

# 6 International Science Advisory Committee (ISAC)

The Photon Factory International Science Advisory Committee (ISAC) was chartered by the Institute of Materials Structure Science (IMSS) of the High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK) with providing ongoing advice on the operations and strategic planning for the Photon Factory.

The 3rd Photon Factory ISAC meeting was held at the Photon Factory on December 16 and 17, 2008. Table 1 shows a list of 10 ISAC members of the Committee. In advance of the meeting, ISAC was provided written information, including copies of many of the presentations and a list of 8 questions. At the ISAC meeting, ISAC heard a series of technical and scientific presentations. Following questions and discussion, ISAC met in closed session and formulated its observations, conclusions and recommendations.

Below is the answer to the question "Is the overall strategy and progress of the beam line refurbishment program still valid and sufficiently efficient?"

- Following the recommendations by ISAC, PF has decommissioned or rearranged less active BLs for new, more productive ones which align with the strategic goals of PF and IMSS and serve more optimally the needs of the PF scientific user community. The decommissioning of 27 less active beam lines and implementation of 18 new beam lines in Phase I is progressing very well. ISAC believes that the use of the long IDs for SXR beam lines is providing competitive performance to other 3rd generation sources internationally and will serve the Japanese SXR community increasingly well in the future.

- ISAC appreciates the effort of PF management and PF staff to aggressively pursue this program which was endorsed 3 years ago, especially in light of limited manpower and funding, and strongly encourages that it be completed, perhaps with even more aggressive goals. In particular, given the approximately flat operations budgets, ISAC remains quite concerned about the ratio of staff scientists to number of beam lines and end stations and urges that PF and KEK management seek every means to improve this situation. Even after the major changes that have been made, only 39 scientific staff currently serve as many as 60 stations and this is well below what is optimal.

Other itemized questions and the answers from PF ISAC can be found at following URL. ([http://pfwww.kek.jp/ISAC08\\_Dec/ISACreport\\_08dec.pdf](http://pfwww.kek.jp/ISAC08_Dec/ISACreport_08dec.pdf))

To assess specific areas of PF scientific activity, subcommittee meetings of PF ISAC have been organized and held since 2008. The Life Science Subcommittee, chaired by Prof. K.O. Hodgson, was held on March 4 and 5, 2009, and reviewed the activities of structural biology and of radiation biology. Closeout summary of this subcommittee can be found at following URL. ([http://pfwww.kek.jp/ISAC08MAR/closeout\\_summ\\_030509.ppt](http://pfwww.kek.jp/ISAC08MAR/closeout_summ_030509.ppt))

The 4th Photon Factory ISAC meeting has been scheduled on September 18 and 19, 2009.

Table 1 List of the members of the 3rd PF International Science Advisory Committee (ISAC).

FONTES Ernest	Cornell High Energy Synchrotron Source
FUKUYAMA Hidetoshi	Tokyo University of Science
GLUSKIN Efim	Advanced Photon Source
HODGSON Keith	Stanford University, Chairperson of Committee
LINDAU Ingolf	Stanford University
MIKI Kunio	Kyoto University
OHTA Toshiaki	Ritsumeikan University
REE Moonhor	Pohan Accelerator Laboratory
SAILE Volker	University of Karlsruhe
SUEMATSU Hiroyoshi	Riken Harima Institute