

Minutes of the EB meeting 2012-08 on 23 October 2012

Time/place of the meeting: 23 October 2012, 09.45h-12.00h, Schweizerische Akademie der Naturwissenschaften SCNAT, Schwarztörstrasse 9, 3007 Bern

Present: Laura Baudis (LB), Gilberto Colangelo (GC), Klaus Kirch (KK, Chair), Olivier Schneider (OS), Jean-Pierre Ruder (JPR, Secretary).

The Chair opens the meeting at 10.20h

1. Agenda

The agenda is approved as is.

2. Apologies

None.

A. Administrative items

3. Minutes of the last meeting (2012-07)

The minutes of the last meeting are amended as follows:

Item 9 'CHIPP Prize 2012', second sentence: "Late August an interview session had been held ...".

With this amendment, the minutes are approved (with thanks to the minute writer).

4. List of Action Items

The list of action items is discussed and updated.

2012-06 – 7.1: Tier2 pledges: OS has discussed the matter with Ch. Grab and can report that Switzerland is not doing more than the other countries (in proportion). Action item closed.

2012-06 – 7.6/7.7: CHIPP tables: OS would like to know whether or not both types of tables will be maintained for the future: the large CHIPP overview table and the SER FORCE table. KK confirms that indeed both tables are maintained, because they serve different purposes: the large table are CHIPP internal tables giving a total overview about project participation, funding, and manpower for the 4-year periods defined by the Research Bills to Parliament, whereas the CHIPP FORCE table (in future: CHIPP FLARE table) is the planning tool officially handed in to the SER for the LA FORCE (in future: LA FLARE).

Board 2012-01 – 4.2: NCCR proposal publication: KK confirms that a lot of progress has been made and that he expects the text to go to the print shop soon. Regarding the next steps (and still waiting for the SNF's feedback regarding the evaluation), KK informs that he has met with M. Pohl to think about the planning schedule (in case...).

5. Next EB meeting

2012-09: 12 December 2012, Bern, 09.45h. The meeting date is confirmed, but will start only at 10.15h.

6. EB meeting dates 2013

KK confirms that the Doodle poll has yielded in a set of meeting dates as listed in JPR's email of 22 October. The list is confirmed by the EB:

2013-01:	8 Jan,	13.45h
2013-02:	22 Feb,	15.15h
2013-03:	9 Apr,	13.45h
2013-04:	27 May,	13.45h
2013-05:	11 Jul,	13.45h
2013-06:	2 Sep,	13.45h
2013-07:	25 Oct,	09.45h
2013-08:	2 Dec,	09.45h

→ JPR: to make the reservations at SCNAT

B. Items for discussion

7. ApPEC:

- Swiss representative

KK states that the ApPEC will be discussed in the Round Table (21 November) based on the CHIPP recommendation to join. The RT will decide about the adhering Swiss organisation, and nominate the Swiss representative to the General Assembly. As the nomination process regarding the SAC representative is not totally clear, LB will investigate.

The EB is of the opinion that CHIPP should propose to the RT to be the adhering organisation, and that the CHIPP Vice-Chair working in this field would be a natural candidate as Swiss representative.

→ LB: to investigate about the nomination / election process of the SAC members.

→ KK: to contact T. Montaruli to discuss the matter.

- White paper Astroparticle Physics

LB informs that T. Montaruli has set a meeting on 9 Nov to discuss the work among the concerned group leaders. The meeting will also deal with the new Letters of Intent for the FLARE projects. KK points out that it would be very helpful to have a text available for the RT. This text should convince the funding agencies to increase the FLARE funding. OS: agrees, but points out that the text will also be very helpful in internal discussions (institute, university) when advocating new positions or in the definition of a research strategy. KK is convinced – and the EB agrees – that CHIPP can only loose if it would not be able to avoid internal fights of ‘FORCE projects’ against ‘FOLIS projects’.

8. MoU CERN LHC detectors: Status report

OS reminds the EB about the detector MoUs and the difficulty to have them signed by Switzerland. Neither the SER nor the SNF felt competent at that time to sign. At present, an extension of these MoUs is suggested by CERN for the upgrade activities and history seems to repeat itself. OS – after consultation with R. Wallny and G. Iacobucci (who will attend the RRB meeting as experiment representatives) – has set up a meeting with the SNF (P. Burkhard) to discuss the matter and to see, if a solution can be found. KK would appreciate to receive a feed-back from that meeting, because he plans to bring the issue also to the attention of the RT.

→ OS: to report back from the SNF meeting

9. Round Table International: Preparation of the meeting

KK summarizes the themes to be discussed in the RT (ApPEC, CTA, Swiss PP community [CRUS report, European Strategy in PP, detector upgrade, EGI] and asks the EB for support. He will prepare the meeting on the basis of input received until 10 November.

→ OS, LB, GC: provide input until 10 November.

→ KK: to collect input from Ch. Grab

10. CHIPP Prize: amendments to rules & procedure

GC explains the difficulties encountered by the Selection Committee to arrive at a fair judgement of the diploma work. The SC therefore suggests to not consider the diploma work in the future and to weight the CV/PubList list and the recommendation letters with 30 each, leaving the written application document with 40.

The EB agrees with this proposal and will have a look at the revised rules in December (before submitting them to the Board in January). As a consequence of the Plenary being shifted to June (see item 11), the submission date will have to be advanced to April.

→ JPR: to prepare revised procedure for the EB in December and to include the item in the Board agenda.
GC informs the EB that all the SC members have agreed to continue to serve also in 2013 and beyond.

11. Plenary and Board meetings 2013:

KK recalls that the Plenary had to be moved from the first week in September to 24-26 June, and will take place at Campus Sursee, a large Conference and Seminar Centre owned by the 'Schweiz. Baumeisterverband'. A new date had to be sought because the Swiss Physical Society SPS had set its Annual Meeting 2013 also in the first week of September (in Linz). The CHIPP members will be informed about the new date.

KK confirms that the first Board meeting in 2013 will take place on 31 January in Berne (as agreed in September). The second one will be held during the Plenary (24 and 25 June), and a third one – serving for the approval of the 2014 budget – is set for 11 November.

→ JPR: to inform the CHIPP members about the new dates.

C. Items for information

12. LA FLARE: input schedule in preparing the meeting

KK explains the schedule, which is dictated by the meeting set on 7 December. He asks the EB colleagues for input during the second half of November. The meeting will deal with the following themes: financial needs for the period 2013-2016, priorities for 2013, amendments to the rules of the call. On a question from OS, KK clarifies that according to the rules of the call 2013, the LA FLARE does not comprise the scientific CERN Council delegate. The EB agrees that this should be suggested to the SNF together with the possibility for CHIPP to nominate two candidates for the position of scientific expert in the FLARE panel.

→ KK: to send a letter to the SNF with the two suggestions.

13. SCNAT: Organising Committee for the Annual Congress 2013

KK informs that the SCNAT Annual Congress 2013 will celebrate the 100 years of the Bohr atomic model. On request of the MAP Chair (H.-R. Ott) KK has nominated two CHIPP representatives to the Organising Committee (H.-P. Beck [BE] and A. Antognini [ETHZ]). The SPS will send J. Lacki (GE) and A. Weis (FR).

14. Observer to the CHIPP Board: request by SPS

KK informs that the SPS has submitted a request for observer-ship in the CHIPP Board. The matter will be brought to the attention of the Board in January.

→ JPR: to include the item in the January agenda.

15. SNF publication database: letter from CHIPP

KK informs that he has written a letter to the SNF regarding the difficulties of uploading the publications in the SNF publication database. The letter will be made available to the Board members.

16. Short reports: DarkAttack2012, 15-20 July

LB reports about a very successful workshop with 60-65 participants, who have provided a lot of positive feedback. The Monte Verità has proved to be a suitable location, although it was much more expensive than initially thought. The next workshop on the topic is tentatively planned for 2015.

17. Status of future meetings

- WS 2012: none
- Other meetings 2012: none
- Plans for 2013:
 - CHIPP PhD School, 20-25 January, Grindelwald
 - CHIPP Plenary 2013, 24-26 June, Campus Sursee
 - SPS Annual Meeting, 4-6 September, Linz (in this context KK recalls the CHIPP decision

regarding a PhD meeting in the context of the SPS meeting and would like to discuss the matter in December.

→ JPR: to insert in the agenda for December

- WS on low energy precision physics, 9-12 Sept, PSI
- Detector R&D, 12/13 Sept, PSI

18. A.O.B.

- OS, as the new responsible person for the common M&O FLARE request, would like to know if there are any advantages to continue with the current organisational set-up (submission by EPFL, funds administered by Zurich). JPR informs that Zurich and the SNF have accepted this mechanism, which is functioning well. In this context, the question comes up whether or not the FORCE (and FLARE) requests are subject to the usual overhead mechanism of a regular SNF request.
→ JPR: to clarify the matter with the SNF.
- GC invites the EB and CHIPP colleagues to attend the forthcoming Einstein lectures in Berne (29-31 October), where André Geim (Manchester) will speak in the Aula (Random Walk to Graphene, Magic of Flat Carbon, The Science of Flying Frogs)

The Chair closes the meeting at 12.30h

10 November 2012

written by: Jean-Pierre Ruder

approved by: Klaus Kirch