

Minutes

of the Fifty-Fifth Meeting of the Nuclear Physics European Collaboration Committee (NuPECC)

held on March 17 / 18, 2006, in Athens

Participants:

- C. Amsler
- J.-P. Blaizot
- T. Bressani
- P. Bressler (ESF)
- J. Dobeš
- G. Fortuna
- B. Fulton (Chairman)
- D. Goutte
- D. Guillemaud – Mueller
- B. Haas
- M.N. Harakeh
- S. Harissopulos
- P.-H. Heenen
- W. Henning
- R. Julin
- G.-E. Körner (Scientific Secretary)
- A. Krasznahorkay
- H. Leeb
- R. Lovas (EPS/NPB)
- T. Peitzmann
- A. Poves
- K. Riisager
- D. Röhrich
- J. Styczeń
- J. Wambach
- V. Zamfir

R. Čaplar, A. Eiró, H.-Å. Gustafsson, G. Rosner and H. Ströher could not attend.

Agenda

- 1) Opening of the meeting
- 2) Fixing the agenda
- 3) Minutes of the Last Meeting
- 4) Report of the Chairman
- 5) ESF
- 6) NuPECC Budget
- 7) Nuclear Physics News
- 8) PANS
- 9) NuPECC Survey 2006
- 10) ECOS
- 11) Integrated Infrastructure Initiatives
- 12) EURISOL Design Study
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- 14) NuPECC Priorities for the Next Three Years
- 15) Nuclear Physics in FP7
- 16) Miscellaneous
 - ECT*
 - ESFRI
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 - IUPAP C12
 - EPS/NPB
 - Letter IAEA
 - Collaboration with Japan / China
 - NSAC
 - Survey Small Scale Facilities
- 17) Next meeting(s)

1. Opening of the meeting

In the morning, presentations are given on various nuclear physics activities in Greece. The files of the presentations can be found on the NuPECC website under <http://www.nupecc.org/presentations>.

Letters have been received from C N. Papanicolas (IASA, www.iasa.gr) and C. Kourkoumelis giving additional information; both letters were distributed to all the NuPECC Members.

2. Fixing the agenda

The accepted agenda is given on page 2; due to time constraints, point 11 is treated on Saturday.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the fifty-fourth meeting held on November 18 and 19, 2005, in Groningen, are agreed upon with the following change: on page 5 under point 9 the last line should read “be considered as part of the exercise in the next NuPECC Long range Plan”. With this modification the minutes will be put on the NuPECC Website as they are.

4. Report of the chairman

“Following the recommendation at the last meeting, M.N. Harakeh wrote to the ECT* Board endorsing the suggestion that the mandate of Professor Braun-Munzinger be extended by one year to enable him to continue as Chair.

M.N. Harakeh, in his capacity as Chair, attended a meeting on 12 December of Chairs of the Expert Committees with the ESF CEO. A copy of the minutes from this meeting have been circulated to members.

M.N. Harakeh and B. Fulton attended the 3rd European Conference on Research Infrastructures at Nottingham, 6-7 December. A written summary has been distributed to all members.

M.N. Harakeh attended the ECT* Board meeting in January.

Following the suggestion at the last meeting, M.N. Harakeh wrote to Rainer Köpke, the chair of the ESFRI Nuclear Physics Working Group to note the DAPHNE2 project, which had emerged since the last NuPECC Long Range Plan, could be considered for the RI Roadmap.

B. Fulton has written on behalf of the committee to the ESF CEO to seek formal approval for the membership of Croatia, with Dr Caplar as the representative.

As NuPECC chair, B. Fulton will attend the first meeting of the I3HP Governing Board on 1 April in Frascati.

On behalf of the committee G.-E. Körner has completed the Activity Information Sheet for NuPECC’s participation in EURONS. As a reminder to the committee, we have funding for the next Long Range Plan. The first deliverable is the holding of a Town Meeting in December 2007, at which working groups will be established. At our meeting in Bordeaux, we will need to set up a group to carry this forward.”

5. ESF

P. Bressler distributes a sheet summarising the main ESF instruments to support science. He will write a report on ESF and its instruments that will be published in Nuclear Physics News in order to increase the knowledge within the community about them. In addition, the NuPECC members are asked to circulate their community with information on the ESF funding opportunities we heard about, in particular on any excellent young scientists from their country who might be encouraged to apply for EURYI fellowships. B. Fulton will follow this up with a reminder by e-mail.

6. NuPECC Budget and Treasurer

B. Fulton presents the NuPECC Budget Report 2005 based on provisional end of year figures from ESF. A copy is enclosed with the minutes. From here the new Treasurer, S. Harissopoulos, is taking over.

7. Nuclear Physics News

The minutes of the last meeting of the Editorial Board held on November 19, 2005, in Groningen are enclosed. P.-H. Heenen will replace M. Huyse as Member of the Editorial Board. At the next NuPECC Meeting the new Chair will be appointed. The number of correspondents should be considerably reduced to one per region or big country; the NuPECC Members are asked to come up with names. B. Fulton will remind them by e-mail.

8. PANS

H. Leeb has put up a website for the PANSI3 project. The planned workshop which will provide training for young scientists on communication skills will be held at GSI from April 24 – 28, 2006. The envisaged deliverables for this project will be the report on this workshop on communication skills, and – based on this – a folder for the layman on selected activities at the research infrastructures.

The European Commission is presently establishing a website on their “star projects” and G.-E. Körner was asked permission to use the material produced within the PANS project.

B. Jonson, one of the co-authors of the book “Nucleus – a Trip into the Heart of Matter” is pursuing discussions with W. Henning and P. Chomaz on a German and French version of the book.

NuPECC will have to find a replacement for H. Leeb in the PANS Board at the next meeting.

9. NuPECC Survey 2006

G.-E. Körner reports on the status of the survey; a copy of her note is enclosed. Final results have been received from Croatia and Italy already; the questionnaire was distributed in all member countries with a deadline of May 15, 2006 for the replies. They will be discussed at the next NuPECC Meeting.

10. ECOS

NuPECC is keen to help this project to move forward and recommends:

- The draft report be updated as soon as possible, with input from the two representatives NuPECC has appointed.-
- The report be made available to the community, along with details of the time and venue for the Town Meeting. This information should be circulated as widely as possible within the community
- The Town Meeting should provide a genuine opportunity for the community to discuss the draft and suggest additional issues to be considered. NuPECC considered that the future prospects for the project will be greater if the community as a whole feels that they have been involved in the preparation. Hence NuPECC is willing to help provide funding for arranging the meeting - at a level of 5-10k Euro. It is hoped this can assist in bringing the project to a wider audience beyond those presently involved.
- A final report, incorporating any aspects arising from the Town Meeting should be ready before the NuPECC meeting in November so that NuPECC can consider its endorsement of the report.

11. Integrated Infrastructure Initiatives

A.C. Mueller reports on the status of EURONS. His presentation can be found on the NuPECC website under <http://www.nupecc.org/presentations>.

12. EURISOL Design Study

G. Fortuna reports on the status of EURISOL; his presentation can be found on the NuPECC Website under <http://www.nupecc.org/presentations>.

13. GSI Design Study and Status of FAIR

W. Henning reports on the status of FAIR; his presentation can be found on the NuPECC Website under <http://www.nupecc.org/presentations>.

14. NuPECC Priorities for the Next Three Years

B. Fulton presents the following working plan for the next three years:

“2006

Help the community prepare a coherent approach to FP7 bids

Map facilities in East and South-East regions and suggest approaches which would raise competences and help integration with existing facilities. Explore the use of Regional Funding to achieve these ends.

Complete and publish the updated “Survey”

As recommended in the Long Range Plan 2004, the lepton scattering community is encouraged to explore the prospects for building a new high-energy electron scattering facility in Europe or overseas.

2007

Planning for the Community Town Meeting to start the next Long Range Plan process

Ongoing contributions to the OECD Global Science Forum and IUPAP WG 12 work on the role for international nuclear physics facilities.

2008

Long Range Plan work”

The NuPECC Members agree with this plan.

15. Nuclear Physics in FP7

The minutes of the meeting held in Brussels on March 9, 2006, can be found on the NuPECC Website under http://www.nupecc.org/Brussels_march2006. The NuPECC Members and the Co-ordinators are asked to spread the information as widely as possible.

With regard to the idea of an ERA-Net, NuPECC views this as a very positive proposal and offers its support for the proposal. There is, however, concern that in such schemes the smaller countries who do not have well organised Funding Agencies can find it difficult to participate. B. Fulton will contact S. Galès to urge him to have this in mind when drafting the organisational arrangements for the Network.

The topic will be further discussed at the next NuPECC Meeting.

16. Miscellaneous

- ECT*: J.-P. Blaizot reports on current activities and emphasises the importance to secure the funding and increase the visibility of the centre. P. Hoyer is proposed to succeed P. Braun-Munzinger as Chair of the Board of Directors; once NuPECC has received the corresponding letter, B. Fulton will write a letter to convey the endorsement of NuPECC.

- ESFRI: The Working Group on Nuclear Physics that has been appointed by the Physical Sciences and Engineering (PSE) Working Group of ESFRI has recognised the NuPECC Long Range Plan and its priorities for the establishment of the ESFRI Roadmap which is supposed to come out in October 2006. Most probably FAIR and SPIRAL-2 will appear on the list of “mature projects”, whereas EURISOL could be on the list of “embryonic ideas”. A first update of the Roadmap is planned for 2008.

- OECD – GSF and IUPAP C12: The OECD GSF has, at the request of the USA (Denis Kovar) set up a working group to review the provision of international facilities in nuclear physics. The first meeting was held in Washington 6-7 March. Representatives from Australia, Belgium, Canada, CERN, China, EU, France, Germany, Italy, IUPAP, Japan, JINR, Norway, NuPECC, South Africa, UK, USA and OEDC were in attendance. The main business of the first meeting was reports from each country/organisation outlining the means of funding in their country and, where appropriate, future plans. The next stage will one of data collection, in particular by the IUPAP Working Group on Nuclear Physics Facilities, with the results discussed at the second meeting in October. The NuPECC survey of personnel was considered useful and our template will be used to collect similar data from other countries. NuPECC Nominates M.N. Harakeh as stand-in for B. Fulton in case he cannot attend the meetings.

- EPS/NPB: No meeting has taken place since the last NuPECC Meeting. The “East-West Task Group” that is presently being dissolved could be integrated in the EWON Network of EURONS.

- Letter IAEA: All NuPECC Members have received a letter from A.L. Nichols pointing out the problem of the disappearing knowledge in nuclear science in Europe and the involvement in the compilation of nuclear data.. NuPECC recognises the importance of the issue and is willing to help according to its possibilities such as providing the contact to the European Commission. B. Fulton will answer the letter accordingly.

- Collaboration with Japan / China: In view of the increasing formal collaboration between USA and Japan e.g. in the joint institute of RIB theory it is regretted that there are no European efforts in this respect. So far this remains within the national funding agencies. The OECD – GSF could be a forum to explore possibilities such as an involvement of ESF.

- NSAC: B. Fulton reports on the information he obtained from B. Tribble, the new Chairman of NSAC: “The President’s Budget, if it were to be approved by Congress and Senate, looks very good for Nuclear Physics (+\$87M to \$454M). This puts back the big cut suffered this year and then adds a considerable sum. The budget proposal has CD1 approval for the JLAB upgrade. NSAC has been reformed on a slightly more formal basis. At their next meeting in July they are likely to be charged with preparing a new Long Range Plan, to be submitted by the end of 2007. The National Academy of Science has been asked to review RIA – report due October. DoE long range plans seem to have JLAB upgrade pencilled in for the next 5 years, with the RHIC upgrade (beam cooling) also being achieved through the operating line budgets. NSAC report on $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay projects now been followed by a report on oscillation experiments. The Hadron community are starting to develop long term (20 year) plans for a new project (electron-hadron collider). Brookhaven/JLAB? DoE are stressing cooperation, and saying they are willing to see US funds put into overseas facilities.” B. Tribble will come to the next NuPECC Meeting.

- Survey of Small Scale Facilities: The mandate of the Working Group chaired by B. Haas is extended to mapping the existing facilities not included in the network of LSFs. This could be done within the EWON network of EURONS. An intermediate report should be given at the next NuPECC Meeting. H. Leeb will stay in the Working Group beyond his term as NuPECC Member.

17. Next meeting(s)

The next NuPECC meetings will be held

- on June 9 and 10, 2006, in Krakow
- on October 27 and 28, 2006, in Bordeaux
- on March 16 and 17, 2007, at ECT* Trento
- on June 22 and 23, 2007, in München
- on October 26 and 27, 2007, in Bucharest
- (in March 2008 in Madrid)
- (in June 2008 in Zagreb)

München, April 5, 2006



(Gabriele-Elisabeth Körner)