

Subject: Computing resource scheduling in the 12 GeV era

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Dear Offline Folks (and FYI to hall leaders Rolf and Patricia),

During the last couple of years the driving requirements for computing resource allocation have been commissioning of GLUEX, hall-A running and non-CLAS experiments such as HPS in hall-B. The GLUEX requirements dominated farm use and resource allocation was not a complicated issue.

During the next couple of years we will see a ramp up in GLUEX data production, CLAS12 commissioning and, hopefully, some CLAS12 production running along with activity in A and C. According to the estimates that you have provided in the past available computing resources will still be lean for the tasks ahead and the use of these resources has to be carefully coordinated and scheduled to make best use.

With all of this in mind it is a good time to review the process by which computing requirements are gathered and resource allocations are made. I don't want to go into details in this email but give you the "heads up" that changes are being considered. The most likely course will be to form a resource scheduling committee and a process, similar to the way that beam time is scheduled, by which an experiment can more formally request computing resources. We would like to discuss this at the next of Sandy's monthly SciComp meetings, at 9am Thursday August 25th in room l210a. Please let me know who from each of the halls will be able to attend, especially people who should be on the committee.

Our hope is to discuss at the meeting, form the committee, and have the process to the stage where we can have a first pass at using it in October. That will allow us to present it to the computing review in November.

Regards to all,
Graham