Perspective on the ICCs

A focus on the Concept Exploration Program

Bick Hooper

LLNL

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Success indicators for the ICCs

Advancing our scientific knowledge base and reaching out to the broader scientific community

- Contributions to magnetic reconnection physics and contact with space plasma research through the Center for Magnetic Self Organization (NSF center: U. Wisc., U. Chicago and others – includes:

  MST, MRX, SSPX, SSX –– the last two are CEs and MRX is a CE level experiment

Offering a significant opportunity for a breakthrough in fusion

- Steady improvement in understanding and parameters in a broad set of concepts, including self-organized plasmas, shear-flow z-pinches, etc.

Generating a high level of excitement and the opportunity to explore new ideas

- The ICC workshop had 120-130 participants in each of the last 3 years
- 103 papers were presented at ICC2004, 99 at ICC2003, 97 at ICC2005
- Students actively participated at U. Maryland, Washington, Wisconsin

Developing our future workforce –– A strong educational component

- In my 2004 presentation at the Budget Meeting, I identified from the CEs:

  14 Postdocs

  13 PhDs awarded since 1996

  12 graduate students within 1 year of graduation –– 56 more students in the pipeline

The ICCs – including CEs – are successful by all these measures