http://www.fnal.gov/pub/visiting/index.html>, which provides such visitor-oriented information as maps, travel directions, and local history.

## 2 Venue

The meeting will be held in Wilson Hall on the Fermilab campus. An architecturally striking 16-story building, Wilson Hall has east and west towers, each with two elevators. Crossovers connect the towers on many floors.

There is wireless connectivity throughout Wilson Hall; the first-floor *Atrium* (lobby) features a 16-story Foucault pendulum.

Plenary sessions will be held in the *Hornet's Nest* meeting room on the eighth floor crossover at the north end of the building. Smaller meeting rooms will be available on the seventh floor crossover. We expect each meeting room to have appropriate projection equipment, and also

hope to enable limited remote participation via video conference from the *Hornet's Nest*. (Video-conference details will be unavailable until the week before the meeting; please contact us if this will be of interest to you.)

Assuming there are no changes in national security status, employees and visitors alike may enter the site upon presenting photo identification (*e.g.*, driver's license or passport) to the security officer on duty.

And yes, Fermilab does raise bison (circa 50 head). No, they don't glow in the dark. Yes, we've heard all the jokes.

Yes, we also have  $\pi$ -shaped telephone poles on site.

### 3 Dates

The meeting dates will be Monday, November 8, through Saturday, November 13, 2009.

Please consult the meeting Agenda for meeting times. The meeting rooms will be at WG21's disposal all day.

### 4 Connectivity

In brief, you will need to register your laptop once each day that you are on the Fermilab site. Please make sure your machines are current with regard to software security patches, anti-virus software, *etc.* "You will need to provide the necessary registration and contact information. Your machine will be scanned for viruses and vulnerabilities."

For specific details, please consult the following information sources regarding Fermilab's computing requirements, policies, and procedures:

- <http://fndcg0.fnal.gov/DCG-Docs/Visitor-Info/Visitor-Info.html>
- <http://computing.fnal.gov/policy/cpolicy.pdf>
- <http://computing.fnal.gov/security>

Note in particular that running certain software and services (*e.g.*, torrent clients and unsecured sshd) is problematical for the Laboratory; please do not risk having your machine blocked from our network.

### 5 Travel

The greater Chicago area is served by two major airports: O'Hare (ORD) and Midway (MDW). Of the two, O'Hare is closer to Fermilab; plan on 40+ minutes driving time if there's no traffic. Driving from Midway will nominally take closer to an hour, and involves much more opportunity for traffic congestion.

Several companies provide airport shuttle service to/from Batavia at one-way rates of circa \$50 and up. Fermilab travelers use West Suburban Travelers Limousine, Inc., <http://www.westsublimo.com>; advance reservations are strongly recommended. Before making your decision, please see also "Local transportation," below, as you may wish to rent a car instead.

### 6 Lodging

We have reserved a block of rooms at the nearby non-smoking Comfort Inn & Suites Geneva, 1555 East Fabyan Parkway, Geneva, Illinois (<http://www.ComfortInnGeneva.com>) at a special

rate of US\$75/night for a standard room and US\$81/night for a small suite. A continental breakfast is included at no additional fee, as is internet connectivity (wired in the sleeping rooms, wireless in the public areas).

To obtain this special rate, please book before 2010-10-17 and mention “WG21”:

- by voice +1.630.208-8811,
- by fax +1.630.208-7844, or
- by email <[sales@comfortinngeneva.com](mailto:sales@comfortinngeneva.com)> (no weekend replies).

You may also book online, but will not receive the special rate.

In case you prefer different lodging, just let us know and we will be happy to make additional recommendations.

## 7 Local transportation

Fermilab encompasses roughly 6800 acres, and is not served by any public transportation. We therefore encourage ride-sharing. If you don't have your own transportation, let us know and we'll work something out.

To travel to Fermilab from the Comfort Inn, turn west (right) onto East Fabyan Parkway, and then at the first traffic light turn south (left) onto Kirk Road. After you cross the intersection with East Wilson Street, Fermilab will be on your left, but the public entrance is at the next traffic light. Continue south on Kirk Road to the traffic light at Pine Street and turn left onto Pine Street. Follow Pine Street (a winding road) to the stop sign at the guardhouse. After briefly showing your identification and receiving clearance from the guard, proceed onward (the road winds some more) to the next stop sign. Turn right and you will see Wilson Hall straight ahead. We recommend parking in the West lot (to your right as you face the building); there is no parking fee.

Use any convenient ground-floor or first-floor entrance, and take any elevator to the eighth floor. (Stairs are also available for the physically enthusiastic.) The *Hornet's Nest* will be off the corridor (the crossover) that is directly ahead as you get off the elevator. (It'll be the room with a hornet's nest in it.)

## 8 Meals

Because of the time it takes to travel anywhere off-site, we recommend eating lunch at Fermilab's cafeteria (located in the *Atrium*); it is open to employees and visitors alike. Prices are modest; sample lunch menus are posted at <http://lss.fnal.gov/cafe>, but there are always additional options (make-your-own salad, grill-to-order, etc.). Breakfasts are available, too, in case you're looking for variety from the hotel offering.

There are numerous options for dinner, but few are within walking distance of the Inn. A sample of local restaurants (one person's opinion) is posted at <http://theory.fnal.gov/people/ellis/restaurants.html>.

## 9 Local conditions

Central Standard Time (CST), which is UTC/GMT –6 hours, will be in effect as of 2010-11-07 (the Sunday just before our meeting).

The following statistics regarding November weather in the greater Chicago area may be of interest:

- Average daily low temperature: 32° F (0° C).
- Average daily high temperature: 47° F (8° C).
- Average monthly precipitation: 2.7 in (6.8 cm).
- Average monthly snowfall: 2.9 in (7.4 cm).

## **10 Summary**

On behalf of the staff and management of Fermilab's Computing Division, we look forward to welcoming all WG21 participants to our Laboratory. Please do let us know if we can provide further information or can help in any other way.