

**From:** [Scholl, Matthew \(Fed\)](#)  
**To:** [Dodson, Donna F \(Fed\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Future of Quantum Randomness IMS  
**Date:** Monday, August 7, 2017 12:44:22 PM

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Having a similar conversation with Ron, they are working him too.

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**From:** Ronald Boisvert <[ronald.boisvert@nist.gov](mailto:ronald.boisvert@nist.gov)>  
**Organization:** NIST  
**Date:** Monday, August 7, 2017 at 12:38 PM  
**To:** "Scholl, Matthew (Fed)" <[matthew.scholl@nist.gov](mailto:matthew.scholl@nist.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Future of Quantum Randomness IMS

Frankly, I gave the same message to Sae Woo Nam, Josh Bienfang and others who spoke to me more than six months ago: we need a plan --- tell us where you are now, what you think is achievable, and what is needed to get you there.

Ron

On 8/7/2017 12:28 PM, Scholl, Matthew (Fed) wrote:

Yes this has gotten to me and I had a quick email with Donna about it too.  
I think we need to have a more specific discussion about what they want, plan to do and where they are short.  
I do not have anywhere near some of the initial funds discussed and next year is tight across the board so specifics will be important.  
I am out the rest of the week and will talk to Donna and Chuck when I get back about it.

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**From:** Ronald Boisvert <[ronald.boisvert@nist.gov](mailto:ronald.boisvert@nist.gov)>  
**Organization:** NIST  
**Date:** Monday, August 7, 2017 at 12:10 PM  
**To:** "Scholl, Matthew (Fed)" <[matthew.scholl@nist.gov](mailto:matthew.scholl@nist.gov)>  
**Subject:** Future of Quantum Randomness IMS

Dear Matt,

As you know, this is the last year of the Quantum Randomness IMS. Some parts of the program were spectacularly successful. However, it is clear that the ultimate goal of including a Bell-test-certified randomness source into the NIST beacon will not be done this year. Several more years of engineering (and theoretical) work will be needed to create a system small enough and reliable enough to be deployed for that purpose. The epicenter of the experimental work has been in Boulder, undertaken by PML staff.

I have spoken with several members of the team, who are enthusiastic and hopeful that the project can continue. Hopefully Rene Peralta and Carl Miller have briefed you

on this.

Several people in PML, including Sae Woo Nam, Marla Dowell (PML Div Chief), and now Carl Williams (as Acting PML Director) have spoken to me about this also over the past year. PML would like to see this continue, but they do not have the funding to support a robust experimental effort at their end. They are hoping that ITL can commit some funds, which they would match, to keep the experimental effort going.

Has word of this reached you? What are your views on this?

It does seem clear that without funding from ITL that the effort will just die. ITL does not have the capability to design/deploy such a system on its own.

Ron