

CINP Board Meeting Minutes

Date of the meeting : April 14, 2015

Members in attendance :

Jean Barrette, Jens Dilling, Paul Garrett, Gerald Gwinner, Garth Huber, Rituparna Kanungo and Jeff Martin

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved.

2. Approval of Minutes from February 2015 Board meeting

Jens moved and Jean seconded to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

3. Finance Report

Paul reported on the present financial status. The NSERC fund balance is currently \$2956 with outstanding commitments for conference support (\$4000) and Garth's travel to the NSERC Large Project's Day. The balance expected with these expenses is ~ \$-2300.

The private account balance is currently \$67,023. All dues for this year have been received.

The NSERC grant for CINP was funded at \$42,000 for the first year. The funding profile is not confirmed yet. Sarah Overington said it will be released in a few days.

4. CINP Treasurer Search

Jens chaired the search committee and reported that they had a conference call last week. There were not many responses to the call for CINP Treasurer. The committee approached Sonia Bacca from TRIUMF and she has agreed to take on this responsibility. Paul and Sonia are supposed to discuss after which Sonia will formally decide to accept this work. Garth said that at this time we can have an endorsement of the process and formally approve it after Sonia accepts with a written letter. The target for handover of the responsibilities is set before the CINP AGM.

Paul said that the handover will happen in two phases. First he wants to turn over the NSERC account and after that the private account. Paul is discussing with the accountant and the audit firm on when the audit can be completed. He anticipates this might be around mid-summer.

The 2015 NSERC funds will be received by Guelph and then transferred over. There was a discussion that we should inform NSERC that Sonia will take over as P.I. of the NSERC grant.

5. CINP Executive Director's Report

(i) CINP NSERC Budget :

Garth circulated a proposed budget expenditure plan. He said that with the NSERC funding level the first year maybe tough to manage our planned expenditures from the NSERC budget. After the audit is complete we may need to dip into the private funds. Jean said that it looks reasonable to continue with what are we are currently doing with the NSERC funding level. We can approve the expenditure plan after the funding profile for the subsequent years is known. It was also discussed that if we need to make significant cuts the CINP annual general meeting might be a place to get feedback from members on which programs they value most.

(ii) Membership :

There were two associate members newly approved.

(a) Chuck Davis, TRIUMF. This was a change from full member to associate member.

(b) Jack Henderson, TRIUMF, associate member. This was a new membership.

Ritu moved and Jean seconded to approve these new memberships.

(iii) Undergraduate Research Scholarship (URS) :

Jean Barette, Adam Garnsworthy and Gerald Gwinner were in the selection committee for the 2015 URS. Jean reported that there were 13 applications received. The process was that first the three committee members independently ranked the candidates from 1-13. There were some names that were unanimously among the top 3 from the three rankings and some who were unanimously below 7 in the ranking. The ones that were in between were then discussed in a second round. Eventually there were 5 finalists.

Jean said that there were about 10 students who were good and worthy to receive a fellowship. He said that the decision making becomes difficult because different universities have different grading systems. as well as the level of students are very different. He also mentioned that many proposals dwell too much into describing the research project and do not discuss the student's role expected/planned in it. Garth said that he is modifying the form for future competitions to have two separate sections. The first section is one where the supervisor will describe the research project. This first section will be restricted in length. The second section will describe the student's contribution and will have no length limit.

(iv) Report on Meetings at Ottawa (March 9) :

(a) With Elizabeth Boston and Sarah Overington (NSERC)

- Mike Roney and Garth Huber met with Sarah Overington and Elizabeth Boston.

They learnt that the Chair of the Long Range Plan Committee will be confirmed by

the end of this month. There will be two foreign members and eleven national members in the committee.

- NSERC is looking to streamline the number of types of grant applications to the SAP Envelope, such as combining the 3 types of RTI programs and possibly eliminating the Team Grant category. The LRPC will be charged with looking into this issue and make recommendations to NSERC. Paul raised the point that the Gamma Group Team grant was perhaps the only Team grant currently existing and is a very successful one.
- NSERC found the context document prepared by CINP and IPP to be useful.
- Mike and Garth raised the issue of co-applicants of a grant not having adequate access to the proposal through the Research Portal. They were told that this is not what NSERC intended and they will take the issue to the NSERC IT department.
- Regarding the allocation of new funds the Discovery Grants program, received \$473,000. A committee is in place to work out what is to be done for the following years,

(b) With Pierre Charest (NSERC)

There was a discussion that subatomic physics is currently not a good fit in the newly announced Canada First Excellence Fund. They also learnt that there is not enough demand from the universities to increase the Discovery Grant funds. Garth suggested that we should discuss at the CINP AGM on how to lobby the university Presidents about this. He also said that most of the other disciplines can access many of the newly launched funding programs that more applied research focused, hence they do not necessarily require more Discovery Grant funding.

(c) With Lawrence Hanson (Industry Canada)

They were told that the decision on the CAPTURE proposal from TRIUMF will be known by the end of April. Garth and Mike raised the issue of lack in time coordination between decisions by CFI and NSERC. Lawrence Hanson was a bit taken aback by this and said that the two agencies should have some coordination. He asked CINP to write a letter on this. The point was also raised as to who should sign international MOUs on behalf of Canada.

(d) With Guy Levesque (CFI)

They learnt that CFI has 2/3 of its Board meetings outside of Ottawa and all around Canada in order to better understand the research context in different parts of Canada. For the first time he agreed that CFI would come for the Long Range Plan deliberation sessions. Mike and Garth also extended an invitation to Guy Levesque to make a presentation in the IPP-CINP joint session at the CAP Congress.

(v) CINP Town Hall meeting and CAP Congress (June 13-15) :

The meetings will be at the University of Alberta. Monday morning will be the joint session of IPP and CINP. Speakers will be, :

- Guy Levesque or someone else from CFI
- Presentations from TRIUMF and SNOLAB
- Presentation by the Chair of NSERC, SAPES

- Presentation from the LPRC Chair

(vi) Other news :

(a) There is a suggestion put forward to CINP by Jason Donev to invite Chalk River Lab. for a presentation at the CINP session at CAP. Chalk River Lab. wants researchers to use their facilities for fundamental research. Jena said that the neutron community taking over maybe a concern so we should clearly specify what should be the scope of the presentation. Jean said that we should mention that their presentation should be on a parts of the lab. that connect and appeal to the CINP community's interest. Gerald said that we should invite them but making sure that the CINP's interests are preserved. Ritu mentioned it would be good to invite them as it does not hurt to hear what facilities they have to offer.

Gerald had to sign off at this point.

Jason Donev has also put forward a suggestion to hold a Nuclear Science week for outreach across Canada. The intention is to arrange various public events, and the idea is that everyone coordinates to arrange something in their area during the week of October 19-23. Overall it was felt that this is good opportunity to get attention. It was discussed that Garth can contact Melisa Baluk at TRIUMF and put her in contact about organizing this.

(b) CINP Newsletter

Garth mentioned that the next newsletter would contain the following items :

- Summary on letters from CINP to NSERC and other agencies
- Section on CAP meeting sections
- Section on the proposed Nuclear Science week.
- Report on the URS competition

6. TRIUMF matters

Jens reported that some news has been received on the CAPTURE funding but it is not yet for public discussion hence he is not able to discuss further on it.

7. Other business

No one raised any other discussion item.

8. Next meeting

It was decided that the next meeting will be in the week of May 11. The institutional members will also have to meet to decide on electing a new member as Paul has mentioned that he will end his term. Jens will be considering and letting Garth know later if he wants to continue his membership on the Board.