

Minutes of the EB meeting 2014-02 on 28 March 2014

Time/place of the meeting: 28 March 2014, 13:45-16:00, ETH-Rat, Effingerstrasse 6a, 3001 Bern

Present: Gilberto Colangelo (GC), Teresa Montaruli (TM), Olivier Schneider (OS, Chair), Marc Türlér (MT, Secretary), Rainer Wallny (RW)

The Chair opens the meeting at 13:45.

1. Agenda

Agreed

2. Apologies

None

A. Administrative items

3. Minutes of the last meeting (2014-01 [10 February 2014]) ([→ document](#))

The minutes of the last meeting are approved (with the amendments discussed per e-mail and implemented in the final version of 23 Feb.). MT is asked to add a link to the previous minutes in the agenda of future meetings.

4. List of Action Items

The list of Action items is reviewed.

2010-06 – 4: TM asks information on these factsheets. OS explains that they are on the CHIPP website. MT is asked to provide the links to TM.

2013-08 – 13.2: It is clarified for RW that the CHIPP PhD/PostDoc days take place every second year. OS gives the current status of this TASK session at the SPS Annual Meeting. It is suggested to keep the slides on Indico for future reference.

2014-01 – 16: OS informs that there is a meeting foreseen with SCNAT together with H. P. Beck on 29 April to discuss the issue of the EPPCN coordinator. RW asks about the chances of success. OS thinks there are good chances, since we got a rather positive reply letter from SCNAT and that the funding is roughly settled (~10 kCHF/year, half from CERN and half from CHIPP). The e-mail received from Beat Gerber, the former EPPCN coordinator now retiring, and OS's reply is also quickly mentioned.

Board 2013-01 – 12: OS proposes that this permanent task on the contact with the Committee of Astronomy shall be assigned to TM as she is the CHIPP observer in CHAPS. This is agreed.

5. Next EB meeting

- 2014-03: Friday, 9 May 2014, 13.45h, ETH-Rat, Bern

B. Items for discussion

6. ApP and Neutrino White Papers

OS introduces the topic asking what shall be the follow-up to the presentations of the neutrinos experiments at the Board meeting 2014-01 (7 March 2014). TM reminds that the motivation of the White Paper on astroparticle physics (ApP) was to prioritize the experiments for FLARE. The inclusion of additional projects

on neutrinos will increase the pressure. Herself refrained ambitions by not including IceCube. OS notes that the T2K development was funded by a Synergia grant, whereas NA61 and WA105 are funded by FLARE. The various on-going developments on neutrinos in Switzerland are briefly discussed. Is it too much? RW points out that we have limited funds in Switzerland and a strategic prioritization by CHIPP would be well received by funding institutions. GC wonders if CHIPP can really do a meaningful prioritization. OS thinks that CHIPP cannot be a referee for one or the other group, but if a common strategy is emerging the CHIPP board can endorse it. RW agrees that a strategy has to be provided in a document. Based on this the CHIPP EB and Board can give feedback to avoid duplication of efforts. OS suggests that at least R&D could be a common effort. The idea of asking the neutrino groups to write a common white paper document is agreed. TM suggests to give the message that the groups should aim at a common R&D strategy. The EB can offer to look at the document before it is passed to the Board, ideally at the Board 2014-03 meeting on 6 Nov. 2014. Concerning the foreseen update of the ApP white paper this spring, it is agreed that there is no urgency to update it now. This can wait for another year and will depend a bit on the outcome of the neutrino white paper.

→ OS: to ask neutrino PIs to prepare a neutrino white paper aiming at a common R&D

→ Neutrino PIs: to prepare a first draft of a neutrino white paper (by Sep. 2014)

7. Long Term Financial Tables

OS introduces the topic by mentioning the difficulty to get from the PIs the inputs to the CHIPP long-term financial tables (LTFT). OS suggest to make some rationalisation of the effort and to ask for yearly inputs to be updated once we get the decision on the amount of attributed FLARE funding. TM proposes also to aim at reducing the number of asked inputs. The most important numbers are the total number of full-time equivalents (FTE) and the ones funded by FLARE. RW is tired of filling in different excel tables for different uses. There is the FLARE (SNSF) table, the CHIPP table, the ETH table, etc. OS agrees that it would already be an improvement to rationalize the format such that a subset of the CHIPP table would be the FLARE table. He reminds that the aim of the tables is still to have the complete overview and to implement the “moderation of the ambitions”, as far as possible, as it was done in the past and was then well perceived by the LA FLARE panel. RW sees four purposes of the tables: 1) internal review of experiments by the EB; 2) communication inside and outside CHIPP; 3) feedback to SERI (short table version); and 4) the input to the LA FLARE prioritisation process. After some more specific comments, OS proposes that EB shall decide now whether to continue collecting information and in which format. On the question whether we shall collect information yearly and not integrated on 4-year periods, TM was rather of the opinion to keep the format of the table as it is¹. RW suggests to provide only the sub-tables related to each experiment to the PIs and then to store them also as separate sub-tables for an easier use in the future. OS proposes the following schedule. We ask as soon as possible all PIs for inputs to be collected by about the 25th of April. MT then updates the table, which is discussed at the EB 2014-03 on 9 May 2014. At the Board 2014-02 of 30 June, we present the EB analysis and we then iterate until the LA FLARE meeting to be held in autumn. This was generally agreed by the EB. There was then a discussion concerning the inclusion of CLOUD in the CHIPP tables. OS mentioned that he took contact with the PI, Urs Baltensperger (PSI), who wished to keep CLOUD in the CHIPP tables, although he is not a member of CHIPP. The EB agrees that this ambivalent situation is not a good solution for the future. OS has to ask Baltensperger to clarify his position: either to become a member of CHIPP to benefit from the CHIPP support for CLOUD, or not.

→ MT: to provide simple tables to PIs to fill in there inputs

→ MT: to compile the inputs in preparation of EB 2014-03

→ OS: to contact Urs Baltensperger to clarify his CHIPP membership status

8. Follow-up on call for EB and ACCU candidates for 2015

OS reminds that the call for EB nominations has been sent out to the Board members on 28 March 2014 with a deadline set to 30 April 2014, whereas the call for the ACCU nominations has been sent out on 27 March to all CHIPP members with the same deadline. OS explains the next steps: he will collect the inputs, check with the best candidates whether they would be available, and come with the whole information at the EB of 9 May for discussion. This procedure is agreed by the EB.

→ OS: to collect nominations and contact best candidates to discuss their availability

¹ Further discussions in the train on the way back between TM, OS and MT resulted in the identification of several possible simplifications. The advantages of having numbers on a yearly basis became clearer.

9. 60-years of CERN event at SPS meeting

OS explains that inviting the people and preparing the posters becomes now an urgent task. OS mentions that all CHIPP members will be invited to join the CERN 60 event and to enjoy the lunch. He then presents a preliminary list of additional invitees identified so far and to be invited with a card. The list has been quickly discussed over lunch with Jean-Pierre Ruder, who proposed to add past key people at SNSF and to inform the press about the event. RW proposes to contact Felicitas Pauss to cross-check the list. It was also mentioned to add a representative of CRUS. OS proposes also to contact a person in each institute to prepare a list of retired persons to invite. Concerning the preparation of the historic posters, OS mentions that contact persons have been asked on 26 March to identify a responsible person per institute. CHIPP shall provide a template with CHIPP, SPS and CERN60 logos and a kick-off meeting shall be organised in early May with the responsible people per institute.

- MT: to ask a contact person in each institute to prepare a list of retired persons to invite
- OS/MT: to contact Andreas Schopper and help with the preparation of the invitation card
- OS: to follow-up with Andreas Schopper the idea to contact the press for the event
- MT: to prepare a template for the historic posters with CHIPP, SPS and CERN60 logos
- MT: to set up a Doodle to hold a kick-off meeting for the historic poster preparation

10. Agenda of Plenary meeting 2014

The programme of the CHIPP Plenary is discussed. OS mentions the need to have the usual reports from the CHIPP Outreach and Computing boards, the CERN Council, as well as the reports from ACCU, ECFA, ApPEC and NuPEC. Together with the Board and EB news and the ACCU election, this sums up to 9 agenda items of 15 minutes each to fill up the 2h15 duration of the CHIPP plenary foreseen between 13:45 and 16:00 on Monday, 30 June 2014. This looks adequate to everybody and is agreed. RW then asked about the evolution of the Tier-3 discussion. OS reminds that this was discussed in November 2013 and that CHIPP leaves now things getting implemented and will react if needed. The EB can ask at anytime the CHIPP Computing Board to report on the status at an upcoming meeting. OS closes the agenda item by reminding that the agenda of the Board meeting will be discussed at the next EB.

- MT: to contact the foreseen speakers to make sure that they are available

11. Plenary meeting 2015 preparation

OS introduces the topic by reminding that we want to have a plenary meeting of CHIPP distinct from the SPS meeting every second year. The organisation shall start about 14 months in advance by looking for a suitable time period and place for the meeting. The best time period was found to be either June or September. There was then a discussion on which weeks should be avoided, such as CERN Council weeks, ATLAS, CMS and LHC weeks, main conferences, etc. The semester ends between end of May and early June. TM proposes the week of 8-12 June 2015. RW agrees that beginning of June would be fine. The place shall be remote enough to be away from big cities, with the aim to force people to stay for evening discussions, etc. The place shall accommodate typically about 80 people and have a large enough room for the plenary sessions. TM mentions the SWAPS 2014 venue in Cartigny near Geneva and the "Château de Bossey" at Crans-près-Céligny (GE). OS mentions the "fondation Crêt-Bérard" in Puidoux (VD). OS closes the discussion by asking MT to start looking for a possible place and to report at the EB 2014-03 (9 May).

- MT: to start looking for possible places and to report at EB 2014-03

12. SCNAT funding request for 2015

OS reports that the SCNAT funding request for 2014 has been accepted. This is for both the SWAPS workshop and the Zuoz School, 10'000 CHF each. For 2015, the EB should decide at its June meeting about the items for which SCNAT support should be asked for in summer 2014. An obvious item is the Winter PhD School of 2015. A further possibility is to ask for support of a CHIPP workshop on LHC physics. However, such a workshop would be timelier in 2016 rather than 2015, since the first interesting results of Run 2 may only become available towards the end of 2015. OS points out that it would be perfectly OK to ask support in summer 2014 for an event scheduled in early 2016 (indeed the SCNAT grant would become available at the end of March 2015 and can be spent until the end of 2016). CG however thinks that the arguments to request money now for 2016 would be a bit weak. Another option is the continuation, or follow-up, of the "Dialogue" project funded by SCNAT. This is to be discussed with Hans Peter Beck.

- MT: to inform the SWAPS and Zuoz School organisers about the SCNAT funding for 2014
- MT: to put the item on the agenda of the EB 2014-04 and to ask for ideas before

→ MT: to discuss with Hans Peter Beck possible SCNAT funding of outreach activities

C. Items for information

13. 2nd representative in LA FLARE

OS spoke with Klaus Kirch on whether he would be will ready to continue as the second representative in LA FLARE. He was a bit surprised and would do it if CHIPP gives him a mandate to do so. We could say instead that the CHIPP Chair is replaced by one of the three Vice-Chairs as the Chair is already the CERN Council member. RW expressed that he would be ready to do it, but he would then need to resign as the PI of the CMS request to avoid a conflict of interest. OS answers that this is not necessarily needed, as he is himself the PI of the LHCb request and TM of the CTA request, etc. So there is no big issue preventing RW to become the second representative in LA FLARE, especially as this year there will be no CMS FLARE proposal.

→ OS: to discuss with Jürg Osterwalder the idea to have RW as the CHIPP representative

14. CHIPP Prize

GC reports that he already received 5-6 applications, which is good. There is however an issue because a student of CG applied and this prevents CG to evaluate his application. OS proposes that everybody evaluates all of them, but one. CG thought about doing a pre-evaluation without him evaluating this candidate and then, in case his student is short-listed, to let the 3 other referees do the final selection. CG explains the procedure consisting in giving a maximum of 100 points to each candidate. RW asks whether in the past theorists were mainly evaluated by CG, one would then need to replace CG by another theorist. CG thinks that a replacing referee definitely has to be a theorist. OS then proposes that each time such a situation happens, we look for a replacement, if possible a retired Professor in order to avoid any other possible conflict of interest. OS proposes Daniel Wyler as a good candidate, being a theorist near to retirement. GC was asked to contact Daniel Wyler immediately in view of his replacement in the CHIPP Prize committee.²

15. Round Table and MAP meetings

OS informs that he will represent CHIPP at the next meeting of the Round Table International on the 1st of April and on 2nd of April there will be the meeting of the MAP platform, both held in Bern. TM suggests him to mention the discussion at the Board on the neutrino strategy, the SERI inventory of research infrastructures, and the CERN 60-years event. She wonders whether to mention the EPPCN delegate. RW asked whether the SNSF representatives could report on the FLARE funding and about the typical cut rate. OS checks the agenda and mentions that there will be an item on the call for new research infrastructures.

→ MT: to add a report from these meetings on the agenda of EB 2014-03 (9 May)

16. Status of future meetings

- CHIPP Strategy Workshop on AstroParticles in Switzerland SWAPS2014, 11-13 June 2014, Geneva: TM mentions that the organisation is getting late and becomes now urgent, but she is overwhelmed with other things and suffers from a lack of a secretary to help on this.
- Annual Meeting of the SPS, 30 June – 2 July 2014, Fribourg: the abstract deadline has been extended to 24 March. There are many things to follow-up with Hans Peter Beck and Andreas Schopper for the TASK session and the CERN60 event.
- CHIPP Plenary, 30 June 2014 (during SPS), Fribourg: see item 10 above.
- Zuoz Summer School, 17-23 August 2014, Zuoz, Engadin: there is no news to report on this.
- CHIPP 2015 Winter school: support needs to be requested from SCNAT, see item 12 above.
- CHIPP Plenary 2015: see item 11 above.
- possible CHIPP Workshop on LHC/high-energy frontier: early 2016 ?

17. A.O.B.

RW is wondering who will review the Swiss replacement to the ERC funding which was implemented for Swiss scientists affected by the consequences of the vote of 9 February 2014 “against mass immigration”. TM suggests that OS tries to figure this out at the Round Table meeting.

² Daniel Wyler accepted to take this responsibility on 31 March.

The Chair closes the meeting at 17:15

16 April 2014

written by: Marc Türler

approved by: Olivier Schneider