



Swiss Institute of
Particle Physics

an Association according to Swiss law

Minutes of the Board meeting 2011-01 on 26 January 2011

Place of the meeting: University Geneva, Département de Physique Nucléaire et Corpusculaire DPNC
Date and time: 24 quai Ernest Ansermet, Geneva, 14-16.30h (approx.)
Room Auditoire Stückelberg (ground floor)

Present: Baudis, Bay, Beck, Blondel, Bourquin, Burkhard (Observer), Chiochia, Clark, Ereditato, Grab, Horisberger, Kirch, Minkowski, Pauss, Pohl (Chair), Preiswerk (Observer), Ribordy, Ritt, Rivkin, Ruder (Administrator, no voting rights), Spira, Steinacher (Observer), Straumann, Thielemann, Wallny, Weber

Proxy votes announced: Bay, Ereditato, Thielemann, Wallny, Weber.

→ Votes present: 27

Apologies received:

Members: Amsler, Becher, Blau, Collangelo, Derendinger, Dissertori, Durrer, Gaberdiel, Gailloud, Gehrmann-de Ridder, Gehrmann, Greub, Hasenfratz, Hauri, Krusche, Maggiore, Meylan, Moore, Nakada, Rattazzi, Rubbia, Schaller, Shaposhnikov, Schneider, Truöl, Vuilleumier, Wenger.

Observers: Moor, Pfister

The Chair opens the meeting at 14.05h

1. Agenda

The agenda is approved.

2. Apologies and Proxy Votes

The Chair informs about the apologies received and reads out the list of proxy votes as announced before the meeting¹.

3. Minutes of the last meeting (2010-01; 24 August 2010)

The minutes are approved (with thanks to the minute writer).

4. Report on CHIPP activities (2nd half 2010) → slides

- LA FORCE & FORCE Requests 2011

The Chair informs about the meeting of the Lenkungsausschuss FORCE, presents the list of FORCE requests submitted in fall 2010 and shows the 2011 guidelines for funding. Ereditato complements with advanced information about the SNF decisions regarding the FORCE requests. Except for the two fully funded mandatory requests for GRID Computing and M&O, the approval rate is between 38% and 92%.

Straumann appreciates this advanced information of the community and thanks the SNF and Ereditato for this move. The Chair joins these thanks on behalf of the whole community.

- CHIPP tables

The Chair thanks Baudis for having collected the data, reports about the submission of the

¹ Bay (for Schneider), Ereditato (for Rubbia), Thielemann (for Krusche), Wallny (for Dissertori), Weber (for Vuilleumier).

tables to SER and shows with the help of a graph that FORCE and FOLIS are of the same order of magnitude.

Clark points out that he considers unlikely that FORCE needs will drop in 2016 (as shown in the tables at present). The Chair replies that the error of the estimates increases with each year. Baudis is ready to organise the collection of the data also this year.

- WS (PSI2010, Flavour Physics, Zuoz, PhD Winter School 2011)

The Chair reports about the several Workshops and Schools of the last 6 months, the most recent one being the CHIPP PhD Winter School in Leukerbad.

Horisberger mentions that he has received a positive feed-back from Leukerbad participants. Ereditato asks that the Board thanks officially the organiser of Leukerbad (Hamilton), which is unanimously accepted. The Chair suggests continuing these Winter Schools also in 2012; Chiochia is interested in the organisation, which triggers warm thanks from the Board.

→ MP: convey thanks of the Board to A. Hamilton.

- Outreach funding

The Chair reports briefly about his intention to submit requests to SNF and SATW. These requests concern only the coordinating effort, the other activities are done 'in-house'.

- Activities for 2011

The CHIPP Board agrees to the list of activities as outlined in the distributed draft (SCNAT membership, CHIPP prize, Roadmap implementation paper, CHIPP tables, distribution of funds for the C15 PostDocs for 2012, SUK request for the 2013-2016 period, co-funding of the C15 PostDocs for 2013-2016. Regarding the Workshops and Schools, the Chair suggests inviting also the ProDoc students to the WS on the C15 mid-term results.

5. Report on CERN Council and other committees (2nd half 2010)

- CERN (Council and SPC) [Straumann] → slides

Straumann focuses on the geographical enlargement (process and entrance fee clarified, information spread, Brazilian has applied for Associate Membership) and the budget 2011 (less severe cuts than initially feared, LHC construction deficit still not wiped, salary increase, large increase for the Swiss contribution) and wishes Rivkin a successful work in the SPC (election in March). He closes by explaining the next steps for the update of the European strategy in particle physics, which is expected to be ready in 2012.

Pauss thanks Straumann for his transparent way of working as scientific delegate to the Swiss CERN delegation and adds that also the Ukraine is interested in the Associate Membership. Steinacher explains that the huge increase of the Swiss contribution from 2.4% in 2010 to 3.8% in 2011 is due to the latest economic numbers. A supplementary request for funding is submitted to the Parliament.

- ECFA [Gehrmann] *postponed to September*

- ApPEC [Bourquin] → slides

Bourquin summarizes the ApPEC activities, where a joint workplan with CERN has been established and approved. At present, the possibility (and the need) for a closer relation of ApPEC with ESA and ESO is discussed as well as new ideas for a more formal and more stable structure. He calls on the institutes to respond to the ASPERA census on funding and manpower and gives some details about the ASPERA WS of December.

On a question by Thielemann, Bourquin explains that ApPEC is composed of the funding agencies whereas NuPECC is a gathering of scientists in the framework of the ESF. Minkowski is interested to know more about the possible Astroparticle Physics theory group at CERN; according to Bourquin CERN seeks a more structured approach for this activity and aims at a certain regrouping of resources without dragging people away from institutes. ASPERA is evaluating how to contribute.

- NuPECC [Krusche] *postponed to September*

- SPS [Kirch] → slides

Kirch gives a brief summary of the history, structure and work of the Swiss Physical Society SPS and calls on his colleagues to encourage their students to become individual members (no fee up to graduation) and their student organisations to join in a collective membership (the student organisation of U.ZH, U.GE and ETHZ are already members). Themes of interest

to them are specifically discussed in the recently created Swiss Young Physicist's Forum. Kirch informs that the SPS will support the CHIPP application for membership in SCNAT and that the two groups have agreed to increase their collaboration. In the future, the representative of particle physics in the SPS Vorstand should be recruited from the CHIPP EB. For this reason – and after a discussion in the EB – Pohl is proposed to follow Kirch in this position from 2012 onwards (election pending). After a short exchange of views and opinions regarding the SPS structure (theory? Biophysics?) and its possible / regular adaptation to changing needs (requires a modification of the statutes) Kirch thanks the CHIPP Board Members for their increased participation in SPS.

Kirch closes by mentioning the 2011 Plenary Meeting of SPS in Lausanne on 15-17 June, which will be organised together with Austria and Astrophysics (www.sps.ch). On a question by Bourquin, he states that at present the relation with Astronomy/Astrophysics is rather weak.

- Computing Board [Grab] → [slides](#)

Grab presents a short status report on computing. At present, the Swiss Tier2 at CSCS has reached its originally foreseen size and the Tier3s have caught up or are even bigger than the Tier2. On a question by Rivkin, he estimates the Tier2 power consumption at 100-150 kW. Grab stresses the possibility of increased / additional cost coming up for the users, since the MoU with CSCS will expire end 2012 and an extension would have to be renegotiated. He also mentions the fact that the membership in the European Grid Initiative EGI is accompanied by financial contributions for services.

- Outreach Committee [Beck] → [slides](#)

Beck mentions in his status report the ongoing discussions regarding a CHIPP outreach concept paper and summarizes the activities of the past year. He deplores that the contacts to the teachers through the 'Pädagogische Hochschulen' are often limited to cantonal boundaries. However, replying to a remark by Pauss, he is confident that the Swiss participation in the High School teacher programme of CERN will slowly take up. Straumann points to an analysis showing that CH is similar to FR and DE when normalised to country size and distance to CERN. Swiss PP activities have had a good coverage in the Swiss media, albeit Swissness enhanced press releases are still missing.

Beck invites the CHIPP Board members to put their ideas, activities and material (brochures, exhibitions, posters, etc.) at the disposal of the European PP community; EPPOG (European PP Outreach Group) has created for this purpose a specific database².

Burkhard informs that the SNF has decided to create a specific funding instrument for outreach (Agora). He suggests that CHIPP awaits the publication of this new tool (in 1 to 2 months) before submitting the Outreach concept to the SNF. Minkowski points out that the Einstein Society might also be willing to support PP outreach or that they have the necessary contacts at hand (www.einstein-bern.ch).

6. Transformation of CHIPP in an Association → [slides](#)

The Chair introduces the subject, reminding the past decisions and the agreement with SPS, which has led to a letter of support from that organisation. He collects the last votes on the new Statutes and notes with satisfaction that with the resulting approval the CHIPP Association is now officially founded. For this reason, this Board meeting is considered to be the Gründungsversammlung, as required by Swiss law.

- Confirmation of the Chairman and the Secretary

As a first task, the Board has to take a decision about the Chair and the Secretary of the CHIPP Association. After a brief discussion – led by one of the Vice-Chairs (Baudis) and with the two candidates not in the room – the Board elects Pohl and Ruder unanimously as Chair and Secretary respectively.

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| Decision: The Board unanimously elects Pohl and Ruder as Chair and Secretary of the CHIPP Association respectively. |
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² link: <http://eppog.web.cern.ch/eppog/EPPOGdatabase.html>

- Formal application to SCNAT: next steps

The Chair outlines the next steps, leading to a decision by SCNAT Delegiertenversammlung in May about the membership application.

→ JPR: to finalise the application file

- Membership fee: first discussion

The Chair introduces the problem of the long-term securing of the funding for the CHIPP functioning, where – at the earliest in 2013 (if the new C15 request is turned down) but at the latest in 2017 (after the end of the new C15 running period) – the administrative and operations costs will have to be borne by CHIPP. According to the Chair, a discussion will take place in September and again early next year.

→ MP: to take up the discussion about Membership fee in September 2011 and January 2012

7. C-15 Centre for Advanced Studies: sketch 2013-2016 [Straumann] → slides

The Chair introduces the subject, recalling the earlier decision in Gersau and underlining the fact that a decision about the way forward is expected from the Board.

Straumann introduces the sketch, which had been distributed ahead of the meeting. He recalls the original goals and the results of the project, passes to the intermediate year 2012 and sketches the goals for the 2013-2016 period. According to the SUK, a progressively increasing co-funding from the institutes / universities has to be included in the proposal.

Bourquin recalls the setting-up of the NCCRs and suggests involving the rectors from the very beginning. Minkowski points out that it is certainly difficult for a rector to 'guarantee' funding several years ahead. Ruder explains the principle of co-funding again as a mandatory element of an application, which is valid for projects in all fields and therefore known to the rectors (they have been informed by SUK). Straumann suggests starting the discussion right now aiming at inserting the centre into the 4- or 5-years strategic planning of each institute. Ereditato proposes to draft soon a pre-project and to submit this in a joint effort to the rectors.

Decision: The Board decides unanimously:

- to continue the process and to draft a proposal along the lines of the sketch;
- to hand in a pre-project early in the year.

→ JPR/US: to draft the proposal (goal: first draft in April)

→ US/MP: to draft the text for the pre-project (goal: final draft end March)

8. Educational programme for physics

Postponed to September

9. Roadmap on Particle Physics: the Implementation Paper: First discussion and next steps

Ereditato reports about the progress of the Editing Group (Baudis, Ereditato (lead), Pohl) which has led to the draft paper distributed ahead of the meeting. He asks for careful reading and feedback on factual errors by 4 February 2011 (Email to the authors). He points further to the need of setting priorities, since not all the projects can be supported to a desirable extent. Pohl underlines that special attention has to be paid to the few critical points, which are

- CERN's coordinating role
- Alignment with CERN's future projects
- Preference of CLIC over other accelerator projects
- Emphasis on PSI

The last point leads to an exchange of views on wording and role: Clark is of the opinion that PSI is too close to ETH to be a national laboratory and that its theory group does not support and collaborate enough with university institutes like Geneva. The Chair stresses that PSI **is** a national lab, but agrees that collaboration can be improved. Blondel proposes to have a dedicated discussion about his subject.

Regarding the content of the Implementation Paper, Spira misses the theoretical achievements (he will contribute half a page) and states that PSI belongs to the first pillar. The Chair agrees but points out that the structure of the existing Roadmap should not be changed. Pauss, supported by Bourquin and Blondel, is not pleased that all Astroparticle Physics experiments are now under Dark Matter.

Bourquin suggests that the title of this section should also reflect some outlook to future experiments. He continues by proposing a few lines about using the Implementation Paper as basis for the Swiss input to CERN's European Strategy update and to the ApPEC roadmap. The Chair invites Wallny (and others) to come forward now with additional or new messages, which should be taken up in the paper.

- Spira: to deliver half a page on theoretical achievements
- Bourquin: to deliver a few lines about the potential use of the paper
- all Board Members: contribute text in case of new messages

On a question by PAUSS and taking into account the necessity to have the Implementation Paper ready for the FOLIS, FINES and FORCE discussion (i.e. by early summer), the Board agrees to hold an extraordinary meeting in April to discuss and finalise the text.

Decision: The Board agrees to hold an extraordinary meeting in April.

Next steps:

- all Board Members: provide feedback on factual errors and regarding priorities: until 4 February
- Editorial Group: produce a revised version by March
- JPR: to make a doodle survey regarding the extraordinary meeting

10. Status of new professorships at the CHIPP Institutes

The usual tour de table shows the situation at Swiss universities as follows:

- GE: the successor of Bourquin, Peppe Jacobucci will start in April (focus: ATLAS), the decision for the new position in Astroparticle physics will be taken between two finalists (probably in fall). A nomination committee has been formed for a new position in theoretical Astroparticle Physics (probably an ad personam nomination).
- ZH: the vacancies for the Amsler position (high-energy physics) and for the succession of Wyler (theory) have been published yesterday.
- BE: The Einstein Centre (experimental and theoretical physics) will be transformed into a Centre of Excellence (including funding & manpower), possibly resulting in a position of a tenure track assistant professor in astrophysics that should be considered as succession of J.-L. Vuilleumier.
- BS: for the position of a tenure track assistant professor in Astroparticle Physics replacing Trautmann, an offer has been made to Stefan Antusch of the Max Planck Institute for Physics, Munich (<http://wwwth.mppmu.mpg.de/members/antusch/>), who will start in April 2011 to build a new research group.
- ETHZ: the successor for PAUSS (high-energy physics / CMS), Rainer Wallny has started last year. No other open position at this time.
- EPFL: possibility of a vacancy in Theory.
- PSI: two positions open. One as a theoretical particle physicist (phenomenology) and one research scientist's position (experimental particle physics)

11. Workshops planned at the CHIPP Institutes

- Blondel mentions the NuFACT 2011 WS organised by UniGE and CERN on 1-6 August (<http://nufact11.unige.ch>).
- Ereditato informs about the 2011 edition of the NNN Conference (Workshop on Next generation of Nucleon decay and Neutrino detectors), which will be jointly organised by UniBE and ETHZ in November 2011 (exact date and location tbd).

12. Next Board meeting

1/2 September 2011, Leysin (in the context of the 2011 Plenary Meeting)

The Chair closes the meeting at 17.30h

11 February 2011

written by: Jean-Pierre Ruder
approved by: Martin Pohl