

## Minutes of the EB meeting 2016-02 on 11 March 2016

**Time/place of the meeting:** Friday, 11 March 2016, 12:15, SCNAT room “Jungfrau”, Laupenstrasse 7, Bern  
**Present:** Günther Dissertori (GD), Teresa Montaruli (TM), Tatsuya Nakada (TN, Chair), Adrian Signer (AS), Marc Türlér (MT, Secretary)

### 1. Agenda

The agenda is agreed with the addition proposed by TN to discuss the MAP Platform meeting in item 13.

### 2. Apologies

None.

### A. Administrative items

#### 3. Minutes of the last meeting (2016-01) ([→ document](#))

The minutes are approved with thanks to the writer.

#### 4. List of Actions

TN goes through the list of actions. The old action 2014-03 – 4.1 on the factsheets is agreed to be withdrawn, since there is now the plan to provide information on CHIPP projects on the new SCNAT thematic portal on particle physics. The open action 2015-08 – 4.2 on the representation of the funding agencies in the US neutrino programme is discussed. It is felt a bit problematic to have SNSF and SERI delegating their representation to Antonio Ereditato, who is directly involved in the US projects. TM suggests that maybe TN could become the Swiss representative in his role of CHIPP Chair. TN sees the need of further discussion and suggests keeping the action as “on-going”.

#### 5. Next EB meetings

- 2016-03: Friday, 15 April 2016, 12:15, SCNAT, Bern

This is still fine and confirmed. For the next meeting, GD suggests the 20<sup>th</sup> of May at 12:15. This is agreed. Fixing a meeting in June was more difficult. The week of 20 June has CMS meetings at CERN. A possibility would thus be to have the meeting in Geneva on Tuesday, 21 June at 11:15 at the DPNC. TM offers to look for a suitable room.

→ TM: to reserve a room at the DPNC in Geneva for the EB meeting of 21 June

### B. Items for discussion

#### 6. Status of the RECFA country visit

GD suggests contacting the ETHZ rector, Prof. Sarah Springman, to give the welcome talk. This is agreed. TN reports on his discussion with Xavier Reymond (SERI). The State Secretary, Dr Mauro Dell’Ambrogio, will try to stay until lunch to allow for discussions. He will speak about international infrastructures with emphasis on particle physics. Xavier will prepare a first draft based on the SERI roadmap, the presentation and conclusions of the last RECFA visit, etc. TN mentions that he will present CHIPP and the positive evolution of FORCE into FLARE, although funding is not increasing so quickly as could be wished. Concerning the following talks, Lea Caminada is in contact with the Swiss LHC community and things are progressing well. The speakers for neutrinos and astro-particles are also identified, but not yet for the talk on theory activities. Roberto Contino declined being too busy with teaching. Two other possibilities from EPFL are Francesco Riva – who however left EPFL for CERN, and is no more a CHIPP member – and Sergey Sibiryakov. AS notes that S. Sibiryakov is probably not yet very well known in the Swiss theoretical community, whereas F.

Riva is better known and still a collaborator of Riccardo Rattazzi. It is decided that TN tries to have one of the two candidates accepting to give the talk. Since the presentations of the afternoon are all under control, the last open issue is the student's talk. There are two candidates proposed by Board members. Because one of the candidates is only in its first year of PhD, it is decided to rather ask Martti Nirkko from Bern to give the talk. The fact that there are already two other speakers from Bern was not found to be a problem, since Hans Peter Beck is giving his talk based on his function as the leader of the Outreach group. TN then reads some of the conclusions of the RECFA report of the last visit, asking for improvements on outreach and education. GD wishes to have the programme finalised on-line very soon to send out the invitation to all CHIPP members with a deadline to register set just before Easter to the 24<sup>th</sup> of March. Concerning the financial aspects, GD notes that Lenny Rivkin should be in contact with SERI. The price for dinner and catering is of the order of 6000 CHF altogether, counting about 40 people for dinner. Including the RECFA lunch of Saturday and other expenses, the total costs will be close to 10 kCHF. SERI is expected to contribute about half of this and the rest will be covered by the ETHZ (both by the department of physics and the institute of particle physics), and by CHIPP. Concerning the more practical issues, GD is willing to take care of handling the slides of the presentations. MT is welcome to join, but is not really needed, except maybe to take notes of the feedback from RECFA.

- TN: to find the speaker for the talk on theory activities
- TN: to contact Martti Nirkko for the student's talk
- GD: to finalise the programme on the website and invite speakers
- MT: to draft out and send the invitation to all CHIPP members

## **7. Strategy concerning funding issues**

TN introduces the topic by mentioning that the FLARE funding has now been received for 2016 and that the FLARE tables can be updated. TM proposes to ask for an update of the CHIPP tables in May, in order to have a good overview for the next Board meeting. GD mentions that the ETH Board is meeting this week and that some indications concerning the funding of the Phase II upgrade of CMS should follow soon. Concerning the Phase II upgrade of ATLAS, TN suggests TM to contact Giuseppe Iacobucci about possible further funding from Geneva. The discussion then turned to GERDA. GD mentions that the collaboration is trying to get more funding from Switzerland and more involvement from Swiss physicists. The GERDA collaboration tries to get the funding now for the 200-kg detector with the need of around 15-20 millions mostly from European countries. In a more distant future, the funding needed for the 1-ton experiment could come mostly from the US. AS notes that PSI is currently saturated with many on-going projects, while TN thinks that double-beta decay is interesting physics, but that it is not so easy to involve people. TM confirms that it is part of the APPEC priorities, but rather on a longer timescale (for the next decade) than direct Dark Matter searches and CTA.

- TM: to contact Giuseppe Iacobucci about possible ATLAS funding from Geneva

## **8. Call for EB and ECFA candidates**

It is confirmed that Adrian is staying for a second mandate and that Teresa wishes to get replaced at the end of her second term. The EB call for one EB candidate should have a deadline a week before the EB of May or of June to be able to discuss the nominations. The aim is to open the calls by early May for both the EB and the ECFA. With the mention of the profile of the current EB members, it will be implicit that we rather look for somebody in the area of neutrino or astroparticle physics.

- MT: to prepare the calls for nominations by early May

## **9. PhD / Postdoc days (TASK session)**

MT mentions the e-mail received from Hans Peter Beck concerning the TASK session at the next SPS annual meeting, which is used to host the CHIPP PhD/Postdoc days. The opening of abstracts should follow soon, in "mid-March", with a deadline set to 30 April 2016. AS reminds that there will not be many theorists attending because of the simultaneous theory group meeting in Zurich (see EB 2016-01, item 9). TN suggests the EB to offer help with the evaluation of the abstracts and the preparation of the programme. This would then be done in early May.

- MT: to announce the opening of registration and abstract submission
- MT: to contact Hans Peter Beck concerning abstract reviewing

## 10. CHIPP membership in IPPOG

TN introduces the topic by reminding the e-mail from Hans Peter Beck (9. February) stating that the International Particle Physics Outreach Group (IPPOG) is on its verge to become a collaboration on its own. A MoU document is under preparation and is to be formally accepted in a meeting in Cracow in May. IPPOG members will be nationwide organisations active in particle physics and, therefore, CHIPP should naturally become the Swiss member of IPPOG. This would then also imply a membership fee of the order of 3-4 kCHF. TN's opinion is that that this has to be addressed by the Board and we should get formal Board approval to join IPPOG. If agreed, we should then see how we pay this. CHIPP has some reserves, but it will disappear over years. Finding an external funding source is not so easy according to GD: SNSF will not fund, neither a foundation. It remains SERI, which will likely point us to SCNAT, which has outreach as one of its missions. TN suggests contacting Jürg Pfister, the SCNAT observer in CHIPP, once we have the MoU.

## C. Items for information

### 11. Outreach on new SCNAT portal for “particlephysics.ch”

MT unfortunately cannot show the preview of the new SCNAT portal where “particlephysics.ch” has been ported to, because the provided preview link has expired. He reports that all the articles, which have been selected by Hans Peter Beck to be kept, have been migrated. The next step is to include a teaser text on the front page and an “impressum” before getting on-line. Concerning the funding, SCNAT confirmed in a letter dated on March 8<sup>th</sup> that 6 kCHF have been attributed to the continuation of the “Dialog” funding. This is less than the 10 kCHF expected as a baseline for the funding of new articles for the 2016 outreach activities of CHIPP approved by the Board. Hans Peter Beck promised to clarify the issue with Marcel Falk (SCNAT)<sup>1</sup>.

### 12. Status of future meetings

- RECFA country visit 2016, 1–2 April 2016, ETH Zurich: see item 6 above.
- SWHEPPS 2016, 7–9 June 2016, Ägerisee, ZG: there will be a videoconference on 23 March to decide on open issues concerning the programme, the invitations, etc.
- Zuoz Summer School 2016, 14–20 August 2016, Zuoz, GR: early registration deadline on May 1<sup>st</sup>.  
→ MT: to send a reminder for the Zuoz registration in the second half of April
- Joint SPS/CHIPP annual plenary 2016, 22–25 August 2016, Lugano, TI (see item 9 above)
- PSI 2016 workshop on Physics, Symmetries and Interactions, 17–20 October 2016, PSI: AS reports that speakers have been invited and that most accepted.  
→ MT: to add the PSI 2016 poster on the CHIPP and SCNAT websites
- CHIPP PhD Winter School 2017, January 2017: Florencia Canelli is expected to work on this with some inputs sent by TM.

### 13. A.O.B.

TN mentions the meeting of the SCNAT MAP Platform on Wednesday, 23 March at 14:15. He needs to lecture in the afternoon and asks if somebody could replace him. Asked about the agenda, he notes in particular the short status report that is given by CHIPP and the other organisations, a more scientific talk on nuclear fusion experiments by Prof. Minh Quang Tran (EPFL), and the evaluation of science activities in large collaborations and infrastructures. The latter is based on an article by Prof. Herwig Schopper (CERN DG in the 1980s) and raises in particular the question on the rating of universities. One of the concerns is the exclusion of publications with more than 1000 co-authors from the rating. TN notes that ATLAS and CMS papers are obviously concerned, but also some papers on genomics. The EPS-HEPP Board discussed the issue. TN thinks that the impact can be quite high for small universities, but should remain moderate for larger ones. There is, however, the danger that particle physics will be less funded because it will not help to increase the ranking of the universities. A short discussion followed on the usefulness of ranking, leading to some agreement that a gross ranking is important, but not the exact rank. As nobody from the EB was available to attend the MAP meeting, TN suggests sending a few slides, but GD proposes MT to represent CHIPP. As MT is available, this is agreed.

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<sup>1</sup> In a message of 16 March, H. P. Beck reports from his discussion with Marcel Falk that the 6 kCHF is the MAP-Platform funding that is to be complemented by 4 kCHF reserved by SCNAT for CHIPP outreach via a different budget line. A written confirmation of this extra funding is expected.

→ MT: to attend the MAP Platform meeting on behalf of TN

The Chair closes the meeting at 14:25.

11 April 2016

written by: Marc Türler  
approved by: Tatsuya Nakada