

Minutes of the SGN/SSDN General Assembly 2015

Date/Location : September 2, 2015, ECNS Conference, Zaragoza, Spain
Start : 14:00
End : 15:00
Participants : 12 members of the society, 13 non-members

1. Welcome

The president of the SGN/SSDN, Henrik Ronnow welcomes the participants to the general assembly 2015.

2. Minutes of the General Assembly 2014

The minutes of the general assembly of the SGN/SSDN from 26.11.2014, published in Swiss Neutron News #45 are accepted without objections.

3. Annual Report of the Chairman

H. Ronnow reports on the activities of the SGN/SSDN in the year 2014:

- a) The second Young Scientist Prizes of the SGN/SSDN sponsored by Swiss Neutronics has been awarded to Dr. Jonas Okkels Birk.
- b) As of Nov. 2013, the SGN has tax charitable status. The membership fees and donations are tax deductible.
- c) One issue of Swiss Neutron News has appeared in March 2015, a further issue will appear in autumn 2015.
- d) The SGN/SSDN has presently 199 members.

4. Report of the Treasurer

The annual balance sheet 2014 is presented:

Assets SGN/SSDN on 1.1.2014:

SFr 4011.54

	Revenues [SFr]	Expenses [SFr]
Membership-fees (cash box)	80.00	
Membership-fees (postal check acc.)	575.66	
Donations	1030.00	
Interest	1.90	
Expenses PC account		61.50
Tax solution		777.60
Total	1687.56	839.10
Net earnings 2014:	SFr 848.46	



Balance sheet 2014:

	Assets [SFr]	Liabilities [SFr]
Postal check account	4580.00	
Cash box	280.00	
Assets on 31.12.2014	4860.00	

5. Report of the Auditors

Bericht der Revisoren

Die Rechnungsrevisoren haben die Belege, die Abrechnungen und die Bilanz für das Jahr 2014 geprüft und für in Ordnung befunden!

<u>26.1.14</u>		<u>30.1.15</u>	
Datum	Dr. M. Zolliker, PSI	Datum	Dr. K. Krämer, Uni Bern

Both Auditors (K. Krämer and M. Zolliker) have examined the bookkeeping and the balance 2014. They have accepted it without objection. The participants therefore unanimously vote for a release of the SGN/SSDN board.

6. Budget 2016

H. Ronnow presents the following proposal for the budget 2016:

	Receipts [SFr]	Expenditures [SFr]
member fees	800.00	
interest	0.00	
welcome reception Zuoz 2016		600.00
fees PC account		50.00
Total	800.00	650.00
Total receipts 2016	150.00	

The participants accept the budget proposal unanimously.

7. Election of board members

The term of the SGN board, Prof. Henrik Ronnow (president), Dr. Michel Kenzelmann, Dr. Eleonora Livia Bove, Dr. Urs Gasser (secretary), ends in 2015 and, therefore, the board has to be renewed. All four board members volunteer to serve another term.

Henrik Ronnow is reelected unanimously as president. Michel Kenzelmann is reelected unanimously as board member. Eleonora Livia Bove is reelected unanimously as board member. Urs Gasser is reelected unanimously as board member and secretary.

The term of the newly elected board will end in 2018.

8. News from ENSA (H. Ronnow)

- a) Christiane Alba-Simionesco (LLB, France) is now the new chairperson of ENSA and Ferenc Mezei (ESS) has become the new vice-chairman.
- b) As ESS is now being built, ENSA can focus on the long term development of the neutron landscape.
- c) Concerning the future European neutron landscape including ESS, sacrifices at other neutron sources may have to be made when ESS becomes operational. Where and how such sacrifices could be made needs to be discussed. The input of all neutron users is welcome and should be communicated directly to ENSA or the national neutron scattering associations.

9. News from ILL (Ch. Rüegg, communicated by H. Ronnow)

- a) The future operation of the ILL research reactor is being discussed. The reactor fuel and the reactor cycles are in the focus of this discussion. In particular, the length of the cycles and the neutron flux during operation can be changed. For Switzerland, the maximum neutron flux is most interesting, as a very high neutron flux is most complementary to SINQ. Comments regarding the operation of ILL should be directed to Ch. Rüegg, the Swiss representative in the ILL Scientific Council.
- b) The ENDURANCE program continues with a first round of high-priority projects. These include new sample environments, software projects, new neutron guides, the fission product prompt gamma-ray spectrometer FIPPS, the high-density ultra-cold neutron source SuperSUN, the white beam reflectometer RAINBOWS, and the polarized thermal time-of-flight spectrometer PANTHER.
- c) As announced earlier, EPFL and CEA have signed a contract for a Swiss participation in the CEA-CRG instruments IN22, IN12, and D23. Proposals for access to these instruments have to be submitted via the usual proposal process of ILL.

10. News from SINQ (Ch. Rüegg)

- a) In 2014, SINQ has received 438 new proposals. The number of experiment days in 2014 (1965) was somewhat higher than in 2013 (1841). Accordingly, the number of visits in 2014 (962) was also higher than in 2013 (870).
- b) About 50% of the beam time in 2014 was used by Swiss users. The largest Swiss user groups are PSI, EPFL, and ETH Zürich.
- c) There are three running instrument upgrades: The extreme conditions spectrometer (CAMEA) upgrade of Rita-II is planned to become operational in 2017. The single-crystal diffractometer Trics will be replaced with the new diffractometer ZEBRA in 2016. On the ICON imaging beamline, the neutron imaging microscope upgrade (N-microscope) is being realized.
- d) The major upgrade of the neutron guide system of SINQ is planned for 2019/2020. This is planned to include a focusing reflectometer (SELENE), an extreme conditions instrument for high fields and high pressure (Xtreme), and a SANS instrument optimized for small samples.

11. News from ESS (Ch. Rüegg)

- a) The European Spallation Source (ESS) is now under construction in Lund, Sweden, and is planned to become operational in 2019. Switzerland is among the 17 member countries and contributes 3.5% to the construction budget of 1.8B €.
- b) ESS is planned to have 16 operational instruments by 2025. Switzerland is involved in six instrument projects: The Danish-Swiss extreme environments spectrometer CAMEA, the Swiss-Danish focusing reflectometer SELENE, the Danish-Swiss diffraction instrument HEIMDAL, and the German-Swiss neutron imaging beamline ODIN have been approved for the 'engineering design' phase. The Danish-Swiss proposal for a compact, chopped SANS was not accepted for the design phase, as this proposal has significant overlap with another SANS project. Switzerland is also involved in a proposal for a magnetic crystal diffractometer (MAGiC) together with France and Germany. This proposal has been recommended by the Scientific Advisory Committee of ESS.

13. Young Scientist Prize of the SGN 2015, sponsored by SwissNeutronics

The 2015 Young Scientist Prize of the Swiss Neutron Scattering Society sponsored by SwissNeutronics is awarded to Dr. Jonas Okkels Birk for his outstanding work on neutron instrumentation in the CAMEA project for the European Spallation Source. The amount of the prize is CHF 1000 and is sponsored by SwissNeutronics. After the award

ceremony, Jonas Okkels Birk presents his contribution to the CAMEA project in a 20 minute presentation.

U. Gasser
September 2015