

Abstract Submitted
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Plasma Physics/Fusion Energy Education at the Liberty Science Center ANDREW ZWICKER, JOHN DELOOPER, ANDY CARPE, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, JOE AMARA, NANCY BUTNICK, ELLEN LYNCH, JEFF OSOWSKI, Liberty Science Center — The Liberty Science Center (LSC) is the largest (300,000 sq. ft.) education resource in the New Jersey-New York City region. A major \$109 million expansion and renewal was recently completed. Accordingly, PPPL has expanded the science education collaboration with the Center into three innovative, hands-on programs. On the main floor, a new fusion exhibit is one of the focuses of “Energy Quest.” This includes a DC glow discharge tube with a permanent external magnet allowing visitors to manipulate the plasma while reading information on plasma creation and fusion energy. In the section of LSC dedicated to intensive science investigations (20,000 sq. ft) we have added “Live from NSTX” which will give students an opportunity to connect via video-conferencing to the NSTX control room during plasma operations. A prototype program was completed in May, 2007 with three high school physics classes and will be expanded when NSTX resumes operation. Finally, a plasma physics laboratory in this area will have a fully functioning, research-grade plasma source that will allow long-term visitors an opportunity to perform experiments in plasma processing, plasma spectroscopy, and dusty plasmas.

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