

## fhicl-cpp - Support #17121

### Docstrings.

07/07/2017 10:50 AM - Brett Viren

<b>Status:</b>	Closed	<b>Start date:</b>	07/07/2017
<b>Priority:</b>	Low	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>		<b>% Done:</b>	100%
<b>Category:</b>		<b>Estimated time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>		<b>Spent time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Description</b>			
<p>This is just a "wishlist" feature request.</p> <p>I've been enjoying to learn to use the methods for FHiCL validation. Eg, based on `art::ToolConfigTable&lt;&gt;` as discussed recently on the larsoft list.</p> <p>And I like how the small effort to define the needed C++ struct gives other benefits like fleshing out the output of `art --print-description MyTool` with useful information for the user.</p> <p>This would be even more useful to the user if the developer could associate some short docstrings to each declared entry in the C++ struct so that they could then also be printed.</p> <p>My naive suggestion is to allow an optional, second argument to `fhicl::Name()` which might be used like:</p> <pre>struct Config {     typedef fhicl::Sequence&lt;std::string&gt; string_list_t;     string_list_t paths { fhicl::Name("paths", "List of paths in which to search for files") }; }</pre> <p>and then instrument whatever streamer produces the --print-description to include any docstrings. (maybe something in art?).</p> <p>Thanks for consideration.</p>			

### History

#### #1 - 07/07/2017 10:53 AM - Kyle Knoepfel

- Description updated

#### #2 - 07/07/2017 10:56 AM - Kyle Knoepfel

- Status changed from New to Feedback

You should be able to add a fhicl::Comment to any of the fhiclcpp types. For example:

```
struct Config {
    typedef fhicl::Sequence<std::string> string_list_t;
    string_list_t paths { fhicl::Name("paths"), fhicl::Comment("List of paths in which to search for files") };
}
```

The comment is then printed out above the parameter whenever --print-description is invoked.

Does this meet the need?

#### #3 - 07/07/2017 10:58 AM - Brett Viren

Wow, you are fast! Yes, this is perfect. Sorry for the noise of this ticket.

#### #4 - 07/10/2017 11:29 AM - Kyle Knoepfel

- Status changed from Feedback to Resolved

- % Done changed from 0 to 100

#### #5 - 07/10/2017 11:30 AM - Kyle Knoepfel

- Tracker changed from Feature to Support

- Status changed from Resolved to Closed