

Executive Summary of 68th board Meeting of the EPS Nuclear Physics Division, Worms, Germany, 17th - 18th October 2014

The 68th board Meeting of the EPS Nuclear Physics Division (EPS NPD) was held in Worms, Germany, 17th -18th October 2014, hosted by Klaus Peters (GSI).

The board welcomed three newly elected board members: Nicola Bianchi, Piet Van Duppen and Jouni Suhonen. The board also agreed to co-opt Wojtek Dominik, Jan Ryckebusch and Alexander Sorin to join the board in January 2015. It offered its thanks to two retiring members: Victor Zamfir and Nevio Grion. Their places will be filled by election over the winter. Faiçal Azaiez was elected as chair-elect for 2015, to become chair in 2016-2017. Johan Nyberg was re-elected as board Secretary for 2015-2016.

The board meeting was held immediately after the Divisional Conference on the Science and Technology of FAIR which provided good coverage of nuclear physics in the host country. The conference was a huge success with ~240 registered delegates. It brought together the four diverse physics fields to be studied at FAIR: NUSTAR, PANDA, CBM and APPA, as well as highlighting the technological advances in accelerators, storage rings and detectors needed to realise the proposed state-of-the-art research. The transfer of ideas and experience between different physics areas was extremely valuable.

Preparations for the next two Divisional conferences: Nuclear Physics in Astrophysics VII, York, 18th – 22nd May 2015 and the 3rd European Nuclear Physics Conference, Groningen, 31st August – 4th September 2015 are progressing well and both conferences look like being very successful. The board is exploring possibilities for a second facility-based divisional conference to be held in 2016 and will shortly invite bids to host the VIII Nuclear Physics in Astrophysics Conference. It endorsed the 2015 conference on Electromagnetic Interactions with Nucleons and Nuclei (EINN) as an EPS sponsored conference.

A special ceremony was organised in CERN on 3rd Sep 2014 at which Douglas MacGregor (division chair) and Victor Zamfir (chair Lise Meitner Prize committee) presented the 2014 Lise Meitner medals, diplomas and prize money to Paolo Giubellino, Peter Braun-Munzinger, Johanna Stachel and Jürgen Schukraft for their outstanding contributions to exploring the quark-gluon plasma using ultra-relativistic nucleus-nucleus collisions. A call will be issued shortly for nominations for the 2015 IBA Prize for applications of Nuclear Physics. The division will also award its second European Nuclear Physics Thesis Prize in 2015 for the most outstanding PhD thesis in experimental, theoretical or applied nuclear physics in the three-year period 2012 – 2014 awarded in a country which is member of the EPS.

The board is also continuing its work on a topical paper on “Applications of nuclear physics for the study, preservation and conservation of cultural heritage”. It is planned to complete this important work during 2015.

The next meeting will be held in Santiago de Compostela on 17th and 18th April 2015.