

## Minutes of the EB meeting 2008-09 on 17 October 2008

Time/place of the meeting: Buffet de la Gare Lausanne, 17 October 2008, 10.00 – 13.00h

### 1. Agenda

Approved with the following changes: add a new point 4 (Particle Physics at PSI) and a further point under AOB (SPS article), deal with item 9 (ECFA) immediately after agenda item 4. The EB agrees with US that in future, the agenda should be better structured, thereby differentiating between “items for discussion”, “administrative items” and “items for information only”.

### 2. Apologies

None.

3. **Minutes** of the last meeting (2008-08) and list of Action items  
The Minutes are approved.

**MIN: distributed;**  
**Action items: attached**

### 4. Particle Physics at PSI

US has been approached by Gäggeler about a possible reduction of PP activities at PSI.

After a short exchange of view, the EB agrees that a reaction of the CHIPP EB supporting the continuation of PP activities at PSI is necessary. In the ensuing discussion the following points are mentioned: international visibility of PSI, necessity for a national lab to rely on its own fundamental research (question: is PSI transforming itself from a international user lab to a national lab? This issue should be discussed). PSI assets are its muon activities, its excellent theory group, the PSI accelerator, the PSI participation in CMS (and HERA), which should rather be reinforced in view of the forthcoming data analysis period. The EB also considered the continued accelerator development as a key for the future.

In the end, the EB concentrates on three main argumentation lines:

- 1 PSI has an outstanding record in muon physics, based on the highest muon beam intensities worldwide, which is not matched anywhere else; this must be preserved;
- 2 PSI has excellent competences and possibilities to contribute to the LHC upgrade; this must be preserved;
- 3 PSI is the only place in Switzerland where R&D for the linear collider and detector technology is being done; this must be preserved.

PSI has also an excellent record in user support, which is recognized worldwide by the particle physics community

- US: to speak with Gäggeler; this will possibly be followed by an “aggressive” CHIPP letter to the PSI Director (previous circulation among the EB members).

### 5. Communication

**Fact sheets: e, f, d, and i version available**

- Fact sheets: status report; approval of final texts and go-ahead for publication for 21 October

JPR reports about the progress made in the last weeks with the fine-tuning of the fact sheets and their translations into French, German and Italian. The EB clarifies the last outstanding elements and agrees on the distribution of the fact sheets to the Swiss Communication Network (B. Gerber, ETHZ) and on the publication on the CHIPP Website.

- JPR: to make the last corrections in e, f, and g; to send the latest e version to AE (for translation); to send the texts to Gerber for publication.

## 6. LHC-PostDocs on SUK/ETH money

- PostDoc students: U.ZH: US informs about the pending decision.
- Matching funds: news from GE? ZH?  
U.ZH: US reports about the agreement reached on the following splitting of the funds: 50k in cash, 56k from moving 2 PhD posts from HERA to LHCb, 14 k from Bologna Programme.  
U.GE: MP is working on it.
- PRO\*DOC:  
after having received the official letter from SNF, the EB discusses on the way forward. The EB agrees with US that an appeal would not accelerate the hiring of the PhD students (which will now not be before fall 2009), and that therefore a revised application should be sent in (deadline 1 March). This application should
  - contain the educational **and** the research modules,
  - be open for all fields of particle physics but concentrate on LHC,
  - deal – in addition – with the coordination between the Universities and the “filling up” of holes identified by the SNF/CRUS in the first application.

→ MP: to send out invitations for modules (education and research) at the beginning of 2009.

## 7. Finances

- M&O: information about schedule for request; attendance at RRB  
US informs that the SNF did not accept the delay and that he has sent in the last year’s version as a place-holder. This version must be updated through JPR. The CHIPP representative in the RRB of 11/12 November is TN.  

→ JPR: to send out the old text for updating to Clark, Pauss, and Bay.

## 8. Force Requests 2008/9

### New proposal distributed

- Revised proposal, produced on basis of Board discussion: Discussion and possibly approval.  
The EB discusses the proposal taking into account the mostly positive feed-back received from many colleagues (11 out of 15). The following points will be taken up in the final version:
  - do not fix the upper limit for manpower at 25% per request or at 25% of the total FORCE funding, but allow for some flexibility especially also for smaller requests. New wording: “the manpower request must not exceed 25% or the amount needed for one position (whichever is more favourable).
  - do not fix a specific time limit for the manpower request, but hint to SNF rules
  - do specify that travel money included in the manpower request can be used only for the person hired.

→ US: to remind Blondel about giving a feed-back  
→ AE: to remind Vuilleumier about giving a feed-back  
→ US: to submit the final version to the SNF

## 9. CERN enlargement

### Draft Mandate distributed

- Mandate of the WG to be created: discussion about the geographical and scientific enlargement, input to the mandate.  
The EB discusses the draft mandate for a Working Group of the CERN Council dealing with enlargement. JPR reports about the input already received from the CH Foreign Affairs (EDA) who are very interested in playing an active role (input from EDA: do not limit the work from the outset to two scenarios, avoid a politicization of the CERN Council, be clearer about “larger European context” and careful about “views of the European Commission”).  
The EB is in line with these remarks and adds the following elements:
  - the WG should also address a possible scientific enlargement (astro-particle physics);
  - the WG should seek input (in an appropriate form) of other large laboratories (Fermilab, SLAC, KEK, ...);
  - the WG should address the list of criteria presently used for new members / associates;
  - as the scientific and the geographical expansion of CERN is discussed, the WG should

be co-chaired by a scientist and an administrator / diplomat, and the composition of the WG should also reflect this dual task.

- JPR: to inform the EDA about the CHIPP EB discussion
- JPR: to condense the input in a combined paper (to be circulated in week 44 among the EB and the EDA and to be handed in week 45).

#### 10. ECFA Visit 2009 (EPFL, 6 March 2009)

- Programme:  
The EB agrees on four scientific talks (one each for the three pillars of the CH Roadmap (including statistical information), one about theory), one talk from the CHIPP Chair giving an overview (incl. computing) as well as information about the PSI activities and education.
- US: to give the ECFA letter for the organisation of the meeting to TN;
- JPR: to check with Dell'Ambrogio about the CHIPP letter

#### 11. Status of future meetings

- CHIPP Planning 2009: result of the survey  
EB agrees on the Calendar of Meetings for 2009 a few changes in location (Jan in LS, Oct and Nov in Berne. The Calendar is available on the CHIPP Website.
- Other meetings and Workshops: status (18/19 Nov, Neutrinos, ETHZ; 29/30 Jan, High-End Frontier, U.ZH)  
The EB agrees on a **new date** for the Neutrino Workshop at ETHZ: 17/18 November  
The EB agrees on **shifting** the High-End Frontier WS at U.ZH by one year (28/29 Jan 2010).
- CHIPP summer school 2009, define committee;  
The EB will be represented in the Advisory Board by AE.

#### 12. CHIPP prize

- Revised procedure: approval  
The EB agrees on the revised version, which will be available on the CHIPP Website.
- AE: to add some information about the winner as well as the laudation to the Website.

#### 13. SCOAP3

- Status: letter Pohl to Eichler  
A further contact with the Head of the ETHZ library department did not have a positive effect (he still refuses to support the idea). All other Universities agree to support SCOAP3. On a proposal by MP, the EB agrees to act as the contact group for SCOAP3 (in line with the Australian example), expressing an interest to join SCOAP3.
- MP: to draft an "Expression of interest" letter to be signed by the CHIPP Chairman.

#### 14. A.O.B.

- CHIPP Homepage: progress report  
US reports that the database on the CHIPP email member database is located now at U.ZH and is working again; the proposed improvements will be implemented in the coming weeks.
- ESFRI Roadmap: opinion of the Board in view of the Swiss Roadmap exercise started by the SER (advanced information).  
JPR informs about the project of a CH Roadmap, which has started at the SER. It will deal with the ESFRI Roadmap elements as well as with international organisations and national Infrastructures. The CHIPP EB will be asked to express its opinion of the physics projects.
- SPS Article  
Klaus Kirch (secretary of SPS) asks for a two page report about the LHC (providing information which goes beyond the CERN press documentation and articles in Swiss newspapers). Deadline: February 2009.
- TN: to contact the CHIPP Communication Group to produce such an article.
- Next EB meeting: 14 November 2008, 10.00-13.00h, Buffet de la Gare, Lausanne

The meeting ends at 12.30h.  
22 October 2008

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