A few encounters with Dick Taylor

My first encounter with Dick was in late 1973 when I was exploring options of spending a couple of years in the USA after completing my PhD thesis at CERN. We arranged to meet in the cafeteria and he told me about the research program at SLAC, mostly the experiment in Endstation A. He strongly emphasized that only the very best young scientists would be given a chance to work at SLAC!

About two years later, we both attended the 1975 European Conference in Palermo at which I had the opportunity to present the results on the ψ and ψ' resonances discovered at SPEAR.

Dick offered to accompany me on the daily walk to and from the hotel to the conference center. While this gave me a chance get to know Dick and to talk a variety of topics and people, it turned out that his company was otherwise beneficial. Three women who were part of the conference had been robbed of their handbags, but I was well protected! (The bags were returned a couple of days later due to the interference of the Conference Chair Nino Zichichi and the conference site was guarded by Carabinieri).



European Conference on High Energy Physics, Palermo (1975)

Years later, SLAC was hosting the 1989 Lepton-Photon Symposium. Dick was the Chairman and I served serve as Symposium Secretary. However, given his medical problem at the time, this turned out to be a much larger responsibility than I had anticipated. We built a small dedicated team working together for many months. This was a great experience for me. Above all, I enjoyed working with Dick, appreciating his commitment to and pursuit of the highest standards!

The Symposium was held on Stanford's Campus and was well attended, including many honorary guests from around the world. The emphasis was of course on the scientific program with new and exciting results by theorists and from experiments worldwide, among them the first data on the properties of Z bosons recorded at the SLC.





Dick made sure that there were ample opportunities for the participants and their families to interact with each other outside the lecture hall, arranging for accommodations, receptions, and lunches on the Stanford Campus. Furthermore, there were special programs for accompanying spouses and their teenage children, and excursions on weekends to various parts of the bay area, followed by a dinner at the beautiful Monterrey Aquarium. A special treat for our guests were individual dinners hosted by local scientists at the homes.



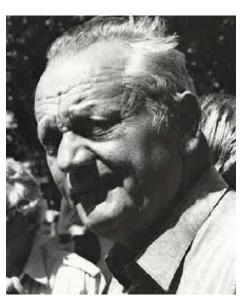
Henry Kendell and Hobey DeStaebler



Wolfgang Paul and Sid Drell



Björn Wiik, Ye Minghan, and Burt Richter



Gus Voss