

Minutes of the Board meeting 2009-01 on 5 March 2009

Time/place of the meeting: EPFL, 5 March 2009, 18.30-20h

The Chair opened the meeting at 18.30h.

The Board obeyed a moment of silence in memory of Ludwig Tauscher, who passed away on 22 November 2008.

1. Agenda

On proposal of the Chair, the succession of the Outreach coordinator will not only be discussed but the Board should hold an election (to be done under 6.a).

Under agenda item 6, the term "R-ECFA" is to be replaced by "P-ECFA".

On proposal of A. Rubbia, the distribution of FORCE minutes will be discussed under 4.

Under AOB, the particle physics website and the situation regarding new professor posts at the Swiss institutes will be dealt with.

2. Apologies

The following apologies have been received:

C. Amsler, M. Shaposhnikow, G. Colangelo, R. Ratazzi

3. Minutes of the last meeting (2008-02; 8 September 2008)

No comments have been received; the minutes are approved.

4. Report on CHIPP activities

The Chair reports about the CHIPP activities ([see slides](#)). Topics covered: 5 EB meetings since the last Board meeting (8 September); the fact sheets; the preparation of the R-ECFA meeting of 6 March; the new/revised request for ProDoc; the conclusion of the PostDoc selection round 2 (up to now: 6 PostDocs [2 per experiment]); the upcoming advertisement for 3 new PostDoc positions (with IT competence) to be selected in consultation among the institutes involved; the M&O request to SNF; the C-15 annual report incl. the plans for 2009; information about the distribution of FORCE funds in 2008 and the total FORCE fund allocation.

M. Pohl, supported by U. Straumann, thanks J.P. Ruder for his invaluable support for CHIPP in general and for the C-15 project in particular (applause).

4.a: Minutes of LA FORCE: A. Rubbia wonders why the minutes from the Steering Committee FORCE (LA FORCE) have been circulated only in the form of an extract. For the sake of transparency, he would wish to see the full text. J.P. Ruder underlines that the extract contained all the information relevant for the CHIPP community. He informs that the SER does agree to make the text available on request, although the minutes will be approved only in December 2009.

→ JPR to send minutes to AR

5. Report on CERN Council and other committees

The Chair reports about the CERN Council ([see slides](#)). Topics covered: 2 Council meetings; creation of the WG on scientific and geographical enlargement; acceptance of Romania as candidate for accession; information about the intent of Serbia, Cyprus, Turkey and Israel to become CERN Members and from Pakistan to become Observer; the new management structure of CERN; the meeting of the new CERN DG with the Swiss Parliamentary Committee for Science, Education and Culture; and the Dolder meeting with Prof. Heuer as main speaker.

M. Bourquin reports about ApPEC: outreach (website, participation in the IYA 2009 activities); recommendations to EU and ESFRI for future projects; a first common call for R&D and design studies for the realization of future Astroparticle infrastructures, targeted towards CTA and direct dark matter searches. [max. 3.6 M€; SNF provides two 2 PostDoc positions]; invitation to attend the European Sessions of Council (M. Bourquin); intention to improve communication and links with ECFA; participation in the Astroparticle WG of the Global Science Forum GSF. He mentions the CERN workshop (11-13 May).

T. Nakada reports about ECFA: visit to Greece (very (too?) broad programme), plenary at CERN (INFN b-factory was discussed and encouraged).

6. Mandates, Elections and Re-elections (Discussion only)

6.a: Outreach coordinator: The Chair informs about the result of preliminary discussions, which have identified H.P. Beck as candidate for this post. The Board has no questions to him (the candidate leaves the room). After a short exchange of views, the Board unanimously elects H.P. Beck as the new CHIPP outreach coordinator (H.P. Beck enters the room, applause). M. Pohl is convinced that the community should support this group more and better. The Chair thanks G. Dissertori for his active involvement and the effort he spent for this task (applause).

6.b: others:

- SNF Forschungsrat

The Chair underlines that this is the most pressing vacancy and explains the new procedure as set up by the SNF (interest groups can propose candidates, provided they are willing to serve). J.-L. Vuilleumier stresses the necessity of a profile with a broad horizon, because the work requested by the SNF contains particle physics but also electronics and engineering beyond accelerator physics. He recalls that the SNF will decide on the basis of its needs – even against the advice of CHIPP.

The EB suggests taking the opportunity of proposing one or two candidates.

→ US: to send out a call asking for two proposals (ordered) to be sent to US and MP

Regarding the number of candidates to be proposed to SNF, two ways forward are possible.

Option 1: if one candidate gets significantly more votes from the Board than any other person = 1 proposal; if there is a number one and a close runner-up, 2 proposals will be submitted.

Option 2: submit 2 candidates in any case; if there is one majority candidate, a second name is collected in a second round.

The majority (8 from 15) of the Board prefers option 2, in the understanding that the candidate from the second round is not just a gap-filler but is considered as good. (Option 1 got 6 votes, 1 abstention was noted)

- P-ECFA: The Chair informs that from the three Swiss representatives (Schietering, Wu, Weber), the first one mentioned has completed his terms and will have to be replaced. PSI has proposed Terence Garvey, who would agree to serve. The vote will take place in the Appenberg Plenary (August).
- CHIPP EB and CHIPP Chairman: The Chair informs that he will not be available for an additional term. On the question of the number of people in the EB, M. Pohl and A. Ereditato advocate to continue with four (allows good discussions and a better distribution of work). A.

Rubbia supports the idea of having some rotation in the EB, but advises against a change of all four persons at once. Also, he would prefer that the new Chair is identified among the present Vice-Chairs. Both aspects are supported by F. Pauss, stressing the importance of continuity. The three Vice-Chairs accept to serve for another term and leave the room to allow the Board to exchange some views on their performance.

The discussion quickly shifts to other items (for which the three Vice-Chairs are called back to the meeting): A. Blondel is pleased with the C-15 PostDoc funding, but is of the opinion that the CHIPP EB should also explore other funding possibilities for non-CERN activities (in particular at PSI). Further, he asks about the possibility to associate PSI closer to the CHIPP by electing a PSI representative to the EB. M. Pohl states that this is not a must and not required by the CHIPP Constitution. A. Ereditato considers consensus is more important than quota.

→ US to send out a request for nominations in the May-June timeframe (reply to US and JPR).

7. Roadmap on Particle Physics

- Update, revision or new?

The Chair informs about the EB's opinion that the time has come to produce a revised version. A. Ereditato underlines the need, hinting to the fact that the present Roadmap is 5 years old and that certain fields have evolved beyond the Roadmap. In order to reduce the work-load, he advocates producing an update or an addendum to the present Roadmap instead of a new one. A. Rubbia is of the opinion that a Roadmap is extremely helpful, and the revised version should cover up to 2012 and beyond. M. Bourquin warns against producing an addendum; the new Roadmap should be a stand alone product. He also thinks that CHIPP should not wait too long and start the process now. The Board unanimously decides to produce an updated Roadmap.

- Setting up an editorial board:

The Chair proposes that the editorial board be composed of 6 persons: one from each of the three pillars, and 1 each from theory, PSI and outreach. A. Rubbia thinks that fewer people should do the writing with a number of other to contribute ideas. A. Ereditato is even stricter: he proposes not more than 3 people for this group, who should be in contact with the community, but not represent pillars or institutes. A. Blondel supports this idea, which will only work if there is a strong Editor in chief. He also proposes that one should ask the persons who initially wrote the individual chapters of the Roadmap to review and update their text. The Chair proposes A. Ereditato as Editor in chief. M. Bourquin stresses the fact that the editor will have to take decisions; therefore he should either be empowered to do that or the decision power should be in the hands of the EB. A. Rubbia even thinks that one should avoid to create an ad-hoc body but to use the EB for this task.

→ EB: continue to think about how to proceed.

8. New Projects

Cherenkov Telescope Array CTA: presentation by R. Walter ([see slides](#)).

Replying to a question of M. Bourquin who wondered about the exclusive links to CERN, R. Walter explains that most people involved in CTA are particle physicists working at CERN and that ESO – having been approached with this question – has mentioned its lack of competences in this field (M. Bourquin is not satisfied with this answer). On a remark by A. Rubbia, R. Walter mentions the meeting with the State Secretariat regarding the planning schedule and the connection with the Roadmap. A. Blondel is informed that the project is supported by some 30 institutes in Europe, and that the total cost of the project is approx. 200 M€, with a possible Swiss contribution of 5%.

Positron Electron Balloon Spectrometer PEBS: presentation by T. Nakada. ([see slides](#)).

9. Federal Budget Period 2012 - ?

- schedule, input, strategy

J.-P. Ruder gives some information regarding the next research bill to Parliament.

- a) the period covered is still unclear, but most probably not 4 years but either 2012 (simply carbon copy of 2011) or 2-year transition bill 2012-2013.
- b) schedule for drafting: the SER will start writing at end 2009
- c) link with Infrastructures and Roadmap: the SER Roadmap is in progress and will most probably be ready by 3rd quarter of 2009.
- d) input from CHIPP for FORCE (numbers), plans and numbers for prolongation/extension of C-15 SUK, and possibly other requests (outside FORCE): probably until 1st quarter of 2010.

The Chair proposes that the discussion about Roadmap and infrastructures will be on the agenda of the Appenberg meeting in August.

10. A.O.B.

- Website and CERN communication group

G. Dissertori summarizes the situation by saying that it is a good start.

- Future / planned professorship

U.GE: an opening has just been decided for a dual appointment: one full professor (succession MB) for LHC ATLAS plus one new professor (slightly below an ordinary professor) in astroparticle physics.

ETHZ: discussions are ongoing with a candidate for the joint PSI/ETHZ professorship in particle physics (at PSI); new opening for a full professor (succession FP) in collider physics, which has high priority at ETHZ level (the advertisement should come out in a few weeks).

No open positions at present at EPFL, U.BE (next opening in 2 years) and U.ZH (next opening in 2012)

- Next Board Meeting: 24/25 August 2009 (Appenberg)

The meeting ended at 21.00h

20 March 2009

written by: Jean-Pierre Ruder

approved by: Ueli Straumann