

# Minutes

of the Fourth Meeting of the Nuclear Physics European Collaboration Committee  
(NuPECC)

held on September 16, 1989

at the INFN - LNS Catania, Italy

**Participants:** C. Detraz (chairman)  
A. Fonseca  
M. Huber  
B. Jonson  
E. Moya de Guerra  
E. Otten  
A. Pakkanen  
A. Pappalardo (local chairman)  
P. Picozza  
I. Sick  
A. van der Woude  
J. Vervier  
P. de Witt Huberts  
R. Bock (EPS / NPB)  
G.-E. Körner (scientific secretary)  
M. Sambataro (local secretary)

R. Bergere, C. Gaarde, W. Gelletly, P. Kienle, R. Seltz, P. Twin could not attend

## Agenda

1. General information (choice of the secretary, representation of Portugal, meeting of the Nuclear Physics Board of EPS, . . .)
2. Relations of NuPECC with the European Science Foundation: information on the contacts taken, projects.
3. Relations of NuPECC with the European Commissions (especially in view of the report on Nuclear Physics to be prepared by EC)
4. NuPECC News: editorial board, editor, publisher
5. Questionnaire: discussion on the editing and the diffusion of its results
6. Preparation of a questionnaire dealing with European collaboration in theoretical nuclear physics: report by E. Moya de Guerra, C. Gaarde and P. de Witt Huberts
7. Discussion on the need for preparing formal by-laws for NuPECC, and a formal general agreement concerning NuPECC to be signed by all European organizations concerned.
8. Miscellaneous: - information on the Strasbourg meeting  
- computer-network information board  
- next meeting

Topics 3 and 4 were discussed in reverse order, due to the time restriction of R. Bock

## 1. General Information

G. Pappalardo, the local host, and C. Detraz, the chairman of NuPECC opened the meeting at 9.00. They welcomed the NuPECC members present, and R. Bock who attended as observer from the EPS/NPB.

The chairman reports:

### 1.1. Choice of the Scientific Secretary

Dr. Gabriele-Elisabeth Körner has been appointed as scientific secretary of NuPECC.

### 1.2. New members of NuPECC

The Instituto Nacional de Investigação Científica (INIC) of Portugal decided to "agree with NuPECC's statements of objectives."

A.C. Fonseca was appointed to represent INIC.

Indications were received that Greece might be interested to join NuPECC and might send a representative to the next meeting.

### 1.3. Relation between NuPECC and the Nuclear Physics Board of the EPS

The EPS/NPB, the EPS president, R.A. Ricci, and the NuPECC chairman, C. Detraz met on May 16, 1989 in Geneva in order to discuss the relation between the EPS and NuPECC. A draft of the minutes was sent to the members of NuPECC. In conclusion to the presentation of official viewpoints and the subsequent discussion the EPS president strongly recommends that NuPECC should think about how to collaborate with the EPS/NPB. Specifically NuPECC is asked whether they agree:

- i) To have the endorsement of EPS and a stronger consultation
- ii) To establish a joint working group in "Publications"

These points will be taken up later in the meeting.

#### 1.4. Reactions to the press release about NuPECC

The reaction to the press release has been weak up to now. The individual members of NuPECC are asked to contact the corresponding national journals in order to improve the communication.

## 2. Relations of NuPECC and the European Science Foundation

### 2.1. Information on the contacts taken

Reference is made to letters by the ESF president, E. Seibold, dated June 19, 1989, by C. Detraz, dated July 19, 1989, by the ESF Secretary General, M.V. Posner, dated July 27, 1989, and by C. Detraz, dated August 28, 1989.

The standing committee European Science Research Councils (ESRC) of the ESF has discussed the objectives of NuPECC. The ESF board has asked one of its vice-presidents, C. Fréjacques, (president CNRS, Paris) to discuss details with C. Detraz. The (preliminary) information from this discussion is:

- i) NuPECC's request to operate under the "umbrella" of ESF is received rather favourably.
- ii) Activities of the ESF are grouped into Scientific Networks, Scientific Programs and "ad hoc Working Groups" (= Associated Committees). It appears that NuPECC could act as an Associated Committee within the frame set for ESF research activities.

The proposal will be discussed by the ESF executive council on September ... and November 21, 1989. Dr. M. Manig who is responsible for all ESF activities in natural sciences will report to M. Posner.

### 2.2. Discussion

The whole matter was discussed in great detail by the participants of the meeting; important points were:

- The whole structure, organization and objectives of the ESF appear ideally matched to those of NuPECC.
- Complications might arise because NuPECC already exists, but now asks to be integrated by the ESF. This is unusual, might raise competence problems and cause delays in the decision making process.
- Further complications and delays are to be expected if the ESF executive council cannot decide to accept NuPECC as an "ad hoc working group" of the ESF. Alternative solutions will require the ESF general assembly to decide. The delay could be more than a year.

### 2.3. Recommendations

- All efforts should be made to be accepted immediately as an "ad hoc working group" (or "Associated Committee") by the ESF.
- NuPECC should formally not act as an independent body but ask the ESF to endorse all its actions. The national agencies should appoint the NuPECC members. NuPECC reports to ESF, and nobody else. All publications should be channelled through the ESF.
- Members of NuPECC should contact the members of their respective country in the ESF executive council in order to explain NuPECC's objectives, and ask for support. The chairman, C. Detraz, should write a letter to the president E. Seibold to the ESF and ask for an interview in order to clarify the issues. E. Otten is asked to contact M. Manig.
- If the executive council of the ESF shifts the NuPECC issue to the general assembly, thus postponing the decision for at least one year, one should keep the ESF umbrella as an option for the future but take immediate action to find an alternative solution for a "legal existence".

### 3. Relation of NuPECC with the European Commission

#### 3.1. Status Report by the Chairman

Reference is made to the correspondence between C. Detraz and P. Fasella, Directeur Général de la Science, de la Recherche et du Développement, DG XII, the letter by E. Otten to C. Detraz, and by H.J. Allgeier to P. Kienle.

The EC does not seem to be eager to support nuclear physics research programs at this point. However, the Commission has decided to carry out a survey of the field of nuclear physics in European research centres and to prepare a report. Prof. Horowitz of the C.E.A. (France) was asked to guide the analysis, together with other experts.

#### 3.2. Recommendations

- NuPECC's chairman, C. Detraz, is asked to discuss with Prof. Horowitz, and to explain NuPECC's objectives. Hopefully, these will be reflected in the analysis to be prepared for the EC.
- It appears that the EC programs are suited and tailored for users of large research facilities like those represented by NuPECC members.
- The scientific secretary of NuPECC is asked to collect information on the EC's activities and support for research and development, "joint ventures" of groups from various EC countries, and on scientists / students exchange programs.

## 4. NuPECC News

### 4.1. Status Report

Details of the establishment of a newsletter, its content and community were given in previous minutes. At the Daresbury meeting a small group chaired by A. van der Woude was set up to consider editorial candidates and publishers.

A. van der Woude reported what had been done:

- The definition of the profile and tasks of the editor.
- Establishment of contacts with possible candidates for the editor position.
- Gordon and Breach and the Institute of Physics are interested to act as a publisher, and have asked for more information.
- Also, it became clear that a "conflict of interests" might arise with the EPS/NPB, and that this should be avoided.

### 4.2. Recommendations

The problem of a possible NuPECC-EPS/NPB conflicting overlap was discussed. Recommendations are:

- NuPECC should make any effort to cooperate with the EPS/NPB in the activities to publish information about "Nuclei in Europe."
- A common editorial board consisting of 4 to 6 members should be formed.
- A subcommittee consisting of A. van der Woude (chairman), C. Detraz (ex officio), W. Gellety, G. Pappalardo, and R. Bock should contact candidates for the position of an editor, discuss the information and come up with a recommendation. It should meet on October 28, 1989 in Paris.

R. Bock was asked to get the "approval" for such a "joint venture" by the EPS/NP board members.

- NuPECC and the EPS/NPB should contribute equally to all costs for the publication and secretarial help of the editor.

- Possible candidates for the position of an editor are:

I. Bergström, I. Iori, van Asche, Cerrutti.

- It was suggested that the chairmanship of the editorial board could be proposed to Sir D. Wilkinson.

## 5. Questionnaires

### 5.1. Distribution to "Major Facilities with True European Activities"

The questionnaire was prepared by the secretary and sent to all NuPECC members for comments. The present version was mailed on August 29, 1989 to 28 major facilities. Up to September 26, 1989 9 replies were received.

It was decided to complete the address list by Saclay (DPhN) and Darmstadt (TH).

### 5.2. Distribution to Other Institutions Involved in Experimental Nuclear Physics Activities

The question whether to send the questionnaire to many more institutions / universities / laboratories was discussed at length. It was decided:

- a) Not to send the present questionnaire to more places.
- b) Instead prepare another one, more addressed to "users" and "collaborators" at the major facilities, and to discuss it at the next NuPECC meeting.  
A subcommittee consisting of I. Sick, E. Otten and A. Fonseca was asked to prepare a draft and a list of addressees.

A. van der Woude will prepare a corresponding one with respect to "Applied Nuclear Physics".

## **6. Preparation of a Questionnaire Dealing with European Collaboration in Theoretical Nuclear Physics**

A draft was prepared by E. Moya de Guerra, C. Gaarde and P. de Witt Huberts, and was distributed at the meeting.

- It should be read and revised by each member of NuPECC
  
- For each country represented in NuPECC one member was asked to identify groups working in the field. These members are  
A. Fonseca, C. Gaarde, M. Huber, B. Jonson, E. Moya de Guerra, A. Pakkanen, P. Picozza, R. Seltz, I. Sick, P. Twin, J. Vervier and P. de Witt Huberts.

All modifications of the draft and the group / institution / field of research should be mailed to G.-E. Körner. The whole subject should be discussed at the next meeting.

## **7. Discussion on the Need for Preparing Formal By-Laws for NuPECC**

At the moment NuPECC operates without any written rules. The scientific secretary is paid by the GSI Darmstadt, and officially employed by the TU München. Obviously the preparation of formal by-laws has to wait until the ESF has decided about NuPECC's wish to be integrated, i.e. until November 21, 1989. Otherwise alternative solutions have to be found. The secretary is asked to collect information about possible options in West Germany. The topic should be taken up again at the next meeting.

## 8. Miscellaneous

### 8.1. Information on the Strasbourg Meeting

The Strasbourg meeting (March 1990) will be organized jointly by nuclear physicists from Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

NuPECC welcomes this joint effort, but should not interfere with the interplay of national physics societies.

### 8.2. Computer Network Information Board

A list of HEPNET connections will be prepared. Further information is required to come to conclusion.

### 8.3. Unification of Experimental Procedures

A group from Belgium has prepared a memo on the creation of a working group to study the unification of experimental procedures. This memo should be discussed at the next meeting.

### 8.4. Next Meeting

Two possibilities were discussed:

- Strasbourg, with close contact to the members of the ESF
- Louvain-la-Neuve, with similar contacts to members of the DG XII

With the hopes of being accepted by the ESF, NuPECC decided to meet first in Strasbourg, on December 9, 1989. R. Seltz will be the local host.

The meeting was closed by C. Detraz thanking G. Pappalardo for the organization.

September 26, 1989



Dr. G.-E. Körner