

## Minutes of the Board meeting 2020-03 on 15 October 2020

Time of the meeting: Thursday, 15 October, 9h00-12h30

Place of the meeting: ZOOM

Indico link: <https://indico.cern.ch/event/952661/>

### 1. Welcome and agenda

Rainer Wallny<sup>1</sup>, the CHIPP chair, welcomes the Board members, the honorary Board members and the observers at the Board. The agenda is approved with the addition of the presentation of the two Swiss FCC-ee Workshops organisation by Florencia Canelli and Anna Sfyrlla.

### ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

#### 2. Apologies and Proxy votes

Board members with voting rights (as of 5 October 2020): 68

Present: Antusch, Beck, Biland, Braccini, Caminada, Canelli, Chapochnikov, Colangelo, Crivelli, De Cosa, Donega, Golling, Grab, Hildebrandt, Isidori, Kilminster, Kirch, Kotlinski, Kunz, Lauss, Montaruli, Pozzorini, Ritt, Rubbia, Schneider, Serra, Seidel, Sfyrlla, Shchutska, Signer, Wallny (Chair), Weber, Wu.

Other participants: Amsler (Prof. Em), Benelli (Admin.), Blondel (Prof. Em), Gallo (Obs. SNSF), Pauss (Prof.Em), Rivkin (Prof. Em), Salzarulo (Obs. SERI), Schopper (SPS), Türlér (Obs. SCNAT), Müller K.

**Apologies:** none.

The Chair details the proxy votes announced before the meeting<sup>2</sup>.

Quorum: 22 votes (= 1/3 of the Board members; Art. 24.1 Statutes); Votes present: 33 present + 3 proxies = 36 → The quorum is reached.

#### 3. Minutes of the last meeting (2020-01 [February 2020])

The Chair asks for comments concerning the minutes of the previous meeting. Since there are none, the Chair invites the Board to approve them. The minutes are approved and will be published on the [CHIPP](#) website.

Rainer explains the procedure for electronic voting via zoom.

### DECISION ITEMS

#### 4. CHIPP activities and Budget 2021

Angela introduces the planned activities and budget for the year 2021. As in the past CHIPP has a list of planned activities in the following themes: science, communication and outreach, funding and association. The

<sup>1</sup> [https://indico.cern.ch/event/952661/contributions/4002271/attachments/2096580/3574632/Board2020-03\\_Slide\\_V13.pdf](https://indico.cern.ch/event/952661/contributions/4002271/attachments/2096580/3574632/Board2020-03_Slide_V13.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Rainer Wallny for Günther Dissertori, Florencia Canelli for Laura Baudis, Anna Sfyrlla for Federico Sanchez

presented budget has a planned expense of 144 KCHF covered by the income of 81 KCHF from membership fees, 20 KCHF of support for the EPPCN from SERI and CERN, and thankfully around 30.5 KCHF of support from the SCNAT. This last support was confirmed at the MAP meeting a few days ago. The main activities for this year will be the PhD Zuoz School and the MLHEP 2021 School; they have been postponed to 2021 because of the COVID emergency and the SCNAT has kindly agreed to keep the promised funding for 2021. CHIPP will continue its engagement on the SCNAT web portal, publishing news, articles and events of interest to the physics community thanks to the collaboration with the journalist Benedikt Vogel. His remuneration together with the IPPOG membership should be covered by a SCNAT grant. A deficit of around 13 KCHF is foreseen. This can be supported by the estimated start of year assets of ~40 KCHF. In the future CHIPP will have to revise the membership fees for its members since its assets are decreasing and they will reach a problematic level in three or four years. For the moment, the EB proposes to keep the same membership fees for 2021 as in the past, 110 CHF for individuals and 5600 CHF for each institute, apart from Basel, which has a reduced fee of 2000 CHF. The fees for 2022 will then to be discussed next year.

Adrian Signer presents the Zuoz PhD school<sup>3</sup>. The school will open just one year later with an almost unchanged program; we are announcing the school now but we will open registrations only in spring. Please encourage your students and postdocs to register for it. The school is organized by PSI but really it is a CHIPP school; the committee had been selected to be as broad as possible: a dynamic program committee. It's more than just learning physics, it's also a networking one. Adrian shows the pie charts from the roadmap presentation of the young physicist group. It shows that several of them think they do not know enough about what's going on in Switzerland; the Zuoz school can be the place to exchange information and to push it even further. It could be included a formal event where each institution reports its activities in 10 minutes. Registration will start in March 2021. A critical mass of students is necessary to make the price affordable so the school is open to students from every country, but the program can be adapted if the larger majority of students are from Switzerland. There is a proposal to open the program to the three Pillar topics, stressing the links between the different communities. The school is mainly directed towards PhD students; therefore, it cannot completely substitute an extra one-day meeting where the young people (which includes a significant fraction of young postdocs) can meet.

Lesya Shchutska reports on the MLHEP 2020 and presents the plan for the same school in 2021. The Machine Learning in High Energy Physics 2020 was not cancelled but was moved to a fully online format; it was two weeks long. There was no preselection of participants; all the registrations were accepted, in total there were 140. The school was registered as a doctoral course at the EPFL; there were 54 hours of lectures, 28 hours of exercises and 10 hours of practical work: a very intense school. 30 students successfully passed the final exam getting the credits. Even if the lectures were pre-recorded there was the possibility of asking the lecturers questions. For next year, the school is planned for the second half of July, with registrations opening in January. MLHEP2020 was a very successful event even though it was under adverse conditions; the students were challenged and satisfied. The school organizers have started to put all the materials available online so even people who did not attend the school have the chance to go over the material.

Rainer Wallny presents the event thought for the CHIPP young physicists. A delegation of young researchers was invited to the Roadmap workshop where they expressed the desire to have a special event organized for both social and cultural purposes. The idea would be to have this event the day before or after the next CHIPP plenary annual meeting; Angela is already looking into a possible suitable venue (any idea is very welcome !); the organization of this event is left to the young physicists group with the help of Katharina Müller and Angela.

The Board unanimously:

Approves the CHIPP activities for 2021,

Approves the CHIPP budget 2021 resulting from the activities, and

Approves the 2021 membership fees for individual members and for institutions.

## 5. Election and Election of Executive Board members

The current composition of the Executive Board is: **Rainer Wallny** (ETHZ) Chair, until Dec 2021, **Michele Weber** (Uni. Be), until Dec 2020, **Gino Isidori** (Uni. Zh), until Dec 2020, **Anna Sfyria** (UniGe), until Dec 2021. Since Michele and Gino will reach the end of their terms in December, the EB has asked for nominations for the position of Michele Weber, while Gino has expressed his willingness to serve for another term. Michele was nominated and accepted to serve for next term. The Board encourages CHIPP Board members to participate in the EB. It is important to have a rotation of people and it is preferable to serve a maximum of two terms.

Gino Isidori is sent into a waiting room and the Board proceeds to vote.

The Board elects Gino Isidori unanimously (27 votes) as vice-chair in the EB (Jan. 2021 – Dec. 2022) for his second term.

Michele Weber is sent into a waiting room and the Board proceeds to vote.

The Board elects Michele Weber with 23 votes and 5 abstentions as vice-chair in the EB (Jan. 2021 – Dec. 2022) for his third term.

The Board thanks Gino Isidori and Michele Weber for the work done and for the commitment to continue their work for the next two years.

## **6. Election of the CHIPP Account Auditor**

The Chair reminds us that the election of the CHIPP Account Auditor belongs to the CHIPP Board. CHIPP has two auditors: Aurelio Bay (EPFL) and Ben Kilminster (U. Zurich). Since Aurelio Bay is retiring, the EB has asked for nominations, which resulted in one candidate: Saverio Braccini (UniBe).

The Chair proceeds with the vote after Saverio Braccini is sent into a waiting room.

The Board unanimously elects Saverio Braccini for a first term as CHIPP auditor (Jan 2021 – Dec 2023).

## **7. Election of the CHIPP Outreach and Education coordinator**

After many years of impeccable service as Outreach and Education coordinator, Hans Peter Beck is stepping down from this position. The call for nominations among the Board Members has resulted in only one candidate, Katharina Müller (University of Zurich), who is ready to serve in this function for the years 2021-2022. Katharina Müller is not a CHIPP Board member, but due to the importance of this role - following Art. 22 par. 2 of the bylaws – the EB asks the Board to elect her as ex-officio member of the board for the duration of her function.

The Board unanimously elects Katharina Müller for a first term as CHIPP Outreach and Education coordinator (Jan 2021 – Dec 2022); for the duration of her function the Board unanimously elects Katharina Müller as a CHIPP Board member.

## **8. Election of the CHIPP Observer to CHAPS**

After many years of service in the position of CHIPP observer to CHAPS, Teresa Montaruli has expressed her willingness to step down from this responsibility. The EB also noted that the exchange of observers between two SCNAT members is in line with the provisions of the CHIPP Statutes (Article 32.3 litt. g), where a close contact is advocated between CHIPP and the Swiss Academy of Natural Sciences and its member organisations. For this reason, the CHIPP EB asked for nominations for a candidate to be observer to the CHAPS for the period Jan 2021 – Dec 2023; the call has not provided any available candidate; for this reason Rainer Wallny as a CHIPP Chair will provide this service.

The Board elects (ad interim) with 28 votes and 1 abstention Rainer Wallny as CHIPP observer in the College of Helvetic Astronomy Professors for a renewable one-year mandate from January 2021 to December 2021.

## **9. Election of the Swiss ACCU representative**

Danek Bohdan Kotliński has served for one two-year term as ACCU representative from 2019 to the end of 2020. He will retire in 2021 and not be able to serve another term. The call for nominations among the Board

Members has resulted in only one candidate, Sergio Gonzalez Sevilla (University of Geneva), who is ready to serve in this function for the years 2021-2022.

The Board unanimously recommends to the Plenary the election of Sergio Gonzalez Sevilla for a first two-year term from January 2021 to December 2022 as ACCU representative.

#### **10. Re-election of the ETC\* representative**

The Chair reminds the Board that CHIPP is a member of the ETC\* with the support of SNF which funds the membership fees. Gilberto Colangelo (University of Bern) promoted the Swiss participation in ETC\* in August 2017 when he presented his proposal to the CHIPP Board (Board 2017-02). Colangelo accepted to serve for a second term.

The Board unanimously re-elects Gilberto Colangelo for a second term as ETC\* Swiss representative from September 2020 to September 2022.

#### **11. Re-election of the EPPCN representative**

The CERN Council established a network of closely cooperating professional communication officers from each CERN Member State in 2006 at DESY Zeuthen as part of the European Strategy for Particle Physics. The Member state representatives have the duty to incorporate existing activities, propose, implement and monitor a European particle physics communication and education strategy, and report on a regular basis to the CERN Council. In June 2017, Angela Benelli as CHIPP administrator accepted the responsibility to be the new Swiss EPPCN representative. This position is supported by a SERI contribution and a CERN grant to cover travel and other expenses.

The Board re-elects Angela Benelli with 28 votes and 1 abstention as Swiss representative in EPPCN from January 2021 to December 2023.

#### **12. Nominations for admission of new honorary members**

The Chair reminds the board about honorary memberships as described in the Statutes. The admission of Honorary Members is at the discretion of the CHIPP Plenary, based on a recommendation by the Board. He recalls that there are two types of membership: for the Board or the Plenary.

The CHIPP Chair has received the following requests for Honorary Membership as Honorary Board Members: Christoph Grab (ETHZ), Aurelio Bay (EPFL), Antonio Ereditato (University Bern) and as Honorary Plenary Members: Tatsuya Nakada (EPFL) and Bohdan Kotlinski (PSI).

The Board, unanimously confirms that the applicants fulfill the requirements for being granted the status of Honorary Board Member and Plenary Board members by the end of 2020 according to the Statutes; The Board unanimously submits to the Plenary the proposals for candidates for Honorary Board Membership by the end of 2020, thereby recommending their admission in the respective categories.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **13. Roadmap Update**

Rainer Walny reports about the Roadmap advancement; the last board in August reaffirmed the mandate of the Editorial Board to edit the available text and de-pillarize the structure where necessary. This type of work will be done in small groups. The Editorial Board did not have the time to prepare an update of the roadmap which can be presented to this Board. The Editorial Board members may solicit individuals to help on dedicated writing tasks; please support them because of the tight timescale we need to stick to. The next milestone is at the end of November, when the SCNAT wishes to have the almost final text to make a version (no images). The SCNAT will send a final version to the Swiss Universities and ETH by the end of the year. We would like to have pictures; please send them by email to Angela; the level of the roadmap is close to outreach so the pictures should not be too technical in terms of physics plots. Please include in a separate file a caption as text file which describes the picture. Do not be disappointed if the picture is not selected because there is obviously limited space; the Editorial Board will equalize the level

of details between Pillars but also look for regional institutional balance.

During the last Board meeting, the idea was discussed of having a common working group for CHIPP and CHAPS to define interesting projects in the interface between the two communities. In the previous discussion between the CHIPP and CHAPS Chairs, a desire became evident to have reflections of projects in each other's roadmaps. The main common long- and short-term interest in gravitational waves research will be a contribution to the roadmap documents. The request for interest in participating in the CHIPP/CHAPS working group was finalized by CHIPP with the participation of Michele Maggiore, Giuseppe Iacobucci and Adrian Biland. We are waiting for the counterparts from CHAPS for the working group to start.

#### 14. FLARE discussion

CHIPP has been asked to give priorities in a written form to the FLARE review panel. The EB submitted a first proposal of the document to the Board in August, which explains the prioritization criteria and a summary table with the projects. The EB asked for alternative proposals or modification to the current EB proposal to be submitted before the 5<sup>th</sup> of October, together with the other documents in preparation for the Board to vote on. The EB has not received any alternative proposal. If there are any proposals or wishes, we will take them into account now and then the Board should vote on the final EB proposal containing the amendments and suggestions which come out of this discussion. Once the document is endorsed, it will be made public on the CHIPP website.

Nicola Serra explains that after the lack of support for the SHiP facility from the ESSPU the MediumTerm Plan of CERN substantially increased the funding to be used in part for the beam dump facility. Thanks to this, there is now the possibility of developing some small projects; Lesya Shchutska and Olivier Schneider and himself (Nicola Serra) are involved in the SND project. They are not in a position to ask for FLARE funding now, but they would like to have the opportunity to do so in two years' time, at the next FLARE call. For this reason, they ask to re-introduce SND/SHiP as a project in the fair-share category as a placeholder for the next FLARE call. It is not possible at the moment to make a forecast of the amount of money needed in two years.

André Rubbia emphasizes that SHiP was mentioned in the White Paper for Pillar2. This should be corrected: SHiP is part of Pillar 1. Rubbia stresses that the three White Papers should reflect the priorities decided on today. Pillar1 White Paper should be modified in view of the new FLARE requests in two years; the physics program of the SND/SHiP project should be described in the White Paper of Pillar1.

Paolo Crivelli explains that the same situation holds for Na64; Na64 got FLARE funding for the upgrade. It will run until LS3; afterwards there is the idea to undergo another upgrade. He asks that Na64 will be considered as a fair-share project in the second part of the FLARE term.

The actual document proposed by the EB explains the CHIPP priorities for the next full FLARE cycle (2021-2024) since the experiments will be able to request funding for the full 4 years, but since CHIPP should resubmit the priority document every FLARE call, and the next one is in two years, the Board will reoptimize the CHIPP priorities in 2023 for projects in the fair-share category.

Teresa Montaruli expresses her disappointment in seeing the project LST/CTA in the fair-share category; Montaruli insists that LST/CTA is extremely important in the community. It is central to the field and that involves the University of Geneva, ETHZ and EPFL. She proposes to upgrade it to the Flagship category.

Rainer explains that CHIPP was asked to make a prioritization. The fair-share category includes projects which the participating scientists should be able to pursue and, on the fair share level, the scientific endeavors they wished to pursue, proportionally to their number. If an experiment needs an amount of funding that is over proportional, then it should invoke the flagship status. The Board should decide on the experiments that should belong in the Flagship category.

The EB proposed document in its present state is endorsed with 21 votes and 4 abstentions as a CHIPP priority document.

The CHIPP priority document will be published in the chipp.ch website and sent to the FLARE panel.

The CHIPP priority document will be reoptimized in two years for projects in the fair-share category.

For what concerns point 2.2 in the FLARE call: eligible costs, there is a clarification from Valentina Gallo (SNF Observer): technicians/engineers may be employed in several projects consecutively, as long as they work for the project at the requested percentage. The SNSF does accept the rules governing the hiring contracts of university staff. On the other hand, the SNSF cannot guarantee the funding of the staff after the end of a project.

## 15. Computing Board updates

Mauro Donega reports on the Computing Board activities [4]. First a reminder of the resources available in Switzerland: CSCS center in Lugano and the other one is at the University of Bern. In CSCS, a new machine has replaced the older cluster (Phoenix). Phoenix was phased out in 2017 and (part of) the hardware of that cluster then went to the Tier-2 in Bern. The new machine is a high-performance computer (HPC) and it requires some extra hardware to process the LHC workflows and operations. Three people work on implementing the three LHC experiment requests into the CSCS machine. The collaboration between CHIPP, CSCS and ETH works under a collaboration agreement that describes the duties and rights of both parties; it was negotiated in 2007 and renewed several times, the last one being in 2018 up to the end of 2022. In 2022 the contract will have to be renegotiated to commit additional funding to cover additional FTEs to work on the new machine. The forecast is that the CHIPP community will need an order of magnitude with more computing power in order to cope with the fact that there are many activities ongoing in Switzerland in the near future (HL-LHC era). In December 2017, the LHC Computing Board decided to transition to HPC for the Tier-2. The Computing Board highlighted some possible issues at the time, which we are experiencing now. In order to overcome these problems a discussion is on-going between CHIPP and CSCS. The Computing Board proposes to go back to a collaboration relationship with CSCS, to design a configuration fulfilling the needs of all LHC experiments, to evaluate the effective power of the solution (GPUs use), and to estimate the effort needed for the transition to the new system. The decision on how to exploit the new system will have to be taken in the next two years. CHIPP and CSCS are trying to set up common projects between experiments and CSCS in order to build the infrastructure together; this means investing more in FTEs. The FLARE request that CHIPP is submitting now is for 2021 and 2022. It is really urgent to invest in personnel that will allow us to use the new machine at its best.

## 16. SPS/OPG joint annual meeting in Innsbruck

Andreas Schopper reports on the joint annual meeting between the Swiss and Austrian physical society in 2021. The meeting is fixed from the 28 June to the 2 July in Innsbruck. The TASK sessions are always organized jointly by SPS and CHIPP. Since we will organize the TASK part of the meeting together, he proposes to add the CHIPP logo to the poster announcing the event every year, not only in the odd year when CHIPP also has the Board and Plenary meeting there. Andreas also suggests that CHIPP take part in proposing plenary speakers from the domain of tasks by mid-November. In 2022 the Annual meeting will again be organized jointly with CHIPP.

At the last SPS General Assembly in August Prof. Johan Chang from the University of Zurich was elected as new SPS president, he will start after the annual meeting in July 2021. Hans Peter Beck will be vice president next year.

From now on, independently whether the meeting is organized jointly or not, the participation fees for CHIPP members will not be reduced if they are not also SPS members. For the speakers, there will be a special reduced fee. For students in general, the participation fees are reduced; the details will be on the website closer to the meeting date.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### 17. New professorships at CHIPP institutes: report from each institute

No new professorships are reported.

Minutes written by Angela Benelli  
checked by Rainer Wallny and EB

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<sup>3</sup> <https://indico.cern.ch/event/952661/contributions/4002284/attachments/2115267/3577315/Zuoz-2021-CHIPP.pdf>