

## Minutes of the EB meeting 2014-05 on 25 August 2014

**Time/place of the meeting:** Monday, 25 August 2014, 13:50-16:30, EPFL Cubotron BSP 318, Lausanne  
Map: <http://plan.epfl.ch/?room=BSP318> (metro M1 exit “UNIL Sorge”, not “EPFL”)

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

The Chair opens the meeting at 13:50.

### 1. Agenda

The agenda is agreed.

### 2. Apologies

None, but GC attends via Skype and had to leave before the end.

### A. Administrative items

#### 3. Minutes of the last meeting (2014-04 [23 June 2014]) ([→ document](#))

The minutes are approved with thanks to the minute writer.

#### 4. List of Action items

The list of Action items was briefly reviewed. OS mentions that he did not receive the minutes from the RTI and the MAP meetings yet. He mentions the SCNAT delegation meeting minutes forwarded in the morning, reporting the re-election of Thierry Courvoisier as president for 2015 and the likely need to descope part of the foreseen activities for the 200-year jubilee, in particular going around Switzerland with the Knie circus. OS also mentions that the new IUPAP contact person for Switzerland is Prof. Minh Quang Tran (EPFL), the new SPS president<sup>1</sup>.

#### 5. Next EB meetings

- 2014-06: Monday, 13 October 2014, 15:00, CERN (**new time and place**)
- 2014-07: Monday, 27 October 2014, 12:45, ETH-Rat, Bern (**extra meeting**)

The 2014-06 meeting originally foreseen at 10:15 was moved in the afternoon at 15:00 and will be held at CERN based on the warning by RW that the LHC RRB meeting has been moved to 13–15 October. GC expressed the wish to attend again via Skype. A new meeting, EB 2014-07, was provisionally scheduled to prepare the LA FLARE meeting of 10 November.

→ MT: to update the web page and to reserve the room at ETH-Rat for EB 2014-07

→ OS: to reserve a room at CERN for EB 2014-06

### B. Items for discussion

#### 6. Debriefing of CHIPP Plenary 2014 and CERN60 event

OS invites the EB to exchange views about the CHIPP Plenary 2014 and the CERN 60-years event in Fribourg. He reminds that the Plenary 2014 was well attended with 113 registered participants from CHIPP. The 15 historic posters on the Swiss implication in CERN experiments were effectively finalised in the last

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<sup>1</sup> NB: it was however agreed that the former SPS president, Andreas Schopper, remains the SPS observer in the CHIPP Board.

two weeks. They are now at CERN (H.P. Beck) and the PDF files are on the Indico web page of the Plenary. It was found difficult to judge the impact of the panel discussion. OS thinks that it showed the importance of particle physics in Switzerland to physicists of other fields. He mentions the article written by Benedikt Vogel on "teilchenphysik.ch"<sup>2</sup>. GC expresses that it was great to have Rolf Heuer, the CERN DG, giving a talk and taking part to the panel discussion. The latter was fine in his opinion with interesting answers to questions unfortunately only formulated by a few persons from the audience. RW and TM share this opinion and agree that the highlight was really the presence and talk of Rolf Heuer. OS then mentions the ceremony of the CHIPP Prize, which went very well and was also reported in an article on "teilchenphysik.ch"<sup>3</sup>. There was more discussion concerning the TASK session (aka CHIPP PhD/PostDoc days), which included 49 talks and 8 posters. OS reminds that it was decided to give a talk to all who specifically asked for, thus implying to have some sessions in parallel. This resulted in some sessions being poorly attended, in particular the neutrino session on Wednesday afternoon had very little audience. TM proposes to waive the fee for the best talks to be elected by the audience as a way to get people more excited about giving talks and listening to them. But this was found difficult to implement as the fees are to be paid in advance. OS recalls that having to pay full fees for attending the formal CHIPP Plenary was not always well received. The topic was closed with OS mentioning that he wrote an article for the SPS journal "SPG-Mitteilungen" to be published in September and also that the CHIPP contribution to the CERN60-event budget is not yet fully settled.  
→ MT: to upload the PowerPoint source files of historic posters on the Indico web page

## 7. CHIPP Plenary 2015

MT reports about his visit of the hotel "La Longeraie" near Morges (VD) and of the "Château de Bossey" at Crans-près-Céligny (GE) in August. Both could in principle host the CHIPP Plenary 2015, but "La Longeraie" has the disadvantage of not enough rooms (only 40 available), which would imply booking many rooms in other hotels at walking distance in Morges. Château de Bossey is beautifully located in a park with lake and mountain views. It has a very big and well-equipped seminar room (950 CHF per day) and has several nearby buildings with a total of 90 double rooms. 42 of them are with bathroom (139 CHF in single use) and 48 rooms with only a washbasin and with a common bathroom (1 for 4 rooms) on the floor (89 CHF for single use). The additional daily cost per participant for lunch, dinner and two coffee breaks is 65 CHF per person (55 CHF without dinner). So the total price for a three-day meeting in single room with bathroom would be 520 CHF [  $2 \times (139 + 65) + 55 + 57$  ], where 57 CHF correspond to the participation to the meeting room cost for 50 persons, conservatively. This was found to be a reasonable price, which can reduce to 420 CHF when taking the rooms with bathroom on the floor and to even less (down to 364 CHF) if students agree to share a room. A request for an offer was also sent to the "Hôtel du Léman" at Lavaux near Vevey (VD), but they were already booked at the dates identified as possible for the CHIPP Plenary in early-June or late-June–early-July 2015. For the Château de Bossey a pre-reservation was made for Monday, 29 June to Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 as some rooms were already booked for other groups at the beginning of June. The issue on the travel via public transportation was discussed. OS mentions that there are two buses per hour for "Céligny, village", both from the train stations of Coppet and Nyon. From there, it is about a 1-km walk to the Château de Bossey, so it is like the walk to Campus Sursee in 2013. The Château de Bossey offers also a limited mini-bus (max. 8 persons) service from Coppet or Nyon train station at 30 CHF. With all this information, it was decided to go on with this option for the Plenary 2015.

→ MT: to confirm the booking of all rooms at the Château de Bossey

→ MT: to send a book-the-date announcement to the CHIPP Plenary

→ MT: to start a web page to inform about the CHIPP Plenary 2015

## 8. SCNAT funding request 2015

OS reminds that the SCNAT funding request 2015 is due by Friday, 29 August 2014. There will be three projects to be submitted. A request of 12 kCHF for the Winter School of January 2015, one of 10 kCHF for a strategic workshop on the high-energy frontier in 2016 and one of 4 kCHF for the continuation of the "Dialog" outreach project. The latter is a support to the Agora "Interactions II" request (see item 15 below), providing support to the translation of forthcoming pages on "particlephysics.ch". OS asks whether a total of 26 kCHF to be requested is reasonable. After a quick look at the amounts requested in previous years and at the

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.teilchenphysik.ch/grosser-nutzen-verpasste-chancen>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.teilchenphysik.ch/ein-gutes-fundament-ermoeglicht-hohe-haeuser>

MAP budget of last year it was agreed that this is fine and that the amount is not excessive. The provided inputs for the three projects were then briefly reviewed. There were only little comments concerning the programme and budget of the request for the Strategy Workshop on High-Energy Particle Physics in Switzerland (SWHEPPS 2016) prepared by RW based on the format used for the Strategy Workshop on AstroParticles in Switzerland (SWAPS 2014). In particular, TM proposed to add a public evening lecture, and to extend the session on the connection to other fields (neutrinos, astroparticles, and medical physics). For the CHIPP PhD Winter School, the request mentions a 5 kCHF participation from CHIPP, which was not found explicitly on the foreseen CHIPP budget for 2015. This issue was discussed and deserves clarification with Vincenzo Chiochia and shall also be included consistently in the 2015 budget. There was also a question raised by RW about who is choosing the speakers. Back in 2012 a list of a few advisors is mentioned on the school website, but no more in 2013 and 2015. RW thinks that if this role is not taken, the EB shall act as an Advisor Committee to endorse the lecturers and possibly propose other names. This was indeed found to be a matter of good practice and it was agreed to propose this solution. Finally, concerning the Dialog request, OS proposes to remove from the budget all the details from the AGORA budget, but to send separately the full AGORA proposal as supporting material for the SCNAT request.

→ MT: to finalize the three requests and to submit them together to SCNAT

→ MT: to ask Vincenzo Chiochia to set up an Advisor Committee for the CHIPP School

### **9. FLARE M&O request**

OS presents the topic by reminding that the next FLARE request to the SNSF for LHC Maintenance & Operations (M&O) is due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of November. He then shows that the PI of this request has always been someone from the LHCb collaboration: Ueli Straumann (2007–2010), Tatsuya Nakada (2011–2012), and now himself (2013–2014). He is ready to continue with the 2015 request this autumn, but would like to pass this task over to RW for the 2016 request. RW agrees to take this over next year. To get prepared, he wishes to be included in Cc to all e-mail exchanges for the 2015 request. RW also expresses concern about a conflict of interest by being part of LA FLARE. OS says that he is also in the same situation and that anyway the M&O request is not so critical as it is a funding that cannot be cut, as it is a mandatory contribution.

→ MT: to start the preparation of the request (outline, template, schedule, call for contributions)

### **10. Request for SuGAR 2015 funding**

OS informs that he received a letter asking CHIPP for supporting the workshop “SuGAR 2015: Searching for the Sources of GALactic cosmic Rays” to be held at the University of Geneva on 21–23 January 2015. RW asks whether CHIPP has discretionary funds for such kind of initiatives. OS shows the 2015 budget points to the budget line with 3000 CHF labelled as “unspecified” for schools and conferences. RW suggests to label them as “discretionary”, but OS thinks that this is implicitly implied for this amount. RW also suggests to get the “unspecified” amount for 2016 already approved with the 2015 budget in November, but this seems difficult to justify and maybe the best is to keep it as in the past with the “financial plan” showing the foreseen projection for the coming years. OS reminds that in the past, CHIPP has supported workshops, e.g. SWAPS 2014, PSI 2013, DarkAttack 2012, etc. TM points out that the proponents – Elisa Prandini (CHIPP member) and Simona Toscano – are promising young scientists now at ISDC, UniGE. It was finally decided to support SUGAR by allocating up to 1500 CHF to cover a possible deficit. The decision was also motivated in part by the fact that the allocated CHIPP support of SWAPS will not be fully used. The event should include the CHIPP logo.

→ MT: to inform the proponents about the decision from the CHIPP EB

## **C. Items for information**

### **11. CHIPP Strategy (Astroparticles & Neutrinos)**

OS invites TM to present the outcome of discussions about the White Papers on astroparticles and neutrinos following the Board 2014-02 meeting. TM says that unlike discussed at this meeting, there will be a separate White Paper dedicated to neutrinos including all the related Swiss activities, including IceCube. OS adds that the neutrino PIs were not very keen to first submit a version to the EB before presenting it to the Board. As the Board documents need to be distributed 10 days ahead of the meeting, we need to decide on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October whether we put this on the agenda of the Board 2014-03 of 7 November.

→ TM: to ask the neutrino PIs to provide the document by Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October

## **12. EPPCN coordinator**

OS reports that not much progress has been done on this issue. MT and Hans Peter Beck still have to better define the work package. H.P. Beck shall also clarify with Benedikt Vogel, whether he has interest to act as the EPPCN coordinator and to which conditions. RW wonders if this could not be part of the AGORA request. OS explains that the EPPCN is in contact with the media for CERN, which is not exactly an outreach activity. OS also mentions again the option of a possible support to be asked more formally to SERI, but thinks that we shall first clarify the open issues listed above.

## **13. CHAPS: astronomy roadmap**

TM reports about follow-up discussions she had in relation to the lack of support to CTA in the “astronomy roadmap” document. She and OS met Georges Meylan, the chair of CHAPS, who understands the point, but invokes historical reasons for not considering CTA as a priority for astronomy. TM also had e-mail exchanges with Willy Benz (editor of the roadmap), who decided to add a clear statement in the document that CTA is not covered in the present roadmap. This was apparently already the case in the previous roadmap for the current Cherenkov telescope arrays MAGIC and HESS. The EB takes note of this and that CHAPS has apparently a very strict definition of astronomy and astrophysics by excluding a facility such as CTA, which benefits from a very strong support in Europe through ApPEC. The poor representation of astroparticle physicists in CHAPS was also briefly mentioned, in particular, the problem that TM and Andrii Neronov (SNSF professor) have not been nominated to be CHAPS members. TM is encouraged to seek CHAPS membership.

→ TM/OS: to make sure that the CTA situation is properly explained at the Round Table International

## **14. IUPAP nominations**

OS reminds that the Board members with voting right have been contacted on 15 July to quickly collect nominations of Swiss candidates to become members of the commissions of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP). This resulted in the nomination of three candidates: Antonio Ereditato (Bern) and Xin Wu (Geneva) for the C4 commission on astroparticle physics, and Florencia Canelli (Zurich) for the C11 commission on particles and fields. OS transmitted the three nominations on 23 July 2014 to Minh Quang Tran, the new SPS president and IUPAP contact person, and to Cecilia Jarlskog, president of IUPAP.

## **15. Agora request**

OS mentions the submission by 15 August of the SNSF Agora request “Interactions II: Swiss particle physicists strengthen their dialogue with society” by Hans Peter Beck with OS as co-applicant. The project is for 20 months (from February 2015 till September 2016) and amounts to almost 200 kCHF.

## **16. Status of future meetings**

- Zuoz Summer School, 17-23 August 2014, Zuoz, Engadin: ask Adrian Signer for feedback.
- CHIPP PhD Winter School, 18–23 January 2015: see item 8 above.
- CHIPP Plenary 2015: see item 7 above.
- CHIPP Strategy Workshop on the High-Energy Frontier, early 2016: see item 8 above.

## **17. A.O.B.**

Two items were briefly discussed: the signature of the addenda to the construction Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the upgrade of the LHC experiments and the short list for the election of the next CERN DG. OS and RW discussed the first item sharing views on how this has to be handled as the money in the end shall come from SNSF via FLARE. Concerning the second point OS mentioned that the search committee has established a short list of three candidates. The next steps are votes by the CERN Council and OS mentions that, as CERN Council delegate, he would like to collect opinions from the Board members on these candidates. This was found to be pertinent by the other EB members.

The Chair closes the meeting at 18:00