

Minutes of the EB meeting 2021-01 on 22 January 2021

Time/place of the meeting: Friday, 22 January 2021, 9:00

Indico: <https://indico.cern.ch/event/998951/>

Agenda: approved.

Apologies: none.

Present: Rainer Wallny (Chair, RW), Gino Isidori (GI), Anna Sfyrlla (AS), Michele Weber (MW) and Angela Benelli (Admin, AB).

A. Administrative items

Minutes of the last meeting (2020-11)

The minutes are approved. Angela will publish them on the www.chipp.ch → [link](#)

List of Actions

2018-05 – 10: Outreach funding request AGORA: The organisation of the event has been postponed for a long time; we should discuss it with Katharina Muller (KM) at the next EB meeting. AB → Invite KM.

2020-01 – 7: project of the APPEC GA to introduce a sustainable model of Functional Centers: AB → ask Xin Wu if he needs a slot in the agenda during the next Board meeting to present the APPEC updates.

At the moment of writing the minutes, Xin Wu has informed the EB that there is no news about the re-organisation of APPEC, but that there are some updates to present to the Board in a short timeslot.

2020-04: CHIPP & CHAPS overlap & Roadmaps & Working group: The EB supports the idea that the group continue with its intent to ascertain the interest of the community in gravitational waves; the interest could be pointed to technical/hardware projects and/or data analysis; the projects could be ground, or space based.

The CHIPP bylaws specify that it is the duties of CHIPP to advise Swiss Institutes/Universities about professorship planning. This could be one of the responsibilities of CHIPP and also the CHIPP/CHAPS working group. ETHZ and UZH are planning to continue to support the GW research field. ETHZ in the frame of the “Fundamental Physics” strategy has asked for a professorship in Gravitational Waves. At this time, that professorship is not funded, but it is on the wish list. UZH is opening a professorship in Experimental Gravitational Wave Detection with a clear target toward space (LISA). LISA and Einstein Telescope are two complementary GW experiments. It would be optimal for Switzerland to participate in both: one is in space funded mainly by PRODEX and the other is on earth (FLARE).

Board 2020-02: Organise a Swiss FCC Workshop to prepare for collaborations in experiments: AS reports that, for the moment, there is no news; the planning will start in February.

2020-01 – 5: DUNE RRB: M&O is in preparation.

Board 2016-02 – 11: Collaboration with astronomers: to discuss potential computing synergies with Jean-Paul Kneib: RW reports that during the Roadmap presentation SCNAT, it was clear that every community (especially the biology and chemistry groups) is asking for disk space and CPU computing infrastructure. The state secretariat representative reported the existence of a task force looking at these national computing needs.

Dates of next 2020 EB meetings:

EB: 17 March 2021, 9:00-11:00

Editorial Board: 5 February 11:00

January/February: accounting / functions and tasks / Agenda Board / CHIPP prize

March: Nominations / Organization of Plenary 2019

May: SCNAT funding requests / Nominations / TASK program

June: Preparation Plenary agenda / Board agenda / CHIPP prize

October: Board agenda / CHIPP activities and budget 2020

B. Items for discussion

1. Annual Accounts 2020

AB reports on the status of the CHIPP account. AB and Susanne Hodler (SCNAT) did the accounting independently for 2020 and found the same result: a deficit of 2178 CHF. Angela will meet Susanne in person in Bern next week to check all the papers and the 3rd February, there will be the official audit. Despite the fact that the year 2020 was very limited in public events (the Winter School and the Zuoz PhD School were postponed due to the COVID19 emergency), CHIPP reports a deficit, it's smaller than the previous years, but the CHIPP capital (asset) continues to decrease. The deficits in the last years are: 2016: 2'834 CHF, 2017: 1'686 CHF, 2018: 6'793 CHF, 2019: 7'222 CHF, 2020: 2'178 CHF. In order to have more flexibility for organising more actions for young physicists, talks, and possibly awards, the EB decides to propose to the Board in February that membership fees be increased. The proposed increase is of ~14% for the individual fees (from 110 CHF to 125 CHF) and of ~11% for the Institutional fees (from 5600 CHF to 6200 CHF). The proposition will be presented to the CHIPP Board the 11 February to vote on its approval. If the vote is positive, the new fees will be valid from the year 2022. The Board (2020-01) has already discussed the possibility of asking CERN to contribute to the Institutional fees. CERN, at the time, declined the request.

The EB proposes not to make the request for contribution to CERN because it would imply the participation of CERN team leaders (of Swiss Nationality) in the CHIPP Board. The EB proposes to continue to invite Swiss Nationals with Doctor's degrees working at CERN to be Plenary members without asking for individual fees. To be submitted to the Board for a decision.

2. Functions and Tasks within CHIPP

At the end of 2021, several positions will arrive at the end of their term. The EB decides to follow the past tradition in CHIPP. If the person responsible for a position is willing to continue his/her mandate for a second term, it is not necessary to call for nomination for the position and the candidate will stand for re-election at the Board meeting. If the candidate is willing to continue for a third or higher term, then the position is open for nomination and it follows the standard election at the Board meeting. These are the positions that need renewal:

- CHIPP Account Auditors B. Kilminster
- CHIPP Computing Board M. Donega → **accept to be renewed**
- CHIPP IPPOG representative K. Muller → **accept to be renewed**
- Restricted-ECFA M. Seidel → **accept to be renewed**
- Plenary ECFA Seidel, Blanc → **accept to be renewed**,
- APPEC General Assembly sci. delegate X. Wu → **accept to be renewed**
- Observer in the CSR (space research) X. Wu → **accept to be renewed**
- EB members: Anna Sfyrle → **accept to be renewed**

These positions need to be filled with new candidates:

- Plenary ECFA A. Knecht → **_needs to be replaced**
- Observer in CHAPS (astronomy) R. Wallny (CHIPP Chair) → **_needs to be replaced**

Further discussions are needed for the call for nomination for a new EB member. AS is not willing to serve as EB member for a second term; AS and GI do not wish to become CHIPP Chair. RW would like to step down as a CHIPP Chair since he has planned a sabbatical year during the academic year 2022-23 and to avoid a third term. If necessary, as an emergency measure, Wallny is available to extend his mandate by one year. MW expressed his willingness to be a CHIPP Chair for one year (up to the end of his third EB term) and to prepare a new EB vice-chair to the CHIPP Chair duty, to replace him in 2023. The EB feels that it is not wise to parachute a new EB vice-chair in the position of CHIPP Chair, a year-long preparation as vice chair is advisable. The EB notes that a representant from Pillar3 would be welcome in the EB.

The term for CERN Council scientific delegate G. Dissertori is expiring at the end of 2021. The decision of the candidate is a SERI duty. CHIPP was asked in the past to provide two candidates for the position.

RW→ ask G. Dissertori which action needs to be taken. The (re-)election is postponed to Summer.

3. Preparation for the Board 2021-01 (11 February 2021)

The EB discusses the CHIPP Board agenda items. The agenda should be sent to the Board members the 1st February together with the confidential documentation to prepare for the votes.

4. Flare Presentation to the panel

RW presents his talk to the FLARE panel the 27 January. The talk will be shared between the CHIPP and CHAPS community. It has a common introduction with the definition of “Uncuttable” “Flagship” and “Fair Share” projects for the prioritisation, which is common for CHIPP and CHAPS. Then RW will present the CHIPP priorities following the [approved document](#) at the Board together with the FTE CHIPP pie-charts, and S. Udry will present the CHAPS priorities.

5. Tier2 computing

There are some issues that need to be discussed:

- Tier-2 computing sites: CSCS and Bern (for ATLAS) are the two sites.
With the own hardware and Phoenix the deprecated hardware from CSCS could be re-used by the other Swiss site, like Bern. With the move to HPC there is no own hardware need anymore. The use of existing hardware at the transition time resulted in some tensions and misunderstandings. These are now retired.
- Tier-2 is financed via:
 - 2 FTEs and about 650K per year from the SFSF used to be for acquiring computers for the legacy Phoenix cluster. Now the conditions are different: the contract is more like a subscription fee, paying for a service received.
 - 0.5 FTE and 100KCHF power cost from ETHZ school board.

Out of the 2.5 FTEs, 0.5 FTE is subcontracted to Bern and this contract has been signed.

There is an overall complaint about the lack of opportunistic computing resources outside of the box that we pay for at CSCS (ATLAS, CMS and LHCb). Another issue is the unsatisfactory “service attitude” of CSCS towards the VO representatives / users. This is mainly due to the fact that the 2 FTEs that are paid for are scattered between several people, it is not possible to access the CSCS machine directly, and it takes a lot of time. A possible solution to this problem is to re-negotiate the contract with CSCS.

MW reports that it is important to push the computing Board to a report on the timeline for the new machine (Alps) that CSCS is starting in 2023. We should make sure that the CHIPP computing works reasonably on that machine because we have already paid for it (the funds are bound to this machine) in the current grant. It should be made clear where the personnel are coming from, to make the transition between the old and new machine. CHIPP needs some (even approximate) numbers to be able to make a strategy. It will soon be important to know what the performance we get is, what the maintenance we need is and how we make the transition.

6. RoadMap updates

RW reports on the Roadmap timeline:

- Release for the CHIPP Board Jan 20th with deadline for comments February 3rd
- Discussion and hopefully endorsement of the content on Feb 11th
- English language check; AB asked for an offer from a professional editor, it has been accepted by the editorial Board.
- Images: done

7. White Papers Pillar 2 and Pillar 3

The CHIPP prioritisation document [1] was approved by the CHIPP Board of 15 October 2020; in order to ask the Board to approve the new White Papers for Pillar2 and Pillar3, the EB will ask MW and Laura Baudis, as Pillar2 and Pillar3 convener, should state that the global CHIPP prioritisation for 2021-24 is indicated in the document as [1] the final reference.

C. Items for information

8. CHIPP Prize schedule & Committee

The call has been prepared and it will be made public at the Board meeting the 11 February.

9. CHIPP Plenary meeting 2021

AB and MW will go to the resort to finalise the offer.

10. Zuoz PhD school

The school is still planned to be in person.

11. List of Honorary members

Mikhail Chapochnikov (EPFL) is retiring in 2021.

12. FCC-ee Workshops

13. Status of recent & future meetings

11 February 2021

CHIPP Board meeting

10-11 June 2021

CHIPP Plenary meeting

28 June - 2 July 2021

SPS/OPG Annual meeting - Innsbruck

[1] CHIPP prioritisation document https://portal-cdn.scnat.ch/asset/3e7d36d3-aa19-5526-a552-3a38e8b86171/FLARE%20Prioritization%202020?b=61a9d2d3-c318-5013-9bc7-75eb6f69d32a&v=eaf5343e-6722-5215-bb78-f8cf3045c264_0&s=UvqctwaXxRdoZxp1wuE95cGy2_rGPBPCLihtIKPWZig_rh8EjTJyxaTD2ymfiTA4pMSIlqBUGboWcMvYobU483QCSD2zMHAKNzmPje4WcQkgQG8DYovY0539EZnA4jzh7cbbK4-HD3ENLptLwYervdMttG94JG7Uwmag-8uG5Vw