



LHO Outreach Update

Amber Strunk
LIGO Hanford
astrunk@caltech.edu



LHO Priorities



1. LExC Construction – constrained by LIGO commissioning and run schedule cycle as well as Washington State budget cycle
 - Hire construction/project manager – Completed October 18, 2019
 - Select design/build team – Completed April 27, 2020
 - Settle ownership question – NSF has indicated they are willing to accept title June 12, 2020
 - Finalize contract with design/build team – Expected completion June 19, 2020
 - Finalize contract between Caltech and OSPI – Expected completion by July 1, 2020
 - Geotechnical study – awaiting DOE approval (potentially delayed by COVID)
 - NEPA/NHPA survey – completion expected mid-September, 2020
 - LExC construction – Oct 1, 2020 – Oct 1, 2021
2. Hire Additional EPO staff
 - Hire one additional educator – Cassidy Eassa hired June 1, 2020
 - Hire second additional educator – working to identify funding
3. LExC Program Development (Current highest priority)



Exhibits



- What do we, and our stakeholders, want to achieve with exhibits and for our students?
 - We plan to hire professionals to help us plan and select exhibits to ensure we are reaching our goals and supporting our stakeholders.
- How can we be inclusive?
 - We want to ensure the exhibit selection, design, and installation allows all visitors to have a welcoming and educational experience.
 - We want to recognize the land LIGO is situated on is the ancestral land of local tribes, and that astronomy has been meaningful in many cultures throughout history.
 - We have begun discussions with local tribes. We plan to work with the tribes to determine the best way to honor their ancestral land. One possibility is exhibits that highlighting the astronomy and origin stories of their tribes.
 - We had scheduled a visit of tribal elders for March but COVID19 has placed all visits and discussion on hold.



Program Development



- What programs do we want to continue and expand?
 - Fieldtrips
 - we plan to expand field trips to host a minimum of an additional 120 students per week.
 - Teacher Professional Development
 - with the new classroom space we plan to expand onsite professional development opportunities.
 - Public access to our facility
 - The new facility will allow for an additional 200 people during open tour days.
 - We are also exploring other opportunities to allow the public to utilize the facility.
 - Science and Dance with Mid-Columbia Ballet
 - Plans are in place to expand this program to include one additional school each year for a minimum of five years.



Program Development



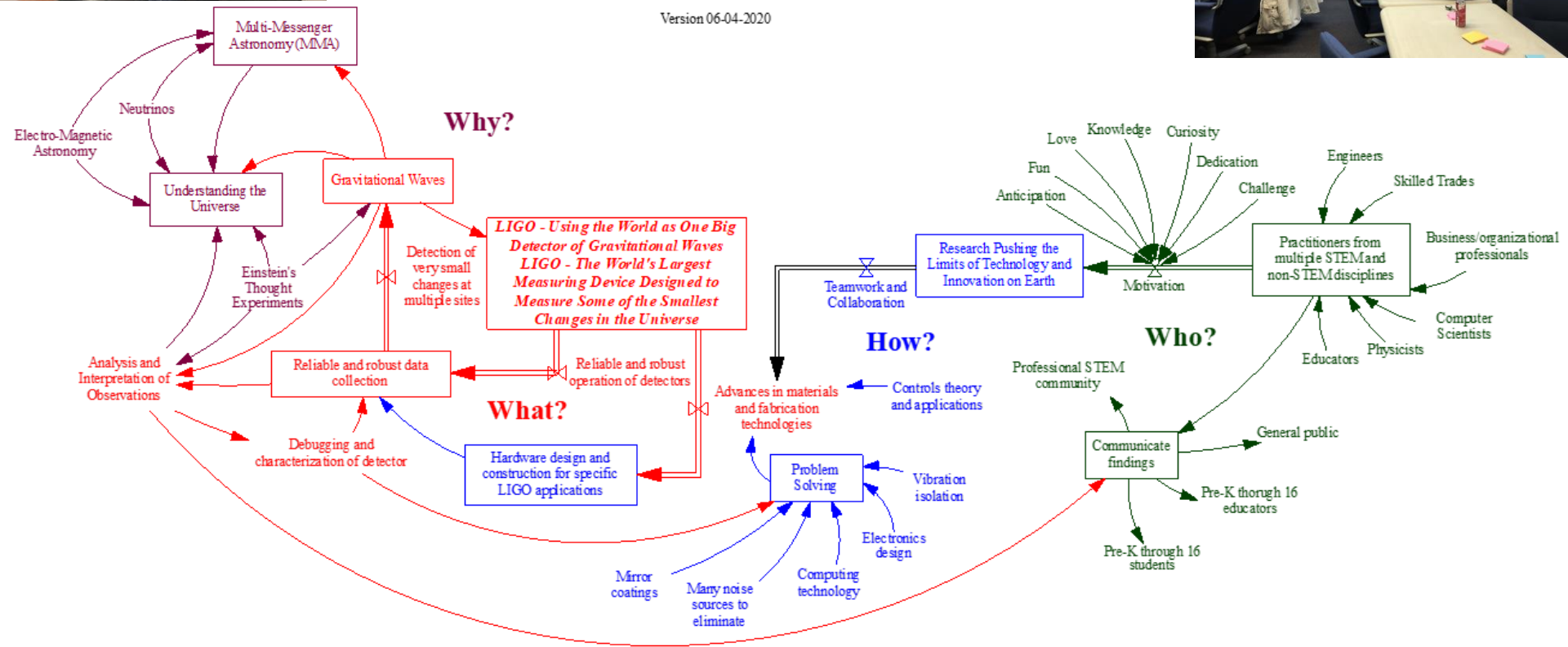
- What new programs would we like to start?
 - Job shadows/internships for high school students from local reservations and schools with large populations of students traditionally underrepresented in STEM
 - Docent program – we would like to use LLO as a model for a docent program at LHO.
 - ??? – We are excited to move forward with conversations with stakeholders to see what programs they need and how we can best support them. While we don't know what these programs will be yet LExC's two large classrooms and exhibit hall will provide flexibility to accommodate various programs.



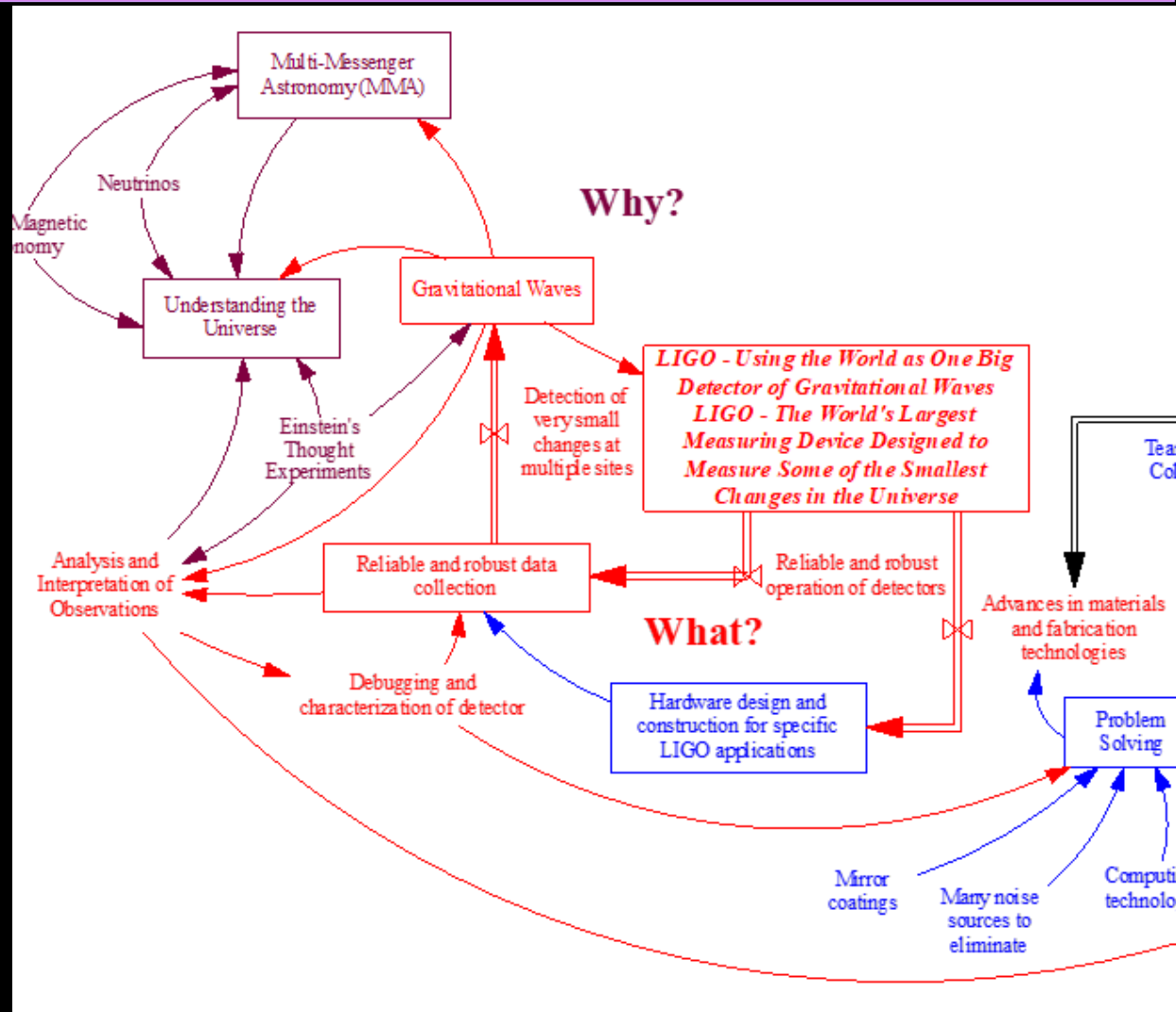
LIGO Story Top Level System Diagram

Created by Dr. Ann P. McMahon with Input from LIGO Hanford Team

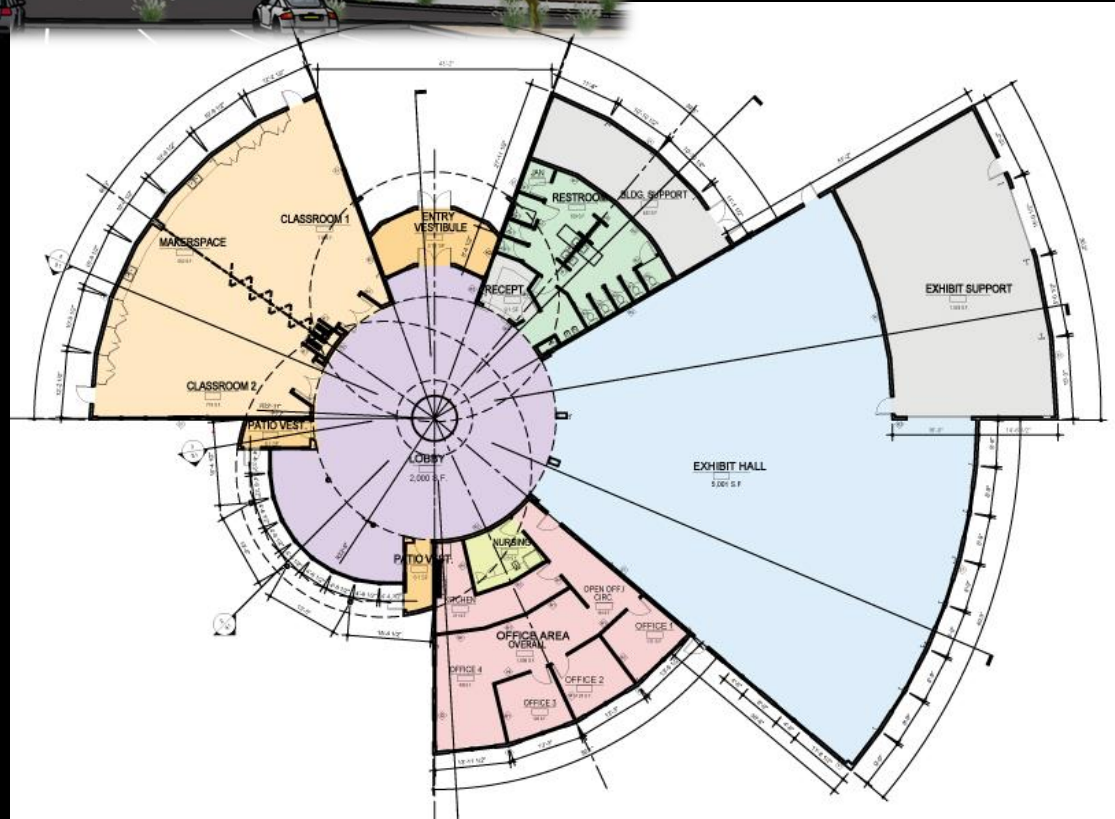
Version 06-04-2020



- Arrows connect variables
- The variables at tail of the arrow influence those at the head of the arrow
- Boxed variables are major variables and supported by the non-boxed variables
- The double lined arrows with “valves” represent dynamic and essential conditions connecting the major variables









iGrav

A. Strunk



iGrav Kickoff Meeting July 2019





iGrav Working Groups

- Communication
- Formal Education & Evaluation
- Outreach to Under-Represented and Under-Served Groups
- Art and Science Collaborations
- Science Festivals
- iGrav Organizational Structure
- Multi-Messenger Astronomy



Interested?

- Signup for Listservs
 - iGrav Announce
 - <https://lists.igrav.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/igrav-announce>
 - iGrav Discussion
 - <https://lists.igrav.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/igrav-discuss>
- Signup for working groups
 - <https://forms.gle/67ugLojydwCELX476>



Next Meeting

- Virtual meeting
 - Dates: Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 July
 - Day 1 times: 12pm - 2pm UTC, Monday 27 July
 - Day 2 times: 1pm - 3pm UTC, Tuesday 28 July
- Registration will be sent out very shortly to the iGrav Announce List.