

Report from EPS HQ

ELECTIONS TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee at its meeting on 19 and 20 February in Lisbon established the list of candidates for the elections to the Executive Committee to be organised at the EPS Council Meeting on 9 and 10 April in Mulhouse.

The candidate for President is A. Wolfendale. Members who will stand for re-election are G. Benedek, P. J. Brussaard, A.M. Eiro, D. Jérôme, R. Klein, P.-A. Lindgard, R. Sosnowsky, and D. Weaire.

The Members who have reached the end of their term are John Lewis and Jean Philippe Ansermet. The new candidates proposed for the two vacant positions are T. Hickson, P. Reinecker, and C. Rossel.

More information on all candidates will be included in the papers for Council sent to Council delegates.

UNIT FEE

In the light of the encouraging financial situation of the EPS and a projected increase in annual revenue due to the increase in membership and membership fees paid by national societies, the Executive Committee at its meeting on 19 and 20 February in Lisbon has decided to defer the motion for an increase in unit fee until 2001.

FORUM ON EDUCATION

In preparation for the seminar organized by the EPS Forum on Education to be held in Malvern (UK) on 4 to 5 September, 1999, a questionnaire

will be addressed to national physical societies, national science and physics teacher organizations, and agencies responsible for science and physics teacher training. The questionnaire is aimed at gathering information on the issues and actions taken to promote pre-university physics education and the public understanding of science.

BIOGRAPHY SERIES

As part of the EPS initiatives on the Public Understanding of Science (see news summary EN 30 1) a series of biographies is currently being prepared. Aimed at pre-university students, this series focuses on the life and times as well as the scientific achievements of well known physicists.

David Lee

Call for Creation of Accelerator & Beam Physics Forums

Dear Members of the Accelerator & Beam Physics Community,

LETTER Particle accelerators are used in almost every field of physics from elementary particles to solid state physics. Accelerators are finding a variety of applications such as ion implantation and lithography in industry, medicine radiotherapy and food sterilization. The need and importance of accelerators, and its impact on society need no elaboration.

As you are aware, accelerator & beam physics and its associated technologies are not yet part of the regular university curriculum in most parts of the world. The learning of such an important interdisciplinary science is done to a very large extent individually and through the very few schools when & where available. This very curious scenario is exacerbated by the near total absence of Divisions of Accelerator & Beams in most of the physical societies all over the world.

It is interesting to note that in recent years, many very interesting and useful developments in beam physics have taken place in remote departments outside the accelerator laboratories, by physicists with a primary training in other areas of physics. From these it is evident that they can collaborate with accelerator physicists and produce interesting and useful results in areas of beam dynamics, free electron lasers and several other topics. A symbolic event justifying the above statements is the last ICFA Advanced Beam Dynamics Workshop on Quantum Aspects of Beam Physics, held at Monterey, bringing together over a hundred physicists. A detailed re-

port of this historic meeting is to be found in the ICFA Newsletter No 16 April 1998 and the numerous contributions in the proceedings (Ed. Pisin Chen, World Scientific, Singapore, 1998). Such a workshop became relevant only recently. From such meetings it is evident that beam physics is growing rapidly in remote departments outside the big accelerator laboratories. We need more of such meetings to cater to the topics not yet addressed in the existing Meetings. To keep up with the growth of the beam physicists community, it is essential to have additional meetings to accommodate the growing number of personnel and wider range of topics.

By introducing beam physics in the regular university curricula it is sure to attract more minds to tackle some of the open and very challenging problems, which are creating an ever increasing demand for higher energies and luminosity and lower emittance beams with ever increasing particle species and saturation in the existing methods of particle acceleration. We need new results and revolutionary techniques for future machines.

Another point which I would like to bring to focus is the steady growth of the accelerator and beam physics community in the developing world, who have little or no access to accelerators in their own regions. We need to enhance their participation in the existing schools through more fellowships, particularly for travel. The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics, ICTP, Trieste, Italy can provide an excellent venue to hold such schools. ICTP in its long and very generous tradition has been doing so in many other areas of physics and other sciences. This will take care of the participants from the developing countries, and also the wide range of topics of interest to the community world-wide, by bringing together physicists and accelerator personnel together. This will definitely compliment the existing prestigious schools and the few efforts in the developing

countries, thus strengthening the community in more than one way.

For a complete and natural growth of any field it is essential to have a proper forum. To facilitate the required growth of the accelerators & beam physics community we need the immediate inclusion of accelerator & beam physics in regular university curriculum on a global scale, more international and national schools, creation of active divisions of accelerators/beams in various physical societies, and new forums in the form of beam physics clubs/societies. All these shall have a very significant role, through their regular courses, periodic schools, newsletters, fellowships and shall strengthen the accelerator & beam physics community world-wide. This has been the case in various other areas of physics, for a very long time. Why should beam physics make an exception?

It is noteworthy to see how the ICFA Beam Dynamics Panel has contributed to accelerator & beam physics. The well-attended ICFA Beam Dynamics Workshops are one of the proofs of its big success. It would be worthwhile to hold beam physics schools under the auspices of ICFA. Such schools would be extremely useful, particularly to the beginners in the field. We can be sure that these schools will be very successful like the ICFA Workshops. The widely circulated Newsletter is providing an excellent medium for communication & discussion. It can be further used for the creation of new forums, appealed for in this Letter.

It is hoped that the decision-makers take notice of this appeal and do the needful without any further delay.

Sincerely yours,
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see ICFA Beam Dynamics Panel Newsletter No 16 April 1998 p22-25