



**Department of Energy**  
**Office of Science**  
**Washington, DC 20585**

July 2, 2008

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Dennis Kovar as the Associate Director of the Office of Science for High Energy Physics. Dr. Kovar has been serving in this capacity since October 15, 2007, on detail from his former position as the Associate Director of the Office of Science for Nuclear Physics. This appointment is effective immediately.

During the past eight months, Dr. Kovar has fully engaged the high energy physics community in their strategic planning process, culminating in the unanimous endorsement by the High Energy Physics Advisory Panel of the P5 recommendations in late May. He has worked closely with laboratory and university programs to ensure that they are on a firm scientific and financial base. And he has represented the U.S. High Energy Physics program abroad, working with international agencies to position U.S. scientists well for future research endeavors. Dr. Kovar's leadership over these past eight months convinces us that he will represent the needs of high energy physics in an exemplary manner and will provide the leadership needed for a successful and vibrant future.

Dr. Kovar joined the Department of Energy in 1990 and served as Program Manager for Heavy Ion Nuclear Physics (1990-1998), Project Officer for RHIC (1996-1999), and Director of the Division of Nuclear Physics (1998-2003) prior to becoming the Associate Director of the Office of Science for Nuclear Physics in July 2003.

Dr. Kovar obtained his B.S. in Physics from the University of Texas in 1964 and his Ph.D. in Nuclear Physics from Yale University in 1971. He held a postdoctoral appointment at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory before joining the scientific staff at Argonne National Laboratory in 1973 where remained until 1990, working primarily in the area of low energy heavy ion nuclear reactions, nuclear structure, and particle detection techniques and instrumentation. During his research career he produced over 90 refereed articles. He is a fellow of the American Physical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Kovar was honored with the Meritorious Presidential Executive Rank Award in 2004.

With an annual budget of about \$700 million, the Office of High Energy Physics is the steward of the nation's high energy physics program. As head of the Office of High Energy Physics, Dr. Kovar will serve as one of six Associate Directors of the Office of Science. He will be responsible for strategic program planning, budget formulation and execution, program integration with other Office of Science activities, and interagency

integration. The position is within the ranks of the U.S. government's Senior Executive Service (SES).

Dr. Kovar will be located in Room G-454 of DOE's Germantown facility. He can be reached at 301-903-3624 or by e-mail at [dennis.kovar@science.doe.gov](mailto:dennis.kovar@science.doe.gov) . Please join us in welcoming Dr. Kovar in his new position.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Dehmer  
Deputy Director for Science Programs  
Office of Science  
U.S. Department of Energy

Raymond L. Orbach  
Under Secretary for Science  
U.S. Department of Energy