

# Powering the Future Fusion & Plasmas

A long-range plan to deliver  
fusion energy and to advance  
plasma science

A report of the DOE Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee

FPA Meeting, December 15, 2021



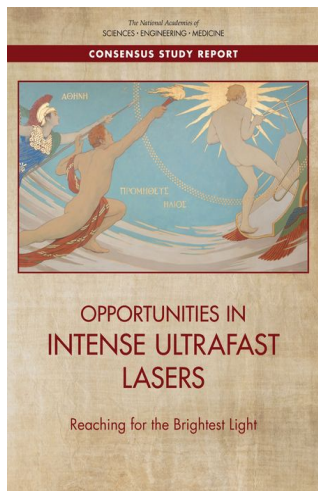
# 2018 Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee Charge

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- Charge covers entire DOE Fusion Energy Sciences portfolio: “...**should identify and prioritize the research required to advance both the scientific foundation needed to develop a fusion energy source, as well as the broader FES mission to steward plasma science.**”
- Two part process, community driven phase (APS DPP Community Planning Process) and FESAC-led phase
- “Optimized FES program over the next ten years” (FY22-FY31). Consider three budget scenarios: **constant level of effort**, **modest growth** (2% above inflation), and **unconstrained** but prioritized
- “...assume that the US Contributions to ITER project will continue throughout this entire period”: focus on the non-ITER-project portion of the budget.



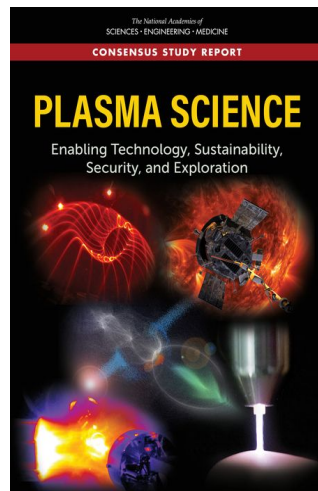
# Context: Four important NASEM reports



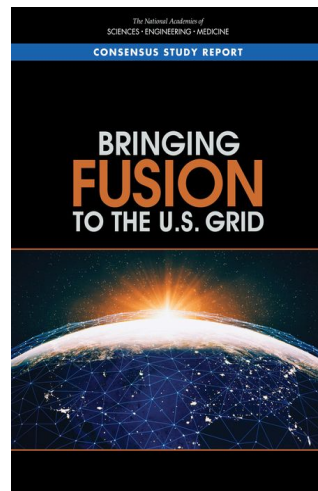
2018



2019



2020

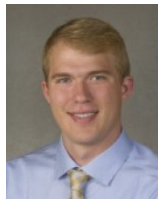


2021

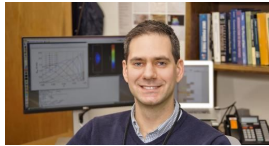
- Convey exciting opportunities in plasma science and technology and urgent need to accelerate the development of fusion energy, with the goal of a fusion pilot plant on a timescale to mitigate climate change



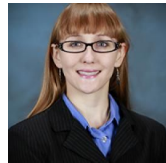
# Successful Phase 1, thanks to CPP leadership and the community



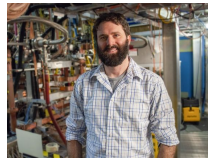
Scott Baalrud



Nathan Ferraro



Lauren Garrison



Nathan Howard



Carolyn Kuranz



John Sarff



Wayne Solomon



Earl Scime

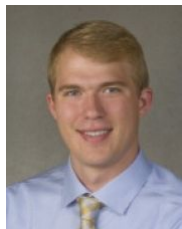
- APS DPP Community Planning Process (CPP): Year-long community-led process. Whitepapers, webinars, town halls and 5 major workshops; Open process, with community review/vetting of draft report
- Process not only enumerated the many scientific and technical opportunities, but did the hard work of establishing guidance for prioritization of these activities
- Consensus CPP report expresses community's excitement to move forward urgently to develop fusion power and advance plasma science and was the scientific and technical basis for the FESAC report

Thank you!



# FESAC Long Range Planning Subcommittee

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Scott Baalrud



Riccardo Betti



Troy Carter



Tyler Ellis



John Foster



Cameron Geddes



Arianna Gleason



Chris Holland



Paul Humrickhouse



Chuck Kessel



Ane Lasa



Tammy Ma



Rajesh Maingi



David Schaffner



Oliver Schmitz



Uri Shumlak



Lance Snead



Wayne Solomon



Erik Trask



Francois Waelbroeck



Anne White



Don Rej (ex officio)





# Final report published, web version available

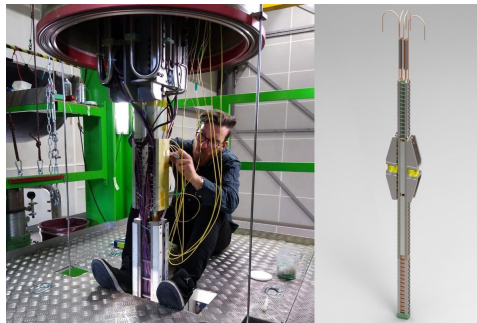
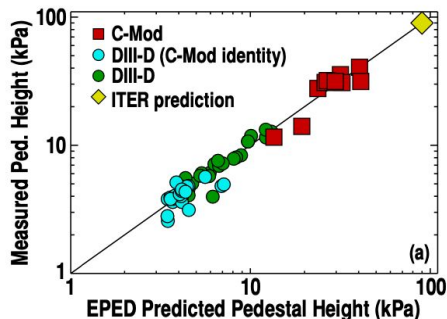
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- Subcommittee formed Feb 2020, worked completely virtually through 2020
- Draft report released publicly December 4, 2020
- Report approved by unanimous vote during FESAC meeting December 7-10, 2020
  - ◆ That approval required changes to draft to improve, clarify report
- FESAC changes implemented, report had professional editing and copy editing
- **Final report released Feb 15**
- **Web version of the report published in May**
- Report (web version + PDF) posted at <http://usfusionandplasmas.org>



# Now is the time for fusion energy

- **Now is the time** to move aggressively toward the development of fusion energy. Scientific and technological innovations enable a unique US vision for economically attractive fusion energy, with the goal of a fusion pilot plant. Growth of a fusion energy industry is important for this vision and that industry is already seeded by \$2B of investment.



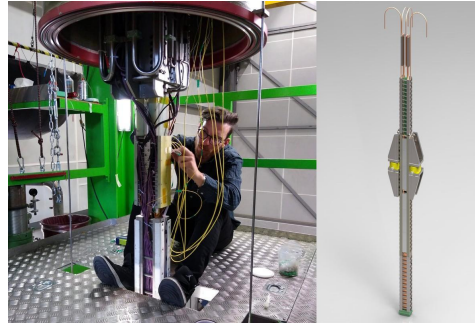
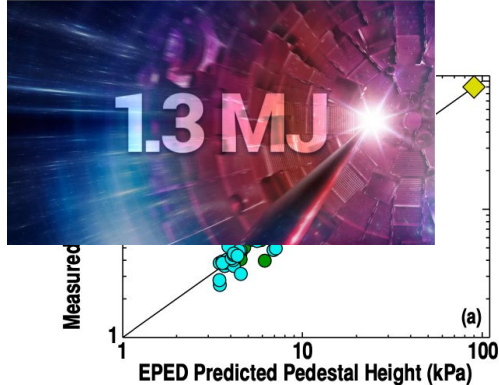
## Membership





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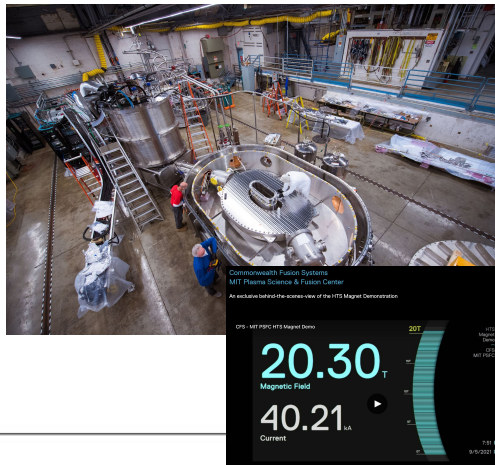
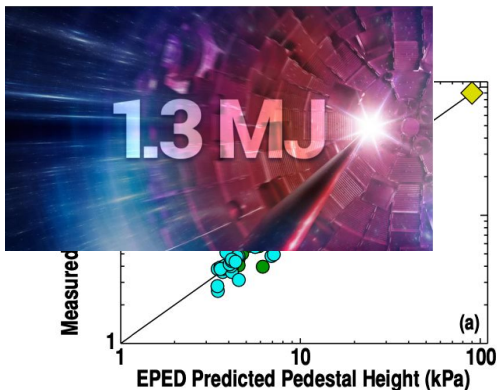






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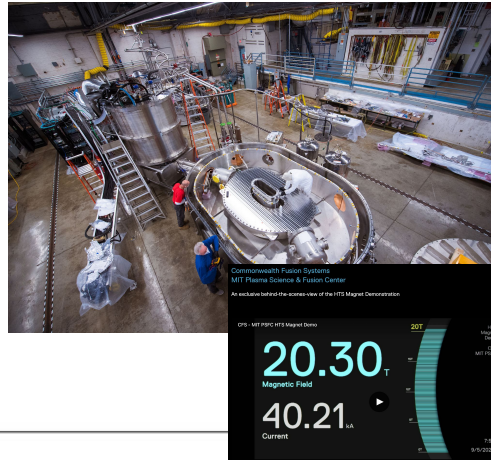
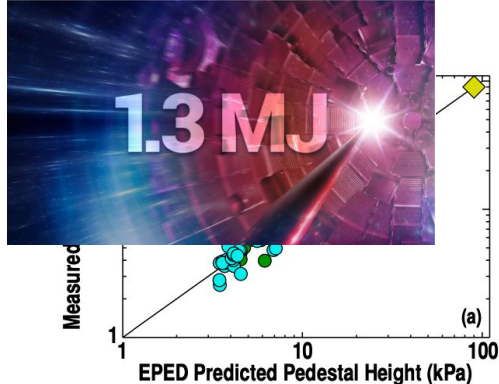




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**\$4B**



WSJ Wall Street Journal

## Nuclear-Fusion Startup Lands \$1.8 Billion as Investors Chase Star Power

Commonwealth Fusion Systems has raised more than \$1.8 billion from the likes of Bill Gates and George Soros as startups join the quest to...

TC TechCrunch

Helion Energy will use \$500M Series E to power up its fusion energy efforts

Helion Energy will use \$500M Series E to power up its fusion energy efforts · The TechCrunch Top 3 · Startups/VC · The holiday shopping season is...

1 month ago

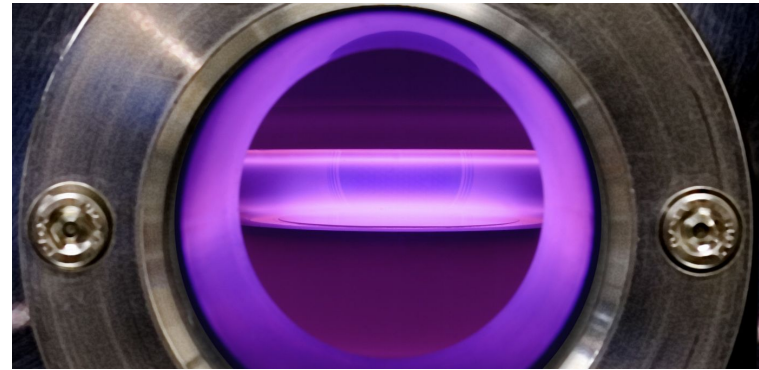
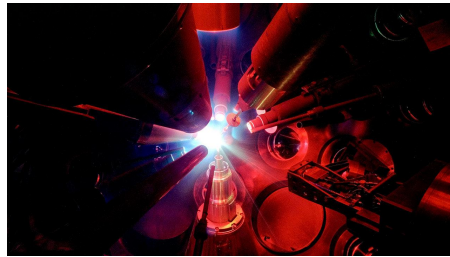
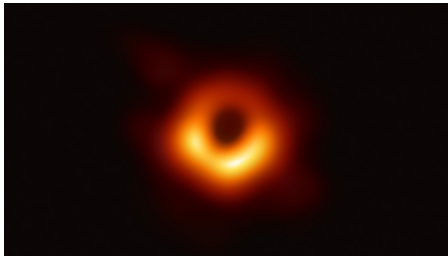




# Plasma science and technology has far reaching impact

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- **Plasmas transform society.** Far-reaching impact spans: advances key to enabling fusion energy; deeper understanding of our universe; creating exotic states of matter with the most intense lasers in the world; transformative applications that impact our everyday lives and have the potential to enable a more sustainable society



## By partnering we can accelerate the timeline

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- Partnerships accelerate progress.
  - International partnership, especially ITER, is critical.
  - Public–private partnerships have the potential to reduce time to commercially viable fusion and support the growth of a fusion energy industry.
  - Interagency partnerships can maximize progress in research and development.



# World leadership is in our grasp, but we must act

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- Fusion and plasma research in the US have been world-leading; continued scientific leadership requires nurturing and agility.
  - The US is poised to create world-leading fusion industry, should be supported.
  - Leadership in key areas is threatened by the absence of investment in major new facilities to address critical R&D needs.





## We speak with one voice in support of this strategic plan

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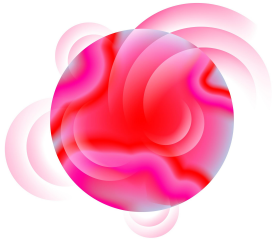
- For the first time, scientists have created a long-range plan to accelerate the development of fusion energy AND advance plasma science. The fusion and plasma science research community not only identified important new opportunities, but did the hard work of prioritizing these through a consensus process.
- The plan conveys a vision for a vibrant research and development program that will bring significant benefit to society.

# New directions for the FES program

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The **Fusion Science and Technology (FST)** area should focus on establishing the scientific and technical basis for a fusion pilot plant by the 2040s



The **Plasma Science and Technology (PST)** area should focus on new opportunities to advance fundamental understanding, and in turn translate these advances into technologies that benefit society



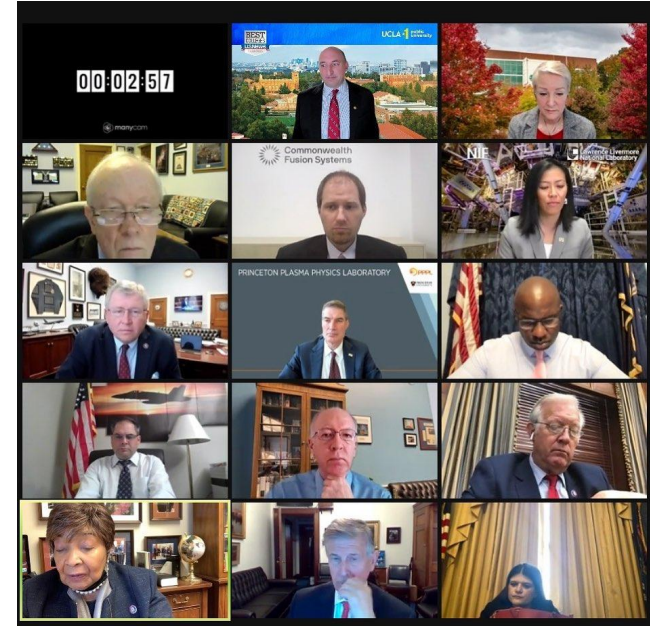
# Report rollout presentations/briefings

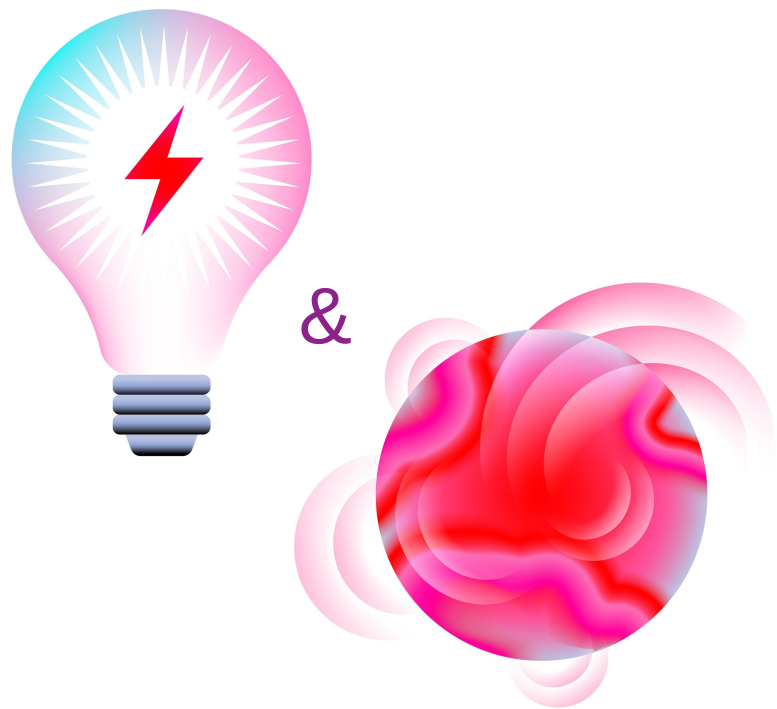
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- **Presentations to plasma/fusion institutions and community groups:**  
FPA, HEDSA, ANS FED, PPPL, ORNL, DIII-D/GA, Wisconsin, Michigan, VLT, US BPO, LLNL, MIT, UT Austin, U Wash, LANL, NERSC
- **Presentations to foreign plasma/fusion institutions:** I-DTT, Japan MEXT, DIFFER
- **Chevron:** presentation to energy transition team
- **Energy Sciences Coalition**
- **Congressional Staffers**
  - ◆ Fusion Day Congressional Briefing
  - ◆ Authorization committees staffers: House Science, Space & Technology Committee; Senate Energy & Natural Resources
  - ◆ Appropriation committees staffers: House Energy and Water; Senate Energy and Water Development

# Report rollout presentations/briefings, cont.

- **Office of Management & Budget**
- **Congressional Hearing Nov 17: “Fostering a New Era of Fusion Energy Research and Technology Development”**
- **Undersecretary for Science & Energy Geri Richmond**





Thank  
You!

[usfusionandplasmas.org](http://usfusionandplasmas.org)