

ICFA Statement on Long-Term Data Preservation

The International Committee for Future Accelerators (ICFA) supports the efforts of the Data Preservation in High Energy Physics (DPHEP) study group on long-term data preservation and welcomes its transition to an active international collaboration with a full-time project manager. It encourages laboratories, institutes and experiments to review the draft DPHEP Collaboration Agreement with a view to joining by mid- to late-2013.

ICFA notes the lack of effort available to pursue these activities in the short-term and the possible consequences on data preservation in the medium to long-term. We further note the opportunities in this area for international collaboration with other disciplines and encourage the DPHEP Collaboration to vigorously pursue its activities. In particular, the effort required to prepare project proposals must be prioritized, in addition to supporting on-going data preservation activities.

ICFA notes the important benefits of long-term data preservation to exploit the full scientific potential of the, often unique, datasets. This potential includes not only future scientific publications but also educational outreach purposes, and the Open Access policies emerging from the funding agencies.

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