

Minutes EB meeting 2010-01 on 18 January 2010

Time/place of the meeting: Buffet de la Gare, Lausanne, 18 January 2010, 10.00 – 13.30h
Present: Antonio Ereditato (AE), Martin Pohl (MP, chair), Jean-Pierre Ruder (JPR, secretary).

The Chair opens the meeting at 10.00h

1. Agenda

The agenda is approved.

2. Apologies

The EB notes the apologies received from Laura Baudis (LB, ill) and Tatsuya Nakada (TN, holidays).

3. Message from the new President

The new chair (MP) welcomes the members of the Board and is looking forward to work in close cooperation with them.

A. Administrative items

4. Minutes of the last meeting (2009-08)

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

5. List of Action Items

The list of action items is checked; most of the open items are on today's agenda.

6. Next EB meeting

Due to an unforeseen commitment, TN will not be able to attend the meeting of 22 February. As LB is abroad, a new meeting date will have to be identified.

→ JPR: to search for a new meeting date in February

B. Items for discussion

7. IT issues wrt the Manno PostDocs

MP has spoken with Ch. Grab (CG) to better understand the differences in interaction between the Manno PostDocs and the CSCS: the fact is that there are certain activities in connection with the detectors – especially for ATLAS – Manno can't do because they do not have the detailed knowledge of the functioning of the detector collaboration and the corresponding task distribution. This is especially the case with ATLAS, where more tasks are done centrally than in CMS. CG and MP agree on the IT activities wrt CSCS to be done by the Manno PostDocs. MP will monitor the continued implementation of these tasks.

→ MP: to monitor the implementation and execution of the IT tasks agreed

8. CHIPP Roadmap implementation paper

- Status (preparation for the Board meeting)

AE presents the status of work within the Editing Group. With his continued participation, a first draft of the chapters 1 to 3 (Swiss situation, Executive summary, Physics update) will be available by mid February. The remaining four sections (activities in Switzerland update, future plans update, spin-off, education and outreach) will follow thereafter. The total text, called Memorandum on the implementation of the Swiss Road Map for Particle Physics, will contain some 25 pages and should have the same graphical appearance as the Road Map. The group aims at having the printing done also by PSI.

MP mentions the recent publication by the Swiss Science and Technology Council SSTC on “especially expensive fields”, in which particle physics, CHIPP and the CHIPP Roadmap are highlighted as an excellent example of a self-coordinated research field. He suggests looking into the possibility to use some text from the SSTC report also in the Memorandum.

→ JPR: to send the SSTC text (in German and French) to AE

9. Round Table “International Representation”

- Date, Contributions from EB, ...

MP has discussed the ApPEC matters with Maurice Bourquin (MB). Some discussion on the Swiss representation in international bodies has also taken place in LA FORCE.

MP is convinced that CHIPP should represent Switzerland (in the field of particle physics) for scientific and financial aspects, even if CHIPP has no budgetary authority. CHIPP however can go back to the funding agency concerned on the basis of a sound scientific recommendation.

MP plans to inform the Board and would like to hold the inter-agency meeting in March.

→ JPR: to adapt the Board agenda and to identify a possible date.

10. CHIPP tables: the way forward

- Revised / completed CHIPP tables

MP notes the fact that in some cases the SNF requests asked for much higher financial support than has been communicated to AE as responsible person for the CHIPP tables. This is undermining the credibility of CHIPP and should be avoided in the future. MP therefore suggests that JPR should take a more active role in collecting the data; in addition, all SNF applicants should provide JPR with a copy of p.8 of the SBF request.

→ JPR to collect the data for the CHIPP tables

→ CHIPP Board Members: to provide JPR with a copy of p.8 of their SNF request

AE agrees to that but would like to clarify once again which projects and what kind of funding to included in the tables. MP agrees and sketches the following guidelines: do not include regular SNF grants but take up Synergia requests; include the funds required on top of SNF, incl. FORCE and FOLIS. Amounts should correspond to the funds planned to be requested (with a reasonable chance to be granted) for each year (contrary to the total experiment needs).

→ MP: to inform the CHIPP Board on these guidelines.

11. SNF specific Outreach proposal

- Results from informal discussions with SNF

AE has discussed the matter informally with the SNF. SNF is aware that this is an important issue. There is no possibility to received funding for this year, but there are signs that the situation could be different in 2011. AE will keep the EB (and CHIPP) informed.

→ AE: to keep CHIPP informed about outreach proposal funding.

AE also mentions a new funding instrument for bright people returning or coming to Switzerland (600k) called Ambizione.

→ AE/MP: to inform the CHIPP Board.

12. Outreach: Communication network

- Status and proposal

MP informs that the matter has made good progress at U.BE and that H.-P. Beck has submitted a corresponding proposal to his rector. At present, a decision is awaited.

→ AE: to check the decision schedule with the rectorat.

13. Agenda CHIPP Board: Draft

The EB goes through the draft agenda and amends/completes it at several places.

→ JPR: to establish a revised form to be submitted to MP and then distributed to the Board

C. Items for information

14. LA FORCE

- Report from the December 2009 meeting

MP reports from meeting: SNF has agreed that in exceptional cases, requests may not be evaluated by the SNF. This is the case for mandatory contributions established by an external, international committee (example: M&O request for LHC, parts of the GRID computing request). The LA FORCE also decided that in future CHIPP should be the official Swiss representative in the CERN RRB meetings. At the SER, the CHIPP contact point for FORCE is Bruno Moor, whereas Martin Steinacher has this function wrt the SER Roadmap.

MP informs also about the priorities decided by the LA FORCE:

- 1 LHC M&O and Computing
- 2 Completion and further development of the detectors
- 3 Other experiments at CERN and accelerator development
- 4 Projects of highest scientific quality done at CERN (provided they dispose of a international scientific committee of the same standard as the ones set up for CERN projects)

The SER letter to SNF and the minutes of the meeting will shortly be distributed to the Board members.

→ JPR: to send the minutes and the SER letter to the Board members.

15. CHIPP representatives in committees

- ApPEC ASPERA Scientific Advisory Committee

MP informs that A. Rubbia and L. Baudis are members of this committee (on proposal by MB). The EB underlines the need for a close communication and interaction of the CHIPP community with these two representatives.

- PSI Scientific User Committee

MP informs about the PSI decision to strengthen the Swiss element in its Scientific User Committee by adding some representatives of particle physics. New members, reinforcing A. Blondel, are MP, U. Straumann, and G. Colangelo.

16. C-15 2009 Annual Report

- Status

JPR informs that the establishment of the Annual Report is some three weeks behind schedule (due to heavy involvement in CHIPP School). The input has been received, bilateral discussions will take place on details, and a first draft should be available within 10 days. The deadline for submission is end February.

→ JPR: to produce first draft and hold, where necessary, bilateral discussions.

17. Status of future meetings

- Ascona School 2010

JPR reports about the school, which has started on 17 January. From the 56 participants, 48 are students with 6 of them coming from abroad (IT, DE, AT, UKR, IND). International lecturers teach during 23 hours on neutrino and LHC physics as well as on modern detectors.

- Astrophysics at very high energies (Saas Fee), 14-20 March 2010

MP recalls that the course is organized by ISDC with an interesting programme and interesting people. CHIPP will provide some financial support to the course.

- WS on High Energy Frontier (Zurich)

MP informs that the dates selected overlap with the Hamburg workshop 'Physics with the LHC 2010'. He has therefore asked U. Straumann to propose new dates in September.

→ US: to propose new dates for the ZH WS.

- WS planning 2010/2011

The EB notes the list of forthcoming workshops (see below) and has a first exchange of views about the meeting places for the 2011 workshops (astroparticle, neutrino).

what	responsible person	when?
CHIPP PhD School Ascona	G. Dissertori, Th. Gehrman, A. Ereditato	18-24 Jan 2010
Course on "Astrophysics at very high energies"	R. Walther	14-20 Mar 2010
WS on High Energy Frontier	U. Straumann	Sept 2010
WS on Physics of Symmetries and Interactions at Low Energies and the Precision Frontier	K. Kirch PSI	11-14 Oct 2010
WS on Astroparticle Physics	M. Pohl, T. Nakada	June 2011
WS on Neutrino Physics	A. Ereditato, L. Baudis	October 2011

18. A.O.B.

- Report from M. Bourquin re the OECD astronomy group
JPR will collect the report for the next EB meeting.

The chair closes the meeting at 11.45h

21 January 2010

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