

# Collaboration Board Minutes: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016

## 1 Present

ex officio: CB Chair: Chris Booth; Spokesman: Ken Long; Deputy Spokesman: Alan Bross; Project Manager: Colin Whyte.

| Country     | Institute  | Name   |
|-------------|--|--|
| China       | IHEP<br>Sichuan  |  |
| Italy       | INFN Milano<br>INFN Napoli<br>INFN Pavia<br>INFN Roma III  | M. Bonesini<br>A. de Bain<br>L. Tortora  |
| Netherlands | NIKHEF   |  |
| Serbia      | Belgrade<br>Novi Sad   | R. Tsenov (on phone)<br>Nikola Jovancevic (on phone)   |
| Switzerland | DNPC Geneva  |  |
| UK          | Brunel University<br>Daresbury Lab<br>Glasgow University<br>Imperial College<br>Liverpool University<br>Oxford University<br>RAL<br>Sheffield University<br>Strathclyde University<br>Warwick University | P. Kyberd<br>P. Soler<br>J. Pastanak<br>R. Gamet<br>C. Whyte for C. Rogers<br>E. Overton<br>A. Young<br>P. Franchini |
| USA         | BNL<br>Fermilab<br>Illinois Institute of Technology<br>Iowa University<br>LBNL<br>Mississippi University<br>UC Riverside   | H. Witte<br>Milorad Popovic<br>D. Kaplan<br>A. Lambert   |

## 2 Agenda

### 2.1 Proxies

Ludivico Tortora for Roma Colin Whyte for Chris Rogers

### 2.2 Approval of previous minutes

The minutes are yet to be circulated.

### 2.3 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

## 3 EB report: Ken Long

One executive board meeting since the last CM.

Discussions re possibility of doing the cooling demo in Protvino

Step IV is close to stable operations with the solenoids. The summer shutdown achieved 75 – 80% of targets and since the prioritised list of actions worked well, we will stick with this.

There are staffing issues with: magnet operations where we have only limited access to FNAL and Daresbury lab expertise; controls and monitoring continue to be short handed and Ajit Kurup and Mike Courthold will support Pierrick; on-line co-ordinator Yordan is leaving; moving to a Beamline on call to lighten the load on the BLOC.

We need support of the collaboration to achieve twenty four hour coverage.

Developing a risk mitigation strategy against the two big problems: SSD failure; and failure to liquify Hydrogen. Trying to get a descope option via this risk mitigation, we have the tacit permission of the OSC for this. Developing the descope for presentation to the MPB by Christmas

Moses Chung from UNIST in Korea is seeking to join for the cooling Demo and will ask for membership at the February 2017 collaboration meeting

Transnational access a problem since the successor to EUCARD (ARIES) has no provision for MICE. Trying to get Global Challenge Research Fund to support Serbian and Chinese collaborators

Ken as continuing spokesman proposed Alan Bross to continue as Deputy; this was passed with no dissensions.

## 4 Application for membership from Novi Sad (Serbia)

Presentation by Nikola Jovancevic. Bring one Professor and two research students: interest in muon physics, data analysis and detector simulation. Applying for travel funding and intended to contribute to shifts. Approved unanimously.

## 5 Common Fund report: Paul Soler

Paul went through the history of the common fund. It started with significant deficit, which was being reduced until last year, when the CB agreed to allow the Helium used during commissioning to be charged against the Common Fund. STFC who are carrying the deficit want it to be reduced. Paul then informed of a request from the MAP management, for a variation in the common fund arrangements for the DOE-supported US collaborators. Alan Bross read out the email, which requested that the number of US PhDs on the MICE census should be reduced from 17 to 12 and in addition that they be allowed to pay six months of the Common Fund for the year 2017 to cover the period up to the end of official US funding for MICE (September 2017) on the same invoice, for the same number of PhD physicists, as the last US contribution to the Common Fund.

A discussion followed in which Alan Bross said that 5 physicists were dropping out of MICE, either because their contracts were coming to an end or because they were being redeployed to other experiments. The request to pay only 6 months of the UK financial year 2017-2018, was because once funding had ceased on a project there could be financial probity questions if funds were still be channelled to it. Paul Soler pointed out that the census date was 1 April 2016 for the 2016-17 financial year and that the list was approved unanimously at the Collaboration Board in CM44. The normal procedure had been followed which allowed for all countries to confirm the identity of all people who they wished to be counted in the census. In the past there had been no question of a refund when people moved on during the year. On the question of a part year contribution he said there was nothing in the common fund agreement which would allow for such a thing. Ken Long pointed out that the common fund was meant to pay for operational expenses while the experiment was running; since MICE will not be running after July 2017, it would be appropriate for the CB to consider the arrangements for 2017-18 at a future Collaboration Board meeting

Since there were two questions to consider, it was suggested that considering them independently would be a productive course. It was further suggested that the question of Common Fund arrangements for 2017-18, could be deferred and nobody demurred. Ken Long pointed out, that because it would be necessary to come to a decision before the next census date, arrangements should be made to allow a vote at the next Collaboration Board meeting at CM46 in February 2017.

On the question of a variation in the number of DOE PhD scientists who should be counted for the Common Fund contribution it was suggested the following motion be put to the CB.

”Should the 2016-17 Common Fund census be altered retrospectively”

Colin Whyte in his role as project manager opined that it would not be well received by the UK funders were the CB to vote to decrease the common fund income.

The motion was then put to the meeting and the voting was:

Ayes 0; Noes 12; Abstentions 4

## 6 Funding Body reports

### UK

Presented by Paul Soler. STFC have said no to the full cooling demo. Award letters for the restricted programme not yet received. Bad for UK universities. Funding is nearly stable until July '17, then drops for the final year until June 30 2018.

## **USA**

Presented by Alan Bross. No changes. \$900,000 from continuing resolution. Outcome depends on US election. Carry over from 15-16 means that they can fully support the experiment for shifts and maintenance - and even the cooling Demo. But losing people on contracts and the laboratory staff are being redeployed. There will be no NSF money.

## **Italy**

2017 funded at nominal level, not clear what will happen in 2018.

## **Serbia**

Roumen Tsenov is applying for 50k euros to support MICE work.

## **7 Future meetings**

CM47 13th to 15th February 2017

CM48 26th to 28th June 2017

CM49 2nd to 4th October 2017