

# WAO

## The Beginning

How and Why it was Started  
and

Some Amusing Stories Along the Way

# Ron's Pet Peeve

It's NOT  
a Conference, it's a  
WORKSHOP!

# Why was WAO Started?

In the very early 90's, I was asked to set up, from scratch, an operations group at Jefferson Lab. What did I know about doing such a thing? Honestly, very little.

Think back to the *early* 90's for a moment . . .

- What kind of processor did your PC have?
- Did you even know what a User Name was?
- What was the status of the internet?
- Did you use e-mail or was mail something the post office delivered?

How was I to gather information?

# Humble Beginnings

How? By traveling to other institutions and picking the brains of those who had already learned what worked and what didn't.

Many helped me understand, but two key individuals were Bob Mau (Fermilab) and Mike Stanek (SLAC). Together, we often questioned why we didn't meet on a regular basis. Those conversations were the beginnings of what is now WAO.

Mau told me some time later that he had wanted to start such a workshop and after meeting me knew that I might just be crazy enough to make it happen (with his guidance of course).



# Original Committee Members

## AOW 96

John Crawford (FERMI)

Rod Gerig (ANL)

Tom Inman (SLAC)

Ron Lauzé (JLab)

Bob Mau (FERMI)

Randy Pico (LLNL)

Mike Stanek (SLAC)

# The Original Cast of Characters (1996)



Stanek

Gerig

Lauzé

Crawford

Mau

Pico & Inman not present for photo.



# ACCELERATOR OPERATIONS WORKSHOP



## CONTINUOUS ELECTRON BEAM ACCELERATOR FACILITY NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA

*The Accelerator Operations Workshop will address some of the key issues that face accelerator operations professionals who participate in the day-to-day operation of the world's particle accelerators. This workshop will serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas and a review of current practices at some of the leading facilities.*

**For further information contact:**

Gloria Fleming (Workshop Secretary)  
CEBAF  
12000 Jefferson Avenue  
Newport News, Virginia 23606

Telephone: 804-249-5055  
Fax: 804-249-7049  
E-Mail: [gffleming@cebafe.gov](mailto:gffleming@cebafe.gov)

Information and registration is also available on the World Wide Web  
[http://www.cebafe.gov/general/cal/accel\\_wkshp.html](http://www.cebafe.gov/general/cal/accel_wkshp.html)

*Workshop Chairman*  
Ron Lauzé - (CEBAF)

*Organizing Committee*

John Crawford - (FNAL)  
Rod Gerig - (ANL)  
Tom Inman - (SLAC)  
Bob Mau - (FNAL)  
Randy Pico - (LLNL)  
Mike Stanek - (SLAC)



# How WAO has Evolved

Originally named **AOW**. Rick Bloemhard from TRIUMF (at the time) hosted the second workshop and with input from a consultant friend determined that “**WAO**” rolls off the tongue easier than “**AOW**”.

By WAO98 we had both a Program Committee and an Organizing Committee.

By WAO2001 the decision had been made to rotate locations between North America, Europe, and Asia.

By WAO2003 we had formalized the WAO Secretary position and Language, Slide Show and Poster Session guidelines.

Program Committee size grew from 7 in 1996 to as many as 17 in 2010.

Attendance grew from 64 to typically 120–150 (kept to this limit by design).

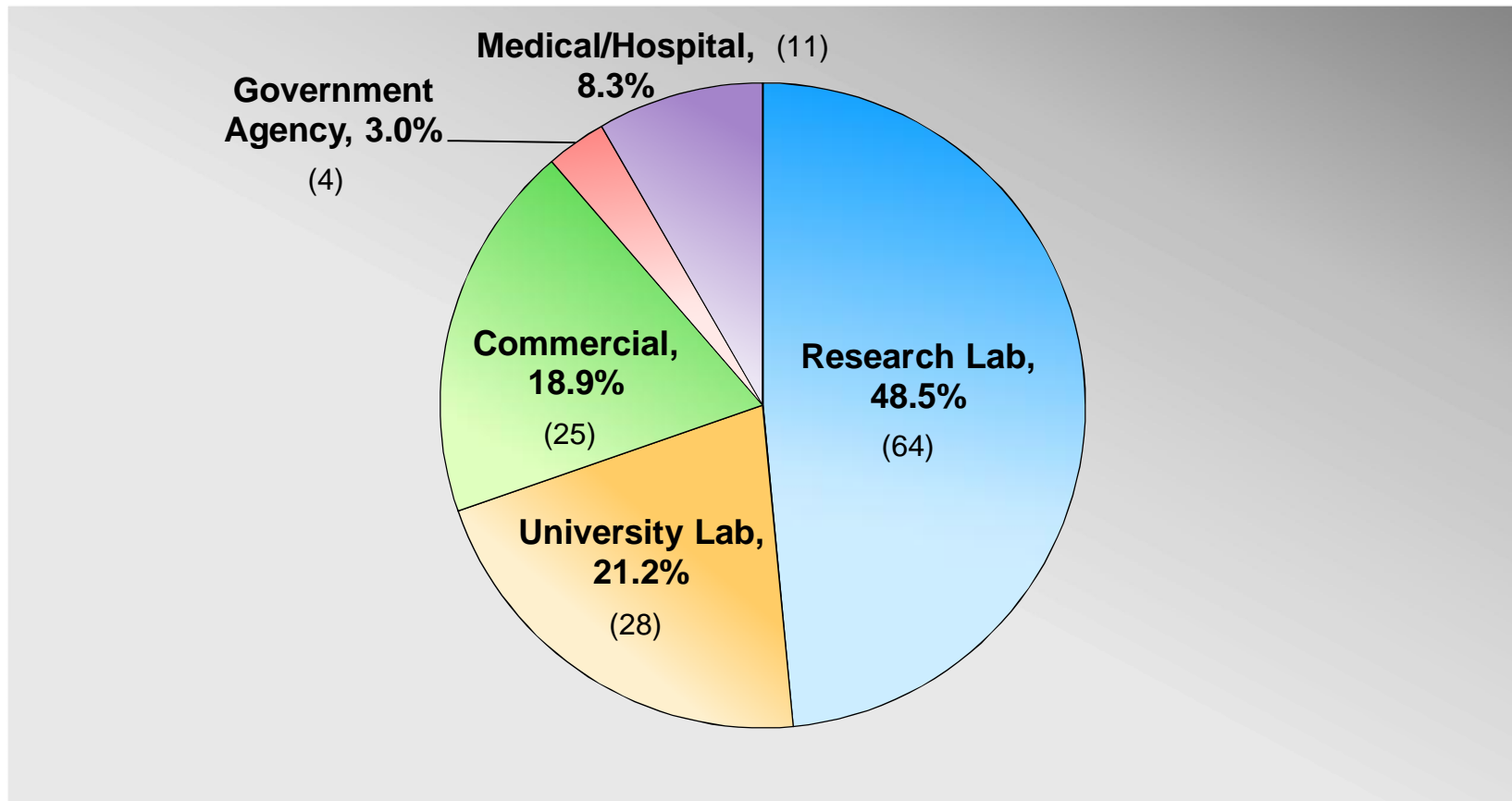
This workshop is the 8<sup>th</sup> in the series.



# History of WAO

- 1996 – Jefferson Lab (USA / Lauzé)
- 1998 – TRIUMF (Canada / Bloemhard)
- 2001 – CERN (Switzerland / Bailey)
- 2003 – KEK (Japan / Kurokawa)
- 2005 – Fermilab (USA / Mau)
- 2007 – Trieste (Italy / Karantzoulis)
- 2010 – KAERI (Korea / Cho & Kim)
- 2012 – SLAC/LBNL (USA / Stanek/Morel)
- 2014 – You'll just have to wait until the end of the workshop!

# Institutional Composition (All WAO)



Data courtesy of Peter Ingrassia

# Best Ever WAO Compliment

“I brought my family to Virginia and planned on going to Busch Gardens [an amusement park]. Thanks to your busy schedule I was unable to go. But it was well worth it!”

## Okay Bob – You got me!

**Bob Mau:** “Ron you know I could never be a WAO chairman.”

**Ron Lauzé:** “But Bob, you would make an excellent chairman!”

**Bob Mau:** “Ron, surely you can understand that we can’t have another Chairman Mau!”

I  
•  
•  
•  
•  
•

Here's what I think.

We are smart enough to realize that there is more than one resolution to the problems we face. And we are smart enough to admit we don't have all the answers. But we sure as heck know that as a group, we can openly discuss our problems as well as our failures and successes and put them to good use.





# Formation of Accelerator Reliability Workshop (ARW)

I want to thank Laurent Hardy (ESRF) for getting the **Accelerator Reliability Workshop** started in 2002 and Violeta Toma (TRIUMF) for keeping it going. Also the various Program Committees for working out how both workshops can co-exist.

I offer this warning to Laurent. Don't let Rick Bloemhard host your workshop, as he might suggest that "**ARW**" rolls off the tongue about as well as "**AOW**", because you might end up with a workshop named "**WAR**".

## **A Special Thanks to Roger Bailey (CERN) and Simon Baird (CERN)**

For taking me out for a traditional Swiss fondue meal and strongly suggesting that I drink wine instead of beer with the fondue. Of course, I stayed with the beer, which I later came to regret. I would have been a **MUCH** happier person over the next two days had they fully explained why.

# Organizing Committees

I would like to extend a very special  
**THANK YOU** to the many members  
of the various Organizing Committees.  
None of the workshops would have  
been as successful as they were  
without your dedication, support, and  
hard work.

# Things to Always Think About

With budgets being what they are, we need to find ways to make certain that WAO continues and prospers.

We need to get the 'Next Generation' heavily involved.

We need to keep WAO a Workshop (relatively small, focused on sharing and solving problems).

Talk to Program Committee members if you have suggestions for future topics or Workshop process/format changes.

Participation during 'Open Discussions' is vital.

Make contacts. Socialize with others during lunch and dinner.

Be open minded about how your institution does business. We can always improve.



You'll have to ask Mike



# A Quote From One of My Favorite Movies

That's all I got to say . . . about that!

Forrest Gump