Board meeting - section for Elementary and Astroparticle Physics - 23/01/2018

Present: Arnaud, Caterina, Chad, Christian, Christophe, Joakim, Riccardo, Roman, Yvonne + Peter as former chair.

* Election of justeringsperson:

Joakim was elected as "justeringsperson" for this meeting.

* Approval of the last minutes:

The minutes of https://indico.lucas.lu.se/event/740/ were approved.

* Election of kassör/skattmästare:

Arnaud was elected and will inform Lage Hedin. It was then discussed whether there is a way to fund representatives from our own money. It was discussed within the physics society, but the message was that people should use their own money. This can be troublesome if some representatives do not have their own funding (Arnaud will check with them). Also, for IPPOG, the annual fee of 3000 euros was paid by the LHC consortium but, in the last round, no money was given to outreach and it should be handled by the board. Other expenses for outreach are Masterclasses, CERN celebration events in Sweden, but these are taken care of locally. Arnaud will discuss the issue of funding of representatives and outreach at the next physics society meeting, and ask how this is handled in other sections.

* News item for the SFS webpage:

We need to prepare about 5-10 sentences by February 15th. It was agree to advertise the upcoming round of Masterclasses (ATLAS) and, in particular, mention the one in Lund on the International Day of Women in Sciences (February 12th), adding a short comment from a student as a conclusion. Caterina and Arnaud will prepare the text by February 8th, send it around the board with 2-3 days to comment. Also, it was asked whether the news of our section be added to our own section, or automatically linked to our feed? Possibly there will be Icecube news in March-April.

* Follow-up on the Curie article:

We discussed whether we want to answer to Lars Kloo's reply to our article in Curie. About the salary funding by VR, one would have to first review the landscape of salary funding among our universities. In addition, there is a current governmental investigation about a long-term funding system of universities, with a preliminary report:

http://www.sou.gov.se/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Övergripande-modellförslag-180104.pdf.

Preparing an answer about research funding by VR would take a long time. Regarding the feedback on research applications, there have already been similar debate articles elsewhere. Hence, we decided to just close the item for now. Possibly, in the future, we can give feedback on the governmental investigation, if needed.

* IUPAP Young Scientist Prize - nominations:

C11 will go through nominations for particle physics this year, C4 has a similar prize next year. We discussed whether the board wants to make a nomination. It was argued that this may discourage others to make individual nominations, and that it could it be counter-productive against other universities? So we need a transparent procedure, with input from the universities that we represent and one week is too short to converge on a name. We should think about it for the next year and be ready in advance, hence it could be discussed at partikeldagarna to ensure support from the community. Also, it was noted that it would be strange if the board nominates one of its members.

* Upcoming meetings of interest: European PP strategy 24/1 & SFS meeting 2/3:

A question was raised, namely whether astroparticle physics is included in the European PP strategy. There is indeed a small overlap (dark matter, accelerator-based neutrinos), but the main focus is collider physics. There is a similar dedicated effort for discussing the strategy astroparticle physics. After the meeting, Joakim found out that Antonio Masiero, who has been involved with the APPEC roadmap, will most likely be an observer when the CERN roadmap for particle physics is written.

* Partikeldagarna 2018:

Lund will be responsible for organising the meeting this year. Caterina and Roman will identify weeks to veto in September-November, board members should provide some information. It would be good to announce the location and dates early, before the summer. Possibly there could be an ATLAS day in connection with the meeting. Board members should also suggest invited speakers.

*Any other business?

The next meeting is likely to be in March-April as there is no urgent issue to discuss right now.