

*C. L. Wilson*

MEETING TO DISCUSS NATIONAL LABORATORY PROBLEMS SEPTEMBER 26, 1949

A meeting was held at the Cosmos Club September 26, 1949, to discuss general problems of the national laboratories. Those present were C. L. Wilson, L. R. Hafstad, K. S. Pitzer, S. Warren, and D. B. Langmuir.

Discussion centered around the Argonne National Laboratory.

Hafstad objected to the conception that the Commission is obligated to maintain any particular level of operation at a national laboratory. He noted confusion and frustration regarding university cooperation with ANL. He proposed that the Commission express its intention of supporting a small permanent staff which would form a basic research kernel in the laboratory, amounting to perhaps 200 permanent scientists equivalent to associate professors, in addition to temporary younger people, university graduate students, and others. There would also be a programmatic part of the laboratory, organized and administered by projects. Employees here in general would not have tenure. The laboratory preferably should not be staffed to the limits of physical space, since provision for emergency expansion should be made.

The group agreed that Hafstad should try to produce a document along these lines acceptable to himself, Tammaro, and Zinn. It was suggested that university cooperation center around the permanent research part of the laboratory, and that the participating universities might help select the permanent staff.

Wilson read recommendations of Budget Review Committee, and also referred to Flemming-Spates letter (9-13-49). It was agreed that responsibility for defense of national laboratory budgets should be allocated as follows:

Ames	- - - - -	Pitzer
Berkeley	- - - -	Pitzer
Oak Ridge	- - - -	Pitzer
Argonne	- - - -	Hafstad
KAPL	- - - - -	Hafstad
Brookhaven	- - -	Warren

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Notes Prepared by  
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