



Minutes of the EB meeting 2011-01 on 12 January 2011

Time/place of the meeting: 12 January 2011, 13.45-16h, Schweizerische Akademie der Naturwissenschaften SCNAT, Schwarztorstrasse 9, 3007 Bern

Present: Laura Baudis (LB), Tatsuya Nakada (TN), Martin Pohl (MP, Chair), Jean-Pierre Ruder (JPR, Secretary)

Guest: M. Bourquin for agenda item 6.

The Chair opens the meeting at 13.35h

1. Agenda

The agenda is approved.

2. Apologies

None.

A. Administrative items

3. Minutes of the last meeting (2010-08)

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

4. List of Action Items

The list of action items is checked and updated.

5. Next EB meeting

2011-02: 2 March 2011, Berne, 13.45h

The meeting is confirmed. LB announces some difficulties for the meeting 2011-03 (29 March).

→ JPR: to check the availabilities and try to find a replacement date for 2011-03.

B. Items for discussion

6. Transformation of ApPEC/ASPERA: Presentation of the ideas

M. Bourquin (MB) explains the present situation and ideas about the future with the help of a few slides ([→ slides](#)). At present, ApPEC (Astroparticle Physics European Coordination) has rather close ties with CERN and is represented in the European Strategy Session of Council. A collaboration ApPEC-CERN Workplan has been established and approved by CERN Council in September. It mentions possible common/ coordinated activities (outreach, technology transfer, theory...). It seems that CERN would be prepared to create an Astroparticle physics theory group, but would prefer that the request comes from outside. ApPEC will further be involved in the Strategy Update of CERN and will request to be part of the (preparatory) Steering Group. In order to provide a stable input, ApPEC

is preparing right now an updated roadmap. The Workplan has just been approved by the ApPEC Steering Committee. In ASPERA, the second call is evaluated at present (MB is looking for referees [MP and TN are ready to serve]). MB continues by asking whether ApPEC should also establish close ties with ESA and ESO. MP sees no benefit of such an approach, since both agencies have another system of financing projects; he agrees that of course there is no way to work without ESA or ESO (e.g. in the CTA project), but the decision processes are so different that an institutional collaboration would be very difficult.

→ EB recommendation:

The EB recommends to sound out other ways of interacting with ESO and suggests that the ApPEC members contact their national ESO delegates (at Swiss level: G. Meylan, M. Steinacher) and that Switzerland should profit from the fact that a Swiss national is Director of Science at ESO (B. Leibundgut).

→ MP: to organise a meeting with G. Meylan, M. Steinacher and U. Straumann to discuss possible collaboration or coordination for the CTA project.

→ MB: to contact Leibundgut

MB continues by mentioning that in general, the ApPEC members are of the opinion that ApPEC will need a new structure incl. an office and a budget (similar to NuPECC). However, they are aware that NuPECC is part of ESF and a gathering of scientists, whereas ApPEC is not attached to another organisation and a gathering of funding agencies. According to MB the idea of an 'Association' is the most likely future form of ApPEC; it would serve well as ApPEC is a discussion forum for Astroparticle Physics, develops common action plans, facilitates convergence on future large scale facilities and initiates European funded projects. (The strategic and implementation objectives have been recently approved.) More formal structures (like e.g. a strategic board formed by ministerial level signatories of a MoU) seem difficult to achieve.

In conclusion, MB sees no need for CHIPP to take a formal position at this time.

On a related topic, he mentions that CH has not yet contributed to the survey regarding money and people working in Astroparticle Physics, which is carried out at present by ASPERA. MP mentions the existing CHIPP tables (for money) and TN hints to the latest ECFA collection of such numbers.

→ MP: to provide CHIPP table to MB

→ TN: to provide the ECFA collection to MB

7. Planned activities 2011

MP presents the draft list of planned CHIPP activities, which is then discussed by the EB. Regarding FOLIS funding, the EB would be interested to know the content of the research bill for the period 2013-2016.

→ MP: to contact M. Steinacher (SER) regarding the content.

The EB will think about possibilities for further lobbying for FOLIS in 2012 (Parliamentarians?).

8. CHIPP membership in SCNAT: Draft letter to the SCNAT

MP explains quickly the reason and content of the letter to the SCNAT. The EB agrees.

9. Agenda CHIPP Board: Draft

MP runs the EB through the Agenda of the CHIPP Board and collects further items. The EB agrees with the draft, which will be sent out early next week [done on 17 January].

→ JPR: to revise the Agenda and to send it out to the Board Members (and Observers).

C. Items for information

10. CHIPP as a 'Verein'

- Result of the vote on the Statutes

JPR reports that after a slow start of the reply, the last few days have pushed the number of

positive answers to 36 (out of 57).

- The way forward

The remaining 21 members will be contacted individually and personally by EB Members and should cast their vote at the CHIPP Board at the latest. Members that have not replied will not be members of the CHIPP Association (according to Swiss law).

→ MP, TN, LB, KK to contact latecomers

11. LA FORCE: Report from the December 2010 meeting

MP reports from the meeting of the LA FORCE: The CHIPP table was welcomed by the SER and in a friendly atmosphere the group agreed on the guidelines for SNF to be used when distributing the FORCE funds for 2011. In addition, the LA FORCE noted the suggestion of the CHIPP Chair to continue the valuable coordination of all the members present in this committee (including the SER) also in case the credit line is transferred from SER to SNF and merged with the FINES and the FOLIS credit line (which seems to be the intention of SER).

12. Centre for Advanced Studies C15: Annual Report 2010: Status report

JPR reports about the status of the Annual Report and thanks for the feedback regarding text and 'Eigenleistungen'. Once the missing input (BE, ZH) is available, he will finalise the text and establish the financial tables and the accounts. These documents will have to be signed by the responsible persons at the C15 partner institutes (timeframe: first half of February). Deadline for handing in the Annual Report to SUK, ETH-Rat and SER is end of February.

→ JPR: to complete the text and the tables.

→ JPR: to submit the originals to the institutes concerned for signature.

13. Short reports

- Workshops and Schools: none
- Other Committees: SAC of ApPEC

LB informs that the ApPEC Roadmap will be distributed to the ApPEC members in February and released for publication in June. She agrees to the suggestion of MP that the February version is distributed to the CHIPP Board for feedback to LB.

→ LB: to provide the draft ApPEC Roadmap to MP for distribution to the CHIPP Board.

14. Status of future meetings

- CHIPP PhD Winter School Leukerbad (9-14 Jan 2011): Currently ongoing.
- WS 2011:
 - Axion Wimp, 27 June – 1 July
 - Astroparticle Physics, 7/8 July 2011
 - C-15 mid-term results, 28/29 July 2011
 - Neutrino Physics, 9-11 December 2011All WS are at present under pre-planning.
- Other meetings:
 - SPS Annual Meeting, 15-17 June, Lausanne

15. A.O.B.

None.

The Chair closes the meeting at 16.55h

20 January 2011

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