

# CINP Board Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2024, 12:00 AtI/11:00 East/10:00 MB/9:00SK+AB/8:00 BC

Zoom meeting.

Present: Olga (Liliana) Caballero Suarez, Gwen Grinyer, Rituparna Kanungo, Russell Mammei, Chris Ruiz, Thomas Brunner (minutes)

Non-voting: Greg Hackman, Garth Huber

## 1. Approval of Agenda

**Thomas moves to approve, Ritu seconds.**

## 2. Approval of Jan 31/24 Minutes

- including also E-vote of March 4/24

**Liliana motions to approve minutes including e-vote, Gwen seconds.**

## 3. Finance Report (Greg)

### a) status of NSERC and Private accounts as of March 31, 2024

Greg reports on budget. Bottom line, as of the past FY we are still spending down our private account as planned. The change of \$-2k was as expected.

There were a lot of expenses that came in too late to be paid during FY2023. The URS from Calgary from 2023 is now paid but only in this fiscal year (after March 31, 2024). All outstanding invoices are captured and tracked by Greg.

The projection for the private account is that the revenue is going up due to Calgary joining. We should be bringing in as much money as we are spending. As long as our expenses do not go up over the coming years, we should fiscally be fine for the coming several years. In conclusion, the situation is much better now than it was last year, largely due to Calgary coming in with a large group.

Gwen: how does it work with the expiration date on awarded money? Greg: if it is close to the deadline, Greg gives the recipient a call and restarts the clock of 3 months. For the most part, the 3-month deadline is for institutions to get things working on their accounting side. Greg does not want to cut people off because of slow administration. Chris: does it make sense to have a deadline identified in the award letter by when an invoice should be sent? Greg: we effectively have this already. If Greg hears within 3 months, he keeps the expense as projected, otherwise, he drops them from the list/budget.

#### b) update on member invoices paid to date

Last year invoices were fully paid.

#### c) Motion to approve the FY23 financial statements to be

The financial statement will be presented at the Institutional Members meeting on May 15, 2024. Greg distributed the statements by email on April 30, 2024.

**Chris moves motion to approve the FY2023 financial statement. Russ seconds.**

#### d) Motion re Appointment of Auditor

The current auditor is Dudley & Company LLP, #100 - 225 13th Ave, Regina, SK S4P-0V6.

Greg has a good working relationship with the company and is happy sticking with the auditor.

**Ritu moves motion to reappoint the auditor, Russ seconds.**

Greg leaves the meeting at this point.

## 4. Executive Director Report (Garth)

#### a) SWG Review Update

Garth reports on the conclusion of the new SWG chairs. The SWG Chairs for 5-year term ending in 2029 are:

Fundamental Symmetries -- Jeff Martin (Winnipeg) acclaimed

Nuclear Astrophysics -- Nicole Vassh (TRIUMF) acclaimed

Nuclear Education & Training -- Ruben Sandapen (Acadia) elected

Nuclear Structure -- Paul Garrett (Guelph) acclaimed

QCD/Hadrons -- Svetlana Barkanova (Memorial) renewal by acclamation

**Russel moves motion to approve the SWG Chairs for term ending in 2029. Thomas Seconds.**

Garth reports that the nuclear theory SWG is off cycle:

- Nuclear Theory -- Alexandros Gezerlis (Guelph) 5yr term expires in 2026

Garth will take the following actions:

- thank Ania Kwiatkowski (TRIUMF) for standing for election for Nuclear Education & Training SWG Chair
- send thanks to all outgoing SWG Chairs
- update SWG Terms of Reference (final vote deferred until the next meeting)
- consult with the outgoing and incoming Chairs if any changes are needed, however, none are expected. If there are comments they will be discussed in a future board meeting.

The terms and references for the SWG were last changed in 2019.

## b) Membership

- New Associate Applications
  - 242 - Abbygale Swadling (Calgary)
  - 243 - Nafis Niloy (Manitoba)
  - 244 - Pouya Heidari (Calgary)
  - 245 - Zarin Ahmed (Guelph)
  - 246 - Jay Suh (Calgary)
- New Faculty Application
  - 066 - Stephan Malbrunot (TRIUMF)
- Remove? (emails bounce, have no other contact info)
  - 133 - Beatrice Franke (TRIUMF)
  - 181 - Sriteja Upadhyaula (TRIUMF)
  - 186 - Eleni Lykiardopoulou (UBC)

Chris mentions that the first two (133 & 181) left TRIUMF for private sector jobs, Thomas mentions that Eleni Lykiardopoulou left for a PDF position at Berkley National Lab. Thomas to reach out to Eleni to inquire if she is interested in staying a CINP member. Chris to follow up with Sriteja Upadhyaula (TRIUMF). Gwen reached out to Beatrice who is OK being removed.

**Gwen moves, Ritu seconds the motion to approve new members and the removal of Beatrice.**

Ritu signs off at 11:22.

## c) Update regarding CINP events during CAP Congress week

Garth reports on planned upcoming meetings. For information, the planned meetings are:

- CINP Board Meeting Tues May 28 @ 19:30
- CINP AGM Thur May 30 @ 12:15
- CINP+IPP Joint Session Thur May 30 @ 13:45 (funding agencies and labs give update at this meeting)

## d) Undergraduate Research Scholarships competition summary

Garth reports on the competition. The goal was to maintain a rate of 2/3 of successful awards.

Selection committee:

- Barry Davids (TRIUMF), Chair
- Peter Blunden (Manitoba)
- Greg Christian (Saint Mary's)
- Zisis Papandreou (Regina)

15 applications were received, 10 awards were given (one award was declined since the candidate got an IPP CERN and NSERC USRA award). The award went to the backup candidate.

### e) Graduate Fellowships competition summary

The selection committee consisted of:

- Chris Ruiz (TRIUMF), Chair
- Sangyong Jeon (McGill)
- Ruben Sandapen (Acadia), incoming Education SWG Chair
- Paul Garrett (Guelph), recused from 1 application in conflict

9 applications were received, 2 awards were given, according to the number of awards approved by the board.

Chris: the competition was fairly straightforward. Garth: all winners were notified and accepted.

Gwen raises concerns about the lack of diversity on the selection committee. Garth states that he contacted a large number of researchers including several females who all declined. It was difficult to find members for the selection committee. Garth tries hard to assemble a diverse committee, but this round he was unsuccessful.

### f) Update on recent Junior Scientist awards

Garth reports that there is a recent uptick in inquiries on junior scientist awards, which is good. Post-COVID the interest was really low, this year it is going up. Two awards were given since the last Board meeting:

- Knight-Caballero received \$1000
- Ghaffar-Aleksejevs received \$2000

One inquiry was received from Kia Boon Ng, supervised by Stephan Malbrunot. The application is expected soon. If the full \$7k that has been approved is exhausted, Garth will come back to the board to request an increase of the limit.

### g) CINF May Newsletter

Garth is compiling the CINF newsletter which is supposed to go out in the next ~week. Preliminary content is:

- CAP Congress info
- URS and GF results
- WNPPC award recipients

- Congratulations to new CAP Fellows
- TRIUMF will provide info on new funding, 5YP, Science Week
- research articles from outgoing Grad Fellowship awardees
- new results from John Behr

## 7. Next Board Meeting:

The next Board meeting will be on Tue May 28 at the CAP Congress (UWO), 19:30-20:30 Eastern, Room TBA

- following the poster session, no food will be provided
- the hope is to go for a group dinner afterward

Confirmed attending in-person:

- Garth Huber
- Liliana Caballero Suarez
- Gwen Grinyer
- Thomas Brunner

Confirmed attending remotely:

- Russ Mammei tries to sign on remotely.
- Chris Ruiz will try to call in remotely.
- Ritu Kanungo will try to attend virtually.

At the board meeting, we need to select the officers for the upcoming year. The chairs of the SWGs and Institutional Representatives are invited to attend.

## 5. News from TRIUMF

Chris reports: the big news is that new funding of almost \$400M was approved. It was not the amount that was asked for, but an increase to previous funding. Nigel Smith gave a presentation at the all-hands meeting where he discussed the results and their implications moving forward. The 5-year plan that was submitted to the government presented several scenarios as heat maps. In the version that was around the \$400M mark, the operation of ARIEL was in the slight red, stating that the operation of ARIEL would be in jeopardy at this level of funding. However, ARIEL is at the top of the priority list. TRIUMF will go through a process of prioritization trying to identify which projects are going forward. Some of the green field/blue sky ideas may be removed. There will be a science division retreat in two weeks where the hiring priorities for new science hires will be discussed.

Science Week will be a big contributor to the priorities. A way to get ARIEL online while saving money which was brought up in the past was to shut down ISAC for one year. This was opposed by the community. The proposal was to reduce the yearly schedule by 2 months from 8 to 6 months. This was implemented in 2017 and over the years summed to an accumulated shutdown of one year. This has not helped to accelerate ARIEL sufficiently. As a consequence, it is becoming more attractive to shut down ISAC for a full year to further accelerate ARIEL. Chris expects that there will be solicitation from the community during Science Week. The goal is to be ready to start ARIEL in

2027. The shutdown would be in 2026 as experiments are already being planned for 2025. Chris mentions that a goal of ARIEL is to attract ISOLDE users to TRIUMF. The shutdown in 2026 could be used for users to get their experiments ready for when ARIEL starts in 2027.

Russ asks about staffing and retention: is TRIUMF trying harder to keep its technical staff? Chris: nothing of this nature was discussed during the all-hands meeting. It will be a big theme during the retreat on how to build up the technical expertise to run experiments. TRIUMF is now getting to a critical point where experiments cannot be performed anymore because technical expertise has left.

Garth mentions that Nigel Smith will give an update on TRIUMF at the CAP congress.

Chris summarizes that overall the mood at the lab is very positive because of the positive funding result.

## 6. Other Business

No other business.

## 8. Adjourn

**Thomas motions to adjourn, Chris seconds.** Meeting ends at 11:45.