

Minutes of the SGN/SSDN General Assembly 2016

Date/Location : November 10, 2016, Paul Scherrer Institut
Start : 17:00
End : 18:00
Participants : 14 members of the society, 4 non-members

1. Welcome

Michel Kenzelmann, board member of the SGN/SSDN, welcomes the participants to the general assembly 2016. The president of the society, Henrik Ronnow, is not present due to a neutron related meeting in Bern.

2. Minutes of the General Assembly 2015

The minutes of the general assembly of the SGN/SSDN from 2.9.2015, published in Swiss Neutron News #46 are accepted without objections.

3. Annual Report of the Chairman

M. Kenzelmann reports on the activities of the SGN/SSDN in the years 2015 and 2016:

- a) The second (2015) and third (2016) Young Scientist Prize of the SGN/SSDN sponsored by Swiss Neutronics have been awarded to Dr. Jonas Okkels Birk and to Dr. Andrea Scotti, respectively.
- b) Two issues of Swiss Neutron News have appeared in March and October 2015 and another two have appeared in March and September 2016.
- c) The SGN/SSDN has 201 members at the time of the assembly.

4. Report of the Treasurer

The annual balance sheet 2015 is presented:

Assets SGN/SSDN on 1.1.2015:

SFr 4860.00

	Revenues [SFr]	Expenses [SFr]
Membership-fees (cash box)	230.00	
Membership-fees (postal check acc.)	580.00	
Donations	15.00	
Deposit prize money (A. Scotti)	1000.00	
Interest	0.40	
Expenses PC account		66.20
Apero Lyceum Alpinum Zuoz		476.00
Payout prize money		1000.00
Total	1825.40	1542.20

Net earnings 2015:

SFr 283.20

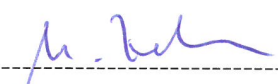

Balance sheet 2015:

	Assets [SFr]	Liabilities [SFr]
Postal check account	5143.20	
Cash box	0.00	
Assets on 31.12.2015	5143.20	

5. Report of the Auditors

Bericht der Revisoren

Die Rechnungsrevisoren haben die Belege, die Abrechnungen und die Bilanz für das Jahr 2015 geprüft und für in Ordnung befunden!

<u>7.1.16</u>	<u></u>	<u>26.1.16</u>	<u></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 2015. They have accepted it without objection. The participants therefore unanimously vote for the release of the SGN/SSDN board.

6. Budget 2017

M. Kenzelmann presents the following proposal for the budget 2017:

	Receipts [SFr]	Expenditures [SFr]
member fees	800.00	
interest	0.00	
welcome reception PSI Summer School		600.00
fees PC account		50.00
Total	800.00	650.00
Total receipts 2016	150.00	
assets 31.12.2017	5010.00	

The participants accept the budget proposal unanimously.

7. SGN board for the period Sept. 2015 - Sept. 2018

The SGN board, Prof. Henrik Ronnow (president), Dr. Michel Kenzelmann, Dr. Eleonora Livia Bove, and Dr. Urs Gasser (secretary) was re-elected at the general assembly 2015. Livia Bove has now left EPFL and is back in France. Therefore, she may be replaced before the term of the board ends in 2018. Recommendations for a successor of Livia Bove are welcome and should be sent to the SGN board.

8. News from ENSA (from H. Ronnow)

- a) Since 2015, Christiane Alba-Simionesco (LLB, France) is the chairperson of ENSA, and Ferenc Mezei (ESS) is the vice-chairman.
- b) As ESS is now being built, ENSA is working on its role and to find a balance between a “support all” and a “opinionated expert’s voice” role.
- c) Opinions and input of the SGN members concerning the European neutron landscape and the future need of access to ESS and ILL are welcome and should be communicated directly to ENSA or to the SGN board.
- d) Within ENSA, there is a discussion about the need for compact neutron sources with a cost on the order of 100 MCHF, which is mainly driven by the research centers Jülich and Saclay.

9. News from ILL (from Ch. Rüegg)

- a) The ILL reactor has been operated in 2016 with three reactor cycles, and three cycles are also planned for 2017 and 2018. In 2019, only two cycles are planned due to a half-year shutdown for work on the reactor. This reduction of neutron production will coincide with the SINQ upgrade, which implies a strongly reduced access to neutron sources for Swiss researchers. Three or four reactor cycles are planned for 2020 and 2021.
- b) There was again a very high request for beam time by Swiss users who got about 6% of the available beam time at ILL. This is about twice the beam time that Switzerland pays for.
- c) As in 2015, the ENDURANCE program continues with high-priority projects. These include new sample environments, the Bastille software project, new neutron guides, the fission product prompt gamma-ray spectrometer FIPPS, and the high-density ultra-cold neutron source SuperSUN. ENDURANCE also comprises updates D7+, D10+, XtremeD, and Panther, which are mostly for magnetism, as well as Figaro/Rainbows, Ramses, and IN5+.
- d) The Swiss Parliament has opened a new funding line amounting to 14.4 MCHF, which sets the ground for a possible renewal of the scientific membership of Switzerland in ILL over the years 2019-2023. The Swiss contributions to ILL is 22.8 MCHF for 2009-2013, 18.2 MCHF for 2014-2018, and 14.4 MCHF for 2019-2023.

- e) 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 ESS (from Ch. Rüegg)

- a) The European Spallation Source (ESS) is under construction in Lund, Sweden, and is planned to become operational in 2019. Switzerland is among the 17 member countries.
- b) ESS is planned to have 16 operational instruments by 2025. Switzerland is involved in five instrument projects: the imaging beam line ODIN selected in 2013, the reflectometer ESTIA, the spectrometer BIFROST, and the powder diffractometer HEIMDAL selected in 2014, as well as the MAGIC single crystal diffractometer selected in 2015. These instrument projects are carried out in collaboration with Denmark, Germany, France, and Norway. Furthermore, Switzerland contributes to the neutron optics and the software of ESS.
- c) First neutrons are planned for 2019 and the first eight instruments will be installed in 2020/21. These include ESTIA, BIFROST, ODIN, and MAGIC with Swiss participation. The commissioning of the first instruments and the ramp-up to a power of 2 MW are planned for 2022.

11. News from SINQ (from Ch. Rüegg)

- a) The SINQ upgrade project is close to receiving final approval. Two instruments are planned to be replaced or to receive a major upgrade: the powder diffractometer DMC and SANS-II. Both these instruments are planned to be placed in new positions in the guide hall. The reflectometer AMOR will receive a Selene guide and will be rebuilt to allow for tilting angles up to 20 degrees in the horizontal plane. The spectrometer Rita2 gets more space for the CAMEA setup. The instruments TASP, FOCUS, SANS-I, and Rita2 will not be rebuilt. All neutron guides from the source to the instruments will be upgraded. The cost of the guide upgrade is estimated to be 11 MCHF.
- b) The timeline of the SINQ upgrade includes a SINQ shutdown in 2019 for the exchange of the neutron guides and work in the neutron bunker. The commissioning of the instruments with minor upgrade (FOCUS, TASP, SANS-I, Rita2, Morpheus) is planned for January and February 2020. The second commissioning phase for AMOR, DMC, SANS-II and the instruments Orion and Narziss without user access is planned to follow later in 2020.

12. Miscellaneous

- a) Eberhard Lehman proposes to change the name of the society from “Swiss Neutron Scattering Society” to “Swiss Society for Neutron Research”, as this new name would include neutron imaging, and other users of SINQ, e.g. from radio chemistry. It is decided that this proposal will be emailed to all SGN members and a vote will be organized.
- b) Peter Fischer asks about the status of the SINQ target after the SINQ failure in summer 2016. The replacement of the target with one having the same design has been approved with the restriction of a limited total flux. This implies that neutron production might end before the end of December in 2017.

U. Gasser
January 2017