



Abhay Deshpande
Associate Laboratory Director
Nuclear and Particle Physics

June 10, 2025

Dr. Christinel Diaconu
Directeur de Recherche CNRS
Director of Centre de Physique des Particules de Marseille

Dear Dr. Diaconu:

As the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) enters its legacy phase after more than two decades of groundbreaking nuclear physics research operation, Brookhaven National Laboratory has started developing a comprehensive Data and Analysis Preservation Plan (DAPP) for the data collected over the years. At this stage of the data preservation project, we are seeking expert input to validate the approach and ensure its alignment with long-term scientific vision of preserving the data, software for at least two decades.

With this letter, I am requesting your committee to conduct a half-day internal review of this plan. The suggested time is July 1, 2025 starting at 9:00AM Eastern US time. A brief written report summarizing the committee's findings and recommendations would be highly appreciated within one week following the review. The DAPP team will deliver a detailed presentation and will be available to address your questions and receive your feedback.

The committee's evaluation should focus on the following questions:

1. Has the DAPP effectively identified and plan to preserve the most valuable scientific assets and legacy from the RHIC experiments?
2. Will the proposed infrastructure enable both verification of published results and new analyses by external researchers?
3. Are proposed data curation practices sufficient to ensure long-term usability and discoverability of RHIC data?
4. Are the proposed FTE allocations and infrastructure requirements realistic for both the initial and sustained implementation phases?
5. Has the plan identified risks and outlined suitable mitigation strategies?

The committee's report should provide an overall assessment of the DAPP's readiness for implementation and provide specific, prioritized recommendations to address any identified gaps or concerns.

The preservation of RHIC's unique data represents a critical opportunity to maximize the long-term scientific return on the nation's investment in this facility. Your expertise and insights are invaluable in ensuring that this plan effectively secures RHIC's legacy for future generations of researchers.

Thank you for your willingness to participate in this important review.
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Abhay Deshpande". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Abhay Deshpande
Associate Laboratory Director for Nuclear and Particle Physics, BNL
and
SUNY Distinguished Professor, Stony Brook University

cc: Eric Lancon, Jamie Dunlop