

Minutes of the EB meeting 2014-06 on 13 October 2014

Time/place of the meeting: Monday, 13 October 2014, 10:30-13:30, CERN room 2-1-034 (building 2, 1st floor, south end) Map: <https://maps.cern.ch/mapsearch/mapsearch.htm?n=%5B%27%27%5D>

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

The Chair opens the meeting at 10:35.

1. Agenda

The agenda is agreed, but with items 8 and 9 left aside to be treated at the end, if time permits.

2. Apologies

None, but GC and RW attended via Skype.

A. Administrative items

3. Minutes of the last meeting (2014-05 [25 August 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 just mentions the action to send a letter to inform about the ACCU election (Plenary 2014–2.2) is to be done based on a draft letter provided by MT.

5. Next EB meetings

- 2014-07: Monday, 27 October 2014, 12:45, ETH-Rat, Bern (confirmed)
- 2014-08: Friday, 28 November 2014, 10:15, ETH-Rat, Bern (moved)

The 2014-07 meeting was confirmed. The 2014-08 meeting originally foreseen at 13:45 was moved to the morning at 10:15 because of an extraordinary assembly of the SCNAT delegates in the afternoon, which should be attended by OS. This will be the last EB meeting of the year with Adrian Signer to be invited and followed by a lunch.

→ MT: to invite Adrian Signer to EB 2014-08 and arrange for a lunch

B. Items for discussion

6. Budget 2015

OS presents the budget line-by-line. He mentions that in this year's update, MT extracted the "carry over from previous years" from the "Income" and moved this information to a new "Balance" part as "Asset at start of the year". OS suggests adding a line for the CHIPP part (~5000 CHF) of the funding of a Swiss EPPCN member instead of the unspecified 1000 CHF for Outreach. This is agreed. Teresa suggests reducing the amount foreseen for the CHIPP PhD School to 12'000 CHF, as for the Zuoz school and the strategic workshops. This is also agreed, even more so given the fact that we got strong indications from SCNAT MAP platform that they will only grant 10'000 CHF, instead of the 12'000 CHF requested.

→ MT: to update the budget table for final agreement at EB 2014-07

7. Preparation of the Board meeting

OS fixes the time of the next Board meeting to 9:45 to have enough time before noon, even if TM would then

likely have to skip the beginning. One of the main items on the agenda is the discussion of the neutrino White Paper. Besides the vote on the budget of 2015, there will also be a number of elections due. One is the election of the scientific delegate to the ApPEC General Assembly. Asked by OS, TM states that she stands for re-election. There is thus no need to do a call for candidates. The other EB members agree to propose to the Board the re-election of TM. TM mentions that Paul Burkhard representing the SNSF is the second Swiss delegate to the General Assembly of ApPEC. Tristan Maillard will succeed him for the future. Another election is due for the representative and observer of astro-particle physics (ApP) in LA FLARE. If TM will be re-elected as the ApPEC scientific delegate, she would then also stay as the observer in LA FLARE. It is agreed to ask Martin Pohl if he stands for re-election as the ApP representative with voting right. If he agrees to stand for re-election this would take place at the Board 2014-03. If not, a call shall be issued for candidates in view of an election at the Board 2015-01. It is decided that MT prepares the draft of the agenda of the Board 2014-03 to be finalized and approved at the next EB.

→ MT: to send a reminder for finalisation of the neutrino White Paper for the 23rd October

→ MT: to ask Martin Pohl whether he is ready to serve a second term in LA FLARE

→ MT: to send out the invitation to the Board with the main points of the agenda

→ MT: to prepare the draft agenda of the Board 2014-03 for the next EB

8. Presentation at Round Table International

This item was treated at the end of the meeting. OS mentions that he prepared some slides already. He then quickly presents what he wants to show. He would present the three pillars of CHIPP, namely particle physics, ApP and neutrinos. He proposes that TM could maybe present the part on ApP. He notes that the high-energy frontier part is unchanged since last summer. It is still the highest priority in the European strategy and while the Phase I upgrade is settled with defined funding, the funding of the Phase II upgrade is not secured yet. CHIPP is hoping for an increase in funding (e.g. via FLARE) to have this secured in 2017–2020. The chair's report would then also mention the Swiss implication in the FCC study, in particular via Lenny Rivkin, and note the current lack of support from the SNSF. The presentation is stopped due to lack of time after the mention of the launch of the CERN "neutrino platform" and will be resumed at the EB 2014-07.

→ OS: to complete his presentation and to circulate the slides prior to EB 2014-07

9. Presentation at LA FLARE

This item was put aside because of lack of time. It will be discussed during EB 2014-07.

10. ECFA Chair election

OS introduces the topic by reminding that he has been approached by Lenny Rivkin who asked for some CHIPP feedback or advice before the election of the chair of the European Committee for Future Accelerators (ECFA) to take place at the restricted ECFA (RECFA) meeting on 8 November. After discussing with Lenny, OS decided to consult with the CHIPP EB members, the Swiss representatives to the plenary ECFA, and recent former Swiss members of the restricted ECFA. OS therefore sent a message to these people with the CVs and statements of the four candidates standing for election. OS invites the EB members to give their feedback and discuss on the candidates. From the various inputs received, OS determines a ranking. The EB members share the opinion that the first candidate in this list has full support.

→ OS: to summarize the result of the consultation for Lenny Rivkin

11. Signing of contract for Plenary 2015

OS presents the contract received from the Château de Bossey for the 2015 Plenary from June 29 to July 1. All 90 rooms are reserved, 43 with private bathroom at 139 CHF per night and 47 with a sink but with a shared bathroom on the floor at 89 CHF. This is no more correctly specified in the last contract and needs to be reintroduced. For residents, there is an additional fee per day for meals (lunch and dinner) and coffee breaks at 65 CHF. For non-resident, MT could obtain a reduced fee of 47 CHF per day (without breakfast and dinner) instead of 55 CHF in the original contract. OS makes the calculations for 3 days/2 nights all inclusive and arrives in the range 390–490 CHF, which is more expensive than Sursee in 2013 (402 CHF), but less than Ittingen in 2012 (566 CHF). TM notes also that the conditions for late changes are very convenient. The question whether CHIPP can get the registration money and then make a unique block payment was discussed. It was concluded that this would be difficult to do and actually was never done in the past. It is thus important to ask that each participant can pay separately and get an individual bill for reimbursement. Once this is settled, it is agreed that the contract can be signed.

→ MT: to ask for a corrected contract and for individual payments

12. Signing of a letter to support T2K

OS reminds about the initiative of Alain Blondel to write a letter of support for the Tokai-to-Kamioka (T2K) experiment, which is lacking about 50% of Japanese funding for full operations in 2015. OS asks for feedback on the draft letter to be addressed to the Deputy Minister of the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport, Science and Technology (MEXT). The letter would be co-signed by Alain Blondel, Antonio Ereditato, André Rubbia and OS as CHIPP Chair. GC notes that the letter could be better written and that some points are not stated clearly enough. RW thinks that some parts are a bit too direct by emphasising all what Switzerland is doing and pointing out problems in Japan. This could be badly perceived and thus the letter could be counter-productive. TM also finds the text too long and not so well written. She wonders why it has the letterhead of the University of Geneva. It would be better to have a CHIPP letter co-signed by OS and the three neutrino PIs. This is agreed after some more discussion on the content and format. After the meeting, in discussion with OS, MT volunteered to provide within 24 hours a draft for a shorter CHIPP letter taking into account the main comments from the EB.

→ OS: to inform the neutrino PIs about the EB proposition to prepare a CHIPP letter

→ MT: to provide a draft of a modified letter with CHIPP letterhead

13. Request for funding of an open access initiative for ApP

OS informs that Maurice Bourquin contacted him concerning an open access publishing initiative for astroparticle physics (ApP). A mandate is being finalised with the "haute école de gestion" of Geneva at the level of 32 kCHF to have somebody to do a preliminary study on the possibility of an open access agreement in the field of ApP. This could be based on the model of the Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics (SCOAP3). Maurice Bourquin asked OS informally if CHIPP could participate to the funding of this initiative. OS reminds that establishing SCOAP3 was a long process and involves the financial support from CERN to enforce publishers to provide open access publications. He thinks that it is a good idea, but that CHIPP has not the budget and a strong enough interest to participate to the funding. GC thinks that it is indeed only the start of a long process and CHIPP is not going to solve this issue. TM quickly checked and found that SCOAP3 is already listing also some journals more oriented towards ApP. To conclude, OS proposes to answer that CHIPP has priorities that will not allow a financial support of this initiative given the limited resources of the association. This is agreed.

→ OS: to answer the message by Maurice Bourquin

14. CHIPP website on SCNAT platform

OS invites MT to report about his training session held on 5 September in Bern on the new website platform, which SCNAT provides to affiliated organisations such as CHIPP. MT reports on the provided infrastructures, which would be an opportunity to redesign and migrate the CHIPP website currently hosted by ETHZ. The inclusion and proper filling of meta data for all documents and images into a database prior to be displayed on a webpage is relatively cumbersome and time consuming. Nevertheless, the platform is easy to use and new functionalities are being developed to be ready by end of October. MT and OS mention that there is a quite strong push from SCNAT to have CHIPP, and other similar organisations, using the new infrastructure for developing and hosting their website. Ideally, SCNAT would like to have the new web platform ready by the end of the year, in time for the bicentennial of 2015. OS thinks that the outreach website "particlephysics.ch" is not likely to be moved in a near future, but that the CHIPP organisational website could be moved. We could at least start with an entry point on the SCNAT page and then link to the current CHIPP page as a temporary solution. GC favours the later approach as he thinks that CHIPP will lose too much of its identity by being only under the SCNAT platform. TM has an opposite view and thinks CHIPP will gain visibility through the SCNAT portal. RW thinks that there should be a significant improvement to make the effort of developing the site on the SCNAT platform. OS proposes MT to go on with the preparation of one or two sample pages for EB 2014-07 and a list of pro and counter arguments. The EB would then decide whether or not to add this on the agenda of the Board 2014-03.

→ MT: to prepare a couple of sample web pages and a list of pro and counter arguments

15. Meeting dates for 2015

OS notes the need to define the dates of the EB and Board meetings of 2015. He proposes to define suitable dates with MT in order to have him prepare a Doodle to fix the dates. GC would not need to fill the poll, but

Adrian Signer shall be involved. RW mentions that on Monday afternoons he has usually another meeting. TM mentions teaching duties on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, but this is currently fixed only for about a month during next semester. After the meeting OS and MT defined the best possible dates to propose.
→ MT: to prepare and send around a Doodle with the possible dates

C. Items for information

16. SCNAT funding request 2015

OS reminds the information received from Christian Preiswerk from SCNAT that the funding will not be granted for the Strategy Workshop on High-Energy Particle Physics in Switzerland (SWHEPPS) foreseen for the first part of 2016. The workshop will have strong support in 2016 but it cannot be on the 2015 budget of SCNAT. Apart from this TM reports also a cut in attributed funding for the CHIPP PhD Winter School (10 kCHF granted instead of 12 kCHF asked), while the request of 4 kCHF for the outreach project "Dialogue" has been granted. These preliminary numbers are based on the SCNAT budget shown at the MAP meeting of 30 September (where CHIPP was represented by TM). They are usually confirmed only quite late, in April of the next year.

→ MT: to inform Vincenzo Chiochia and Hans Peter Beck about the likely granted support

17. FLARE M&O request 2015

OS quickly mentions that the preparation for the FLARE M&O request of 2015 due for 15 November has started and that MT is waiting for the inputs asked for the ATLAS, CMS and LHCb experiments. Final numbers for the request are released this week at the meeting of the LHC Resources Review Boards (RRB).

18. Swiss EPPCN Member

OS mentions that MT has prepared a little document summarising the tasks and the options towards finding a suitable candidate to act as the Swiss EPPCN Member. He also mentions that Hans Peter Beck has re-contacted Benedikt Vogel to see if he would still be interested by this activity and to which financial conditions. B. Vogel's position is basically unchanged since 2013, when his estimate of the sum of the related expenses reached about 20 kCHF. OS notes that his e-mail answer suggests that he is not so much motivated by filling this position. MT proposes to maybe contact the journalists of Swiss reference media, as was done for the search of the moderator for the CERN 60-year panel discussion. RW is a bit worried about a conflict of interest, as journalists should report on particle physics in an unbiased way. As there is no clear solution emerging yet, OS proposes to invite H. P. Beck to the next EB meeting.

→ MT: to invite Hans Peter Beck to discuss the issue at EB 2014-07

19. Status of future meetings

- CHIPP PhD Winter School, 18–23 January 2015, Grindelwald: see item 16 above.
- SUGAR 2015: Searching for the sources of galactic cosmic rays, 21–23 January 2015, Geneva: not discussed.
- CHIPP Plenary 2015, 29 June – 1st July 2015, Château de Bossey, GE: see item 11 above.
- SWEPPS 2016: Strategy Workshop on High-Energy Particle Physics in Switzerland, early 2016: see item 16 above.

20. A.O.B.

MT suggests OS to give an update on the process towards the election of the next CERN DG. OS accepts and reports briefly about the status. He mentions that the CERN Council has approved the three candidates and that a straw vote by the CERN Council will take place on 4 November. He also reports briefly on the outcome of the consultation of the CHIPP Board members.

The Chair closes the meeting at 13:50

16 October 2014

written by: Marc Türlér

approved by: Olivier Schneider