

# Agenda for the MFE Session

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**Preamble**

**Sauthoff**

**IGNITOR**

**Coppi**

**FIRE**

**Meade**

**ITER**

**Lackner**

**Innovative Confinement Concepts**

**Hooper**

**Major Conclusions of the Study**

**1. Why a burning plasma**

**Navratil**

**2. Burning plasma options**

**Baker**

**3. Assessment of contributions of the options**

**Van Dam**

**4. Assessment of the feasibility of the options**

**Taylor**

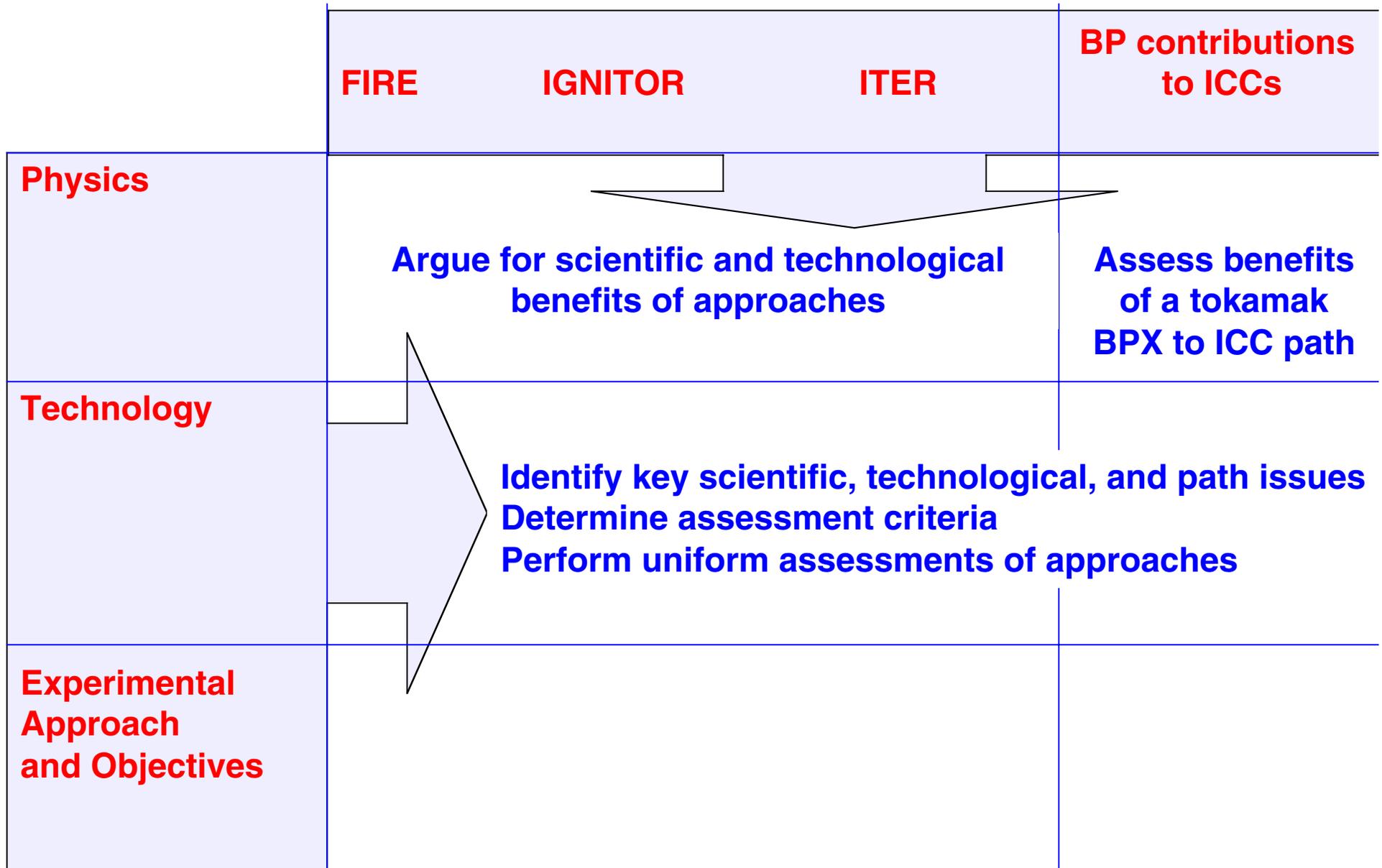
**5. Assessment of fusion development paths**

**Taylor**

**6. Relation to the national program**

**Prager**

# Identifying MFE issues and assessing burning plasma experiments



# MFE Context for the Snowmass study

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FESAC  
Burning  
Plasma  
Panel  
9/2001



“1. NOW is the time ... to take the steps leading to the expeditious construction of a burning plasma experiment.”

“2. Funds for a burning plasma experiment should arise as an addition to the base Fusion Energy Sciences budget.”

“3. The U.S. Fusion Energy Sciences Program should establish a proactive U.S. plan on burning plasma experiments....”

# MFE Context for the Snowmass study

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FESAC  
Burning  
Plasma  
Panel  
9/2001



“Hold a “Snowmass” workshop in the summer 2002, for the critical scientific and technological examination of proposed burning plasma experimental designs and to provide crucial community input and endorsement to the planning activities undertaken by FESAC.”

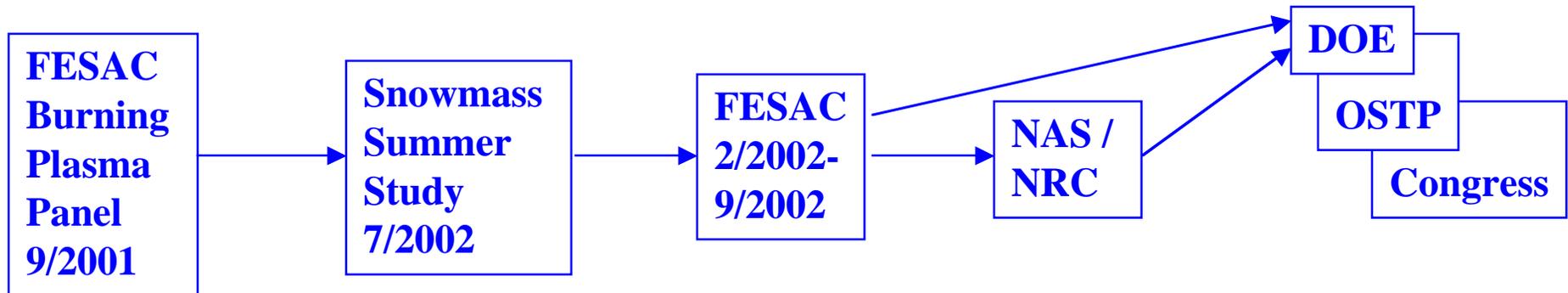
“Specifically, the workshop should determine which of the specific burning plasma options are technically viable but should not select among them.”

“Request the Director of the Office of Energy Sciences to charge FESAC with the mission of forming an “action” panel in Spring 2002, to select among the technically viable burning plasma experimental options.”

“Initiate a review by a National Research Council panel in Spring 2002, with the goal of determining the desirability as well as the scientific and technological credibility of the burning plasma experiment design by Fall 2003.”

# MFE Context for the Snowmass study

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## DOE/SC charge to the FESAC panel:

- The next step in this process is for FESAC to establish a high-level panel that would use the results of the Summer Study to recommend a strategy for burning plasma experiments.
- This panel's report should show how ITER would fit into the U.S. fusion program, if it were to go forward with our participation.
- The panel should also indicate how a FIRE or Ignitor type of device would fit in our program, if ITER were not to go forward [with the US].
- The panel's proposed plan should provide flexibility for us to join ITER, should the Administration decide to enter negotiations, and if we are able to negotiate acceptable terms, and that allows us to decline to join if the terms are not acceptable to both the community and the Administration.

# MFE Preamble

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**Fusion energy shows great promise to contribute to securing the energy future of humanity.**

**The science which underlies this quest is at the frontier of the physics of complex systems and provides the basis for understanding the behavior of high temperature plasmas.**

**Grounded in recent excellent progress, the world is now at a major decision point: to go forward with exploration of a burning plasma, opening up the possibility of discoveries in a plasma dominated by self-heating from fusion reactions.**

# MFE Preamble

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**This exciting next step to explore burning plasmas is an essential element in the Fusion Energy Science Program whose mission is to “Advance plasma science, fusion science and fusion technology—the knowledge base needed for an economically and environmentally attractive fusion energy source.”**

**The study of burning plasmas will be carried out as part of a program that includes advancing fundamental understanding of the underlying physics and technology, theory and computational simulation, and optimization of magnetic confinement configurations.**

## **MFE Preamble**

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**The participants of the 2002 Fusion Summer Study developed major conclusions regarding the opportunities for exploration and discovery in the field of burning plasmas.**