LARGE FACILITIES

EUPRO Urges Access for First-timers

K.H. Chang, the Chairman of the European Union of Physics Research Organizations (EUPRO) that groups national funding agencies in physics, has issued on behalf of EUPRO a statement on ways to enhance access to large facilities. EUPRO members are being urged to adopt the guide-lines in discussions with their governments.

EUPRO in:

- considering the increasing demand for large facilities, like for instance synchrotron radiation facilities, neutron-beam facilities or facilities for high magnetic fields, and in particular facilities attracting users from a broad variety of disciplines,
- considering that international sharing of large national facilities should be encouraged in order to optimize the use of these facilities, in order to establish a system of complementary facilities in Europe and in order to stimulate effective international co-operation in science,
- considering the increased pressure on existing facilities to find third parties willing to share the running costs of these facilities,
- considering the large budgets needed in the coming years to invest in new facilities and/or in upgrading existing facilities,
- realizing that (access to) large facilities is

European Union of Physics Research Organisations
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EUPRO was founded in 1992 to promote coordination between national funding agencies.

and will be a main topic for science policy discussions,

- desires to express that EUPRO endorses several principles regarding the access to large facilities in Europe:

1) Free-of-charge access is an effective way to initiate and to stimulate international use of a facility. Large facilities should reserve up to 10% of their measuring time for free access of "new-comers" or "free riders", *i.e.*, first-time users or incidental users, to their installations. Proposals of all disciplines and of all parts of the world should be accepted based upon their scientific merits.

2) In the present situation it is inevitable that for access of regular users to each (either existing or new) large facility special arrangements are drawn up, ensuring some kind of compensation for this access.

3) In order to provide a good access to those regular users, it is recommended that such arrangements are directly linked with the improvement and increase in efficiency of existing facilities, for example through the establishment and operation of new beam-lines.

4) It is sensible for new facilities to demonstrate the international appeal by means of some kind of probation period in which external users can get free access to their facility, before trying to get external funding (for instance, from the Large Installations Programme of the European Union Framework programme).

EURPRO

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Corrections

Professor L.A. Turski, Director of the Center for Theoretical Physics (CTP), Polish Academy of Sciences (PAS), has written to say that the article by the Editor on physics in Poland in the April issue contained points that need clarification or correction. The reference to the closure of the last nuclear reactor relates to a nuclear power reactor and not to the various smaller reactors used by the National Atomic Energy Agency for research and isotope production. Second, the meeting *Evaluating Science and Scientists* (8-10 October 1993) at which Professor Turski presented his paper was not organized by Pugwash but held at Puŀtusk under the auspices of the Polish Association for the Advancement of Science and the Arts. The Editor apologises for any adverse reactions.

Szymon Bauch writing on behalf of the Polish Physical Society notes that the journal *Advances in Physics* is published bimonthly (not quarterly) by the Society and usually has 100 pages (not 30-40). Second, Professor Jan Mostowski works at the Institute of Physics of the PAS and not at the CTP (which is located in the same building). Finally, the annual student fees for the College of Science amount to ECU 450 *p.a.* (not ECU 900 *p.a.*)

Professor Turski also points out that it could be inferred from Professor J. Spalek's article "More by Reason than by Force" in the same issue that Born-Infeld electrodynamics was in some way attributed to Einstein. This was clearly not intended. Professor Spalek himself writes to say that M. Miesowicz did not discover liquid crystals. The credit should go instead to O. Lehmann working in Germany, with subsequent contributions by M. Jezewski in Poland. Secondly, nuclear physics in Cracow was greatly influenced by Henryk Niewodniczański and not by his son Jerzy Niewodniczański. Finally Rubmowicz should have been Rubinowicz.