

Minutes of the EB meeting 2013-05 on 11 July 2013

Time/place of the meeting: 11 July 2013, 13.45-15.30h, Schweizerische Akademie der Naturwissenschaften SCNAT, Schwarztorstrasse 9, 3007 Bern

Present: Klaus Kirch (KK, Chair), Teresa Montaruli (TM [via Skype]), Olivier Schneider (OS), Jean-Pierre Ruder (JPR, Secretary).

The Chair opens the meeting at 14.05h.

1. Agenda

The agenda is approved as is.

2. Apologies

The EB notes the apologies from G. Colangelo.

A. Administrative items

3. Minutes of the last meeting (2013-04)

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 discussed and updated.

2010-03 – 7.3: EPPCN Coordinator: KK informs that this long standing item is getting a bit more urgent, since the present coordinator (B. Gerber) will retire next year. The envisaged PSI-based solution will not materialize and therefore the EB should invest some efforts in the matter.

2013-02 – 6: CHIPP LT tables: KK recognizes the difficulties encountered in the process of collecting the numbers; he also mentions a possible misunderstanding regarding the FTE definition circulated. In a short exchange of views the EB confirms the definition (and its interpretation).

2013-04 – 4: Signing MoU: Mentioning the matter again by OS during the SNF visit at CERN has not triggered a concrete reaction. The EB agrees that the topic should be brought up in the context of the RRB meeting in October. The matter is closed (but will be included in the RRB permanent task 2008-10 – 12.1).

5. Next EB meeting: 2013-06: 2 September 2013, 13.45h, Berne

The meeting is confirmed.

B. Items for discussion

6. Plenary: debriefing and first feedbacks

KK report about positive feedback he has received regarding the talks and regarding the discussions (also

during informal gatherings). The feedback about the meeting place is about 50/50. OS mentions that he has not received much feedback, but he himself was pleased with the meeting, the talks, the discussions and the meeting place. TM liked the Plenary a lot and underlines also the many good discussions about the future. He considered the task of the Chairs (summarizing the sessions, identifying the problems and possible actions) as rather difficult, since all Chairs were not experts in the matter dealt with in the session they chaired. Contrary to this opinion, OS found the summary discussion was interesting and adequate.

7. LHC GRID Computing: status re funding for 2014ff

OS mentions the information from SERI and S. Haug given at the Plenary: High-Performance Computing HPC might be considered for the Swiss roadmap on infrastructures, and funds have been made available to the SUK (although the project is not yet approved). In KK's opinion (supported by OS), the SERI should be aware that HPC embraces much more than just CERN.

On the legal side, KK informs that he has signed the computing agreement with ETH.

8. Requests for financial support from SCNAT 2014

KK suggests to deal with the two proposals individually.

ApP Workshop: TM expresses her astonishment about the level of detail to be provided to SCNAT already at such an early stage, where all elements are preliminary, the programme is tentative and the budget is a rough estimate. KK clarifies that these uncertainties are understood by the SCNAT, but that the information given should be to the best of our knowledge.

Regarding the content and thrust of the workshop, the EB is pleased with the idea of labelling it a 'strategic workshop' aimed at Swiss participants but with international speakers. OS mentions an early CHIPP Workshop in ApP organised by T. Nakada, which could serve as model. The inclusion of astronomers (contact: G. Meylan) is welcome and in line with the efforts of bringing PP, ApP and astronomy closer together. KK asks himself if the WS could not be placed under the context of the European Strategy, where CERN could become an ideal location / partner.

Concerning the funds, KK states that CHIPP should not ask more for a workshop than for a school, which is specifically aimed at the young physicists (i.e. 10kCHF). The EB agrees that the external speakers will have to be paid and encourages TM to include food and lodging in the conference fee.

After discussing a number of other issues around the theme, the participants, and the budget, the EB agrees to submit the request to SCNAT.

→ TM: to contact T. Nakada re the early CHIPP ApP WS.

→ TM: to complete the request with a tentative programme and budget (support from JPR).

Zuoz School: KK briefly highlights the extensive documentation delivered by the organisers. OS notes that the planning is already very much advanced and has profited from a long experience regarding programme, attendance, and budgeting. The EB agrees to ask for SCNAT funding for Zuoz.

→ M. Spira: to finalize the request (support from JPR).

→ KK: to submit the two requests to the SCNAT

9. ECFA mid-term report: what role for the EB?

KK recalls the discussion at the CHIPP Board (24/25 June) and the suggestion of L. Rivkin to compile such a mid-term report based on input from Board members. He suggests to discuss briefly the role of the EB, which could consist of actively providing input in a coordinated manner. There are many points mentioned in the 2009 report where new information and activities can be reported and it would be a possibility to take these topics up in the report. The SERI statements made at the Plenary should also find their way into the mid-term report. After a short exchange of views regarding the process (EB to react on Rivkin's first draft or EB to provide input for the first draft) the EB agrees that KK should contact Rivkin and discuss the most suitable procedure (including a possible participation in one of the next EB meetings).

→ KK: to contact L. Rivkin re input situation, schedule, procedure, EB meeting [2 Sep or 25 Oct].

10. CHIPP Administrator: decision

KK reminds the EB of its duty to decide on the Administrator and opens the floor for an in-depth discussion and exchange of views regarding the proposed candidate.

The discussion deals with the person, his organisational skills, his employment situation (present and future),

and the employment conditions (employment by UniZH [as in the past]; details re office etc. to be discussed directly between the persons concerned), the salary as well as with the hand-over process. JPR offers a three-month overlap period starting whenever his successor can make available some working time for CHIPP, at the earliest on 1 September and at the latest on 1 January (appreciated by the EB). OS states that the salary should be such as to not create an unbalanced situation in the CHIPP budget. The EB fully agrees with this position.

Concluding, the EB¹ supports the proposal to hire the identified candidate and asks KK to contact him with the intention of concluding the contract in the nearest possible future.

→ KK: to contact the candidate, offer him the post and initiate the administrative negotiations and process.

C. Items for information

11. CHIPP Membership: status regarding payment

KK informs that all open bills have been reported 'settled', even if the last payment has not yet arrived on the CHIPP account.

12. Short report: ApPEC GA phone call:

TM briefly reports about a recent ApPEC GA telephone conference regarding the composition of the SAC. Her insistence has led to include also four experts from non-ApPEC Members. The report is available at the CHIPP webpage (APPEC GA reports). KK expresses his satisfaction about the inclusion of external experts and thanks TM for her efforts.

13. Status of future meetings

- 2013 (mentioned at the Plenary)
 - Workshop on QCD under extreme conditions XQCD13, 5-7 August, Berne
 - WS on low energy precision physics, 9-12 Sept, PSI
 - Detector R&D, 12/13 Sept, PSI
 - 2nd International Workshop on Antimatter and Gravity WAG 2013, 13-15 November, Berne
 - Annual Meeting of the SPS, 3-6 September 2013, LinzKK reports that the Swiss participation is better than what could have been expected for such a remote location.
- 2014 (new)
 - ApP Workshop, May/June 2014 (discussed under agenda item 8)
 - Annual Meeting of the SPS, 30 June - 2 July 2014, FribourgKK reminds the EB that this will be the annual PhD/PostDoc meeting; planning will have to be made in close contact with the SPS; expected participation is to be discussed and decided by the EB in early 2014.
- CHIPP Plenary, date tbd (during SPS), Fribourg
- Technical Neutron EDM WS, 2-6 Nov, Ascona

14. A.O.B.

No A.O.B. was discussed.

The Chair closes the meeting at 15.35h.

12 July 2013

written by: Jean-Pierre Ruder

approved by: Klaus Kirch

¹ The position of GC had been collected by KK prior to the meeting.