

Minutes of the EB meeting 2016-07 on 30 November 2016

Time/place of the meeting: Wednesday, 30 November 2016, 14:00, SCNAT (room Jungfrau), Laupenstrasse 7, Bern

Present: Günther Dissertori (GD), Teresa Montaruli (TM), Tatsuya Nakada (TN, Chair), Adrian Signer (AS), Marc Türlér (MT, Secretary)

Guest: Michele Weber (MW) as new EB member as from 1st January 2017

The meeting is *preceded* by the traditional EB lunch at 12:15 in the restaurant Oishii (sushi & grill), Aarberggasse 57, Bern.

1. Agenda

The agenda is approved with TN's suggestion to add a short discussion on the funding of the Nuclear Physics European Collaboration Committee (NuPECC) (see item 16 below).

2. Apologies

None

A. Administrative items

3. Minutes of the last meeting (2016-06) ([→ document](#))

The minutes are approved with two slight modifications and with thanks to MT.

4. List of Actions

TN suggests keeping the action 2014-06 – 14 on the FLARE discussion with Stéphane Udry on-going. Related to action 2016-06 – 8.2 to discuss the Tier-2 computing with Christoph Grab, TN notes that there is currently a lot of activity and funding on Big Data. He feels that particle physics is not so active in participating to this evolution. He wonders if there is the need to widen the mandate of the Computing Board on these aspects. GD suggests contacting Grab and he could ask help by Thomas Schulthess, director of the Centro Svizzero di Calcolo Scientifico (CSCS). TM reminds the attempts of contacts back in September for looking at synergies with the astrophysical community and in particular related to CTA. In view of the not too distant retirement of Grab (2020) it is briefly discussed who could help or take up the link with the astrophysical community and discuss the long-term evolution of computing on the national level. TN suggests GD to come up with possible names for the next EB. Concerning action 2016-06 – 16, TM mentions that it would be good to have gender information from the CHIPP database before the Gender in Physics meeting of January 2017.

→ GD: to suggest names to discuss the Swiss long-term computing evolution

5. Next EB meetings

The EB discusses possible week-days for EB meetings in 2017. In general Monday and Friday afternoons seem to be the most convenient to everybody. EB 2017-01 is set to Monday, 20 February 2017 at 13:15 and EB 2017-02 to Monday, April 10th at 13:15. The first Board meeting of 2017 shall be defined by a Doodle poll proposing Mondays and Fridays of March.

→ MT: to prepare a Doodle to set the Board 2017-01 meeting in March

B. Items for discussion

6. FLARE prioritization talk

TN mentions that Patrick Vonlanthen (SNSF) asked for the CHIPP FLARE table. It is agreed to send him a table with the expected FLARE requests 2017-2020 as shown and available in the documents of the CHIPP Board 2016-03. An updated table can be sent later on, when all inputs from PIs will be received. TN will prepare the slides for his introductory presentation at the FLARE panel meeting of 19-20 January 2017. The content and style is briefly discussed, as well as some considerations on possible funding cuts and future issues. It is agreed that the style can be conventional given the scientific audience of the FLARE panel. Emphasis shall be put on the three pillars of CHIPP, the definition of the strategy in the roadmap and white papers and the continuous discussion of priorities as an effective "self-moderation" process.

→ TN: to provide a table of CHIPP FLARE requests to Patrick Vonlanthen (SNSF)

→ TN: to provide draft slides to the EB for comments by mid-January

7. Date and main items of Board 2017-01

The date will be fixed by a Doodle (see item 5 above). The outcome of the FLARE evaluation shall be known soon before 1st of April. Depending on the date this could be known just before or after the Board meeting. It is suggested to discuss computing issues at the Board. Another item is to launch the Pillar 1 White Paper (WP) writing process. TN notes that he provided his contribution to the SWHEPPS summary document to Lenny Rivkin, who should then send the missing inputs to Rainer Wallny for completion. GD wonders if the Board shall endorse the WP redaction process and timeline. TN notes that the CERN strategy is expected for late spring 2020, so 2019 would be the year when the strategy will be discussed. Our Swiss contribution shall thus come by early 2019. This means that CHIPP could have one or possibly even two workshops in 2018 to discuss and prepare this. With this in mind, GD suggests to have the WP written by the end of 2017 to follow-up with the Roadmap update in 2018. TN agrees and suggests Wallny to present the completed SWHEPPS summary at the Board meeting and a schedule towards completion of the WP by the end of 2017. This shall then get approbation by the Board to go on. It is realised that it is already at this Board meeting that we should discuss the possible workshops of 2018 to be in time for submitting in August the funding requests to SCNAT. The question of the timing, the number of workshops (one or two) and whether to have distinct conveners per pillar is briefly discussed. TN thinks that September 2018 would be good to reflect on results in the summer conferences. AS suggests having the same subgroups we had in SWHEPPS and thus a total of some 10 conveners. If two workshops are preferred, TN suggests durations of 2-3 days, one in May and one in October. He also notes that one shall not forget the inclusion of the Swiss Centre for Accelerator Research and Technology (CHART), which is mostly related to Pillar 1. It is agreed to discuss this again at the next EB.

8. CHIPP Annual Plenary 2017

TN reminds that the next annual Plenary will be a joint meeting with the SPS, as this year, but held in August at CERN and this time also with the Austrian Physical Society (ÖPG). Austria has one institute active in high-energy physics and they are interested to see how we work. TN therefore suggests the CHIPP formal Plenary meeting to be open to everybody, as it was actually already somehow the case this year in Lugano. The EB agrees that there is no problem with this as long as only CHIPP members vote. Concerning the TASK session it will be together with the Austrians and will most probably also include more senior speakers. The TASK session in 2017 would thus not be the PhD/Postdoc Days we usually have every second year. TN notes that Andreas Schopper will be the new TASK session leader in 2017 succeeding to Hans Peter Beck.

9. Swiss representative in ESFRI

TN reports from the Round Table International (RTI) meeting of the MAP Platform held on 10 November 2016 the need of replacement in the coming year of the two representatives of Switzerland in the strategic working group Physical Sciences and Engineering (PSE). Kurt Clausen is retiring in 2017 and Rafael Abela will continue for one more year in this working group. Abela, who was present at the RTI, noted that the discussions are now more on astro-particle than in the past and it would be good to have a successor with expertise in this field. Hans-Rudolph Ott (SCNAT) mentioned at the meeting that suggestions shall be made at the next RTI meeting in Spring 2017. TN proposes to discuss with Ott how to suggest possible candidates. TM notes that besides the coming evaluation of CTA, DARWIN will likely apply to the next ESFRI call.

→ TN: to discuss with Hans-Rudolf Ott the procedure for nominations

C. Items for information

10. News from the RTI meeting

In addition to the issue discussed in item 9 above, TN reports that the RTI meeting was for the first time expanded to other fields than astronomy and particle physics. Hans-Rudolf Ott, the Chair, asked to make an effort to use this forum to discuss the various international organisations and research infrastructures. Besides the usual reports, it included a first discussion on the start of the process for the next update of the SERI roadmap (2021-2024). Patrice Soom (SERI) informed that a letter has already been sent to the president of the Swissuniversities (formerly CRUS) and to the ETH Board. The idea is that stakeholders should submit their list of priorities via the ETH-Domain und Swissuniversities in 2017. TN mentions his intervention at the meeting to ask that communities can also express their priorities directly. CHIPP would be one such community, which has globally different priorities than individual universities would have. Bruno Moor (SERI) was receptive to this comment, and will try to look into possibilities allowing communities to give inputs.

11. Report from PSI 2016 workshop

AS reports that the workshop on Physics of fundamental Symmetries and Interactions (PSI) held at PSI the week of 16-20 October 2016 was a success. It welcomed about 170 participants, 60 talks, 60 posters and covered fields from muon physics to ultra-cold neutrons. The meeting takes place every 3 years and this was the 4th edition. A short discussion followed on the impact of the workshop on the high-luminosity muon beam project. MT reminds that there is a CHIPP support of 1500 CHF in the budget and asks if it will be needed. AS still has to discuss this with other organisers based on the financial results. He notes that in two years, we could also ask SCNAT for some support to the PSI workshop.

12. CH representative in new CERN Thematic Forum on education

As a follow-up to item 10 of EB 2016-06, TN reports that he discussed the issue with Hans Peter Beck and CERN. He came to the conclusion that a high-school teacher is not the best profile for this representation. Andreas Müller, a professor for pedagogy in physics at the University of Geneva was identified as a good candidate. He agreed to be the Swiss representative in the new CERN Thematic Forum on education and his name was transferred to CERN. TN wishes to meet him and keep contact via possible reports at CHIPP EB or Board meetings.

13. CERN visit by SERI on 21 November 2016

TN mentions that GD forwarded him the programme of the SERI visit on 21 November 2016. Peter Jenni and Hans Peter Beck were the main contacts on site for this rather informal visit of CERN organized by Martin Steinacher (CERN). TN notes that he contacted Steinacher to suggest him a broader representation of the Swiss groups with also somebody from CMS and LHCb.

14. Other news

GD reports that the FLARE LHC M&O request has been submitted as planned. There have been some issues with the database at SNSF requiring all PIs to resubmit the requested amounts. MT informs that he attended the 20th EPPCN meeting held at CERN on 17-18 November 2016. The news, announced at ICHEP 2016, that the 750-GeV bump seen in 2015 data was a statistical fluctuation was a deception for journalists. Other news, sometimes far from the science conducted at CERN, went into the media¹. MT finally mentions that the letters for collecting CHIPP membership fees have been prepared for signature by TN today.

15. Status of future meetings

- CHIPP PhD Winter School 2017, 13–18 February 2017, Sörenberg, LU
Florenca Canelli provided slides for the EB, which are presented orally. There have been much more registrations than anticipated, but many of them were not accepted because coming from outside Europe and requesting full support once contacted. Many of them were also not PhD students but either undergraduates or postdocs. The remaining 27 participants are mainly PhD students from Switzerland (only one from MPI Munich). TN wonders how to cope with such “fake” registrations. AS notes that this is usual and also happens for the Zuoz Summer School. He suggests just sending an e-mail stating that the organisers cannot provide support.

¹ For a compilation and links, see: <http://www.naturwissenschaften.ch/topics/particlephysics/media>

- Gender in Physics Day 2017, 26 January 2017, Geneva
TM notes that there is no registration yet from CHIPP. She suggests MT to send out a reminder around Christmas.
→ MT: to send a reminder for registration to the Gender in Physics Day 2017
- CHIPP Annual Plenary 2017, 22–24 August 2017, Geneva. See item 8 above.

16. A.O.B.

TN reports on his contact with Tristan Maillard (SNSF) about the end of the funding of NuPECC. This relates to the fact that previous funding of NuPECC went through the European Science Foundation (ESF), which ceased to exist. SNSF decided for 2017 to stop contributing in any follow-up organisation with the same ESF name. Bernd Krusche, the Swiss NuPECC representative, has been informed of this, but he did not contact CHIPP directly. TN mentions also that Klaus Kirch and Friedrich Thielemann got a bit worried that Switzerland would leave NuPECC because of lack of funding. AS adds that NuPECC has indeed a broader scope than what we can think at first glance and that this is relevant for CHIPP. According to TN, there could be a possibility for SNSF to directly fund NuPECC without going through ESF. For this to happen, there should however be significant support from the CHIPP Board. He therefore suggests contacting the relevant CHIPP members to produce a position paper on the importance of NuPECC for Switzerland, which can then be presented to the Board.

→ TN: to ask relevant CHIPP members to write a position paper on NuPECC in Switzerland

→ MT: to put the NuPECC funding issue on the list of Board agenda items

At the preceding EB lunch, TN thanked TM for her active participation in the EB over the last four years and welcomed MW as new EB member starting in 2017.

The Chair closes the meeting at 16:15.

31 January 2017

written by: Marc Türlér

approved by: Tatsuya Nakada