

Minutes of the SGN/SSDN General Assembly 2017

Date/Location : November 3, 2017, Paul Scherrer Institut
Start : 17:00
End : 18:00
Participants : 16 members of the society

1. Welcome

Henrik Ronnow, president of the SGN/SSDN, welcomes the participants to the general assembly 2017.

2. Minutes of the General Assembly 2016

The minutes of the general assembly of the SGN/SSDN from 10.11.2016, published in Swiss Neutron News #49 are accepted without objections.

3. Annual Report of the Chairman

H. Ronnow reports on the activities of the SGN/SSDN in the years 2016 and 2017:

- a) The third (2016) and fourth (2017) Young Scientist Prize of the SGN/SSDN sponsored by Swiss Neutronics have been awarded to Dr. Andrea Scotti and Dr. Viviane Lutz-Bueno, respectively.
- b) Two issues of Swiss Neutron News have appeared in March and September 2016 and another two have appeared in April and October 2017.
- c) The SGN/SSDN has 211 members at the time of the assembly.

4. Report of the Treasurer

The annual balance sheet 2016 is presented:

Assets SGN/SSDN on 1.1.2016:

SFr 5143.20

	Revenues [SFr]	Expenses [SFr]
Membership-fees (cash box)	140.00	
Membership-fees (postal check acc.)	510.00	
Donations	60.00	
Deposit prize money	1000.00	
Expenses Postfinance account		63.85
Payout prize money		1000.00
Total	1710.00	1063.85
Net earnings 2016:	SFr 646.15	

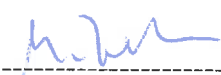

Balance sheet 2016:

	Assets [SFr]	Liabilities [SFr]
Postfinance account	5649.35	
Cash box	140.00	
Assets on 31.12.2016	5789.35	

5. Report of the Auditors

Bericht der Revisoren

Die Rechnungsrevisoren haben die Belege, die Abrechnungen und die Bilanz für das Jahr 2016 geprüft und für in Ordnung befunden!

<u>M.1.17</u>	<u></u>	<u>23.01.17</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 2016. They have accepted it without objection. The participants therefore unanimously vote for the release of the SGN/SSDN board.

6. Budget 2018

H. Ronnow presents the following proposal for the budget 2018:

	Receipts [SFr]	Expenditures [SFr]
member fees	700.00	
interest	0.00	
welcome reception		
fees PC account		50.00
Total	700.00	50.00
Total receipts 2018	650.00	
assets 31.12.2018	6439.35	

The participants accept the budget proposal unanimously. The membership fees are discussed, and Christian Rüegg and Michel Kenzelmann propose to make SGN membership free for students. H. Ronnow points out that the slowly increasing assets of SGN will be of advantage when money is needed e.g. for a bibliometric study to document the impact of neutron science or for a new strategy paper of the SGN.

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

The SGN board, Prof. Henrik Ronnow (president), Dr. Michel Kenzelmann, and Dr. Urs Gasser (secretary) was re-elected at the general assembly 2015. (Dr. Eleonora Livia Bove has left Switzerland and, therefore, has resigned from the SGN board in 2016.) H. Ronnow and U. Gasser are willing to stay on the SGN board for another term. In a short discussion, Prof. Markus Strobl and Prof. Florian Piegsa are mentioned as possible candidates for the board. The election of the new board (2019-2021) will take place at the general assembly 2018.

8. News from ENSA (H. Ronnow)

- a) Since 2015, Christiane Alba-Simionesco (LLB, France) is the chairperson of ENSA, and Ferenc Mezei (ESS) is the vice-chairman. Their term has ended but was extended until new chair persons are elected.
- b) European neutron landscape: ENSA has to find a balance between a 'support all' and an 'opinionated expert voice' strategy. ESS is being built as the new European flagship for neutron science and needs strong support to start operation with as many instruments as possible. On the other hand, a discussion about compact neutron sources in Europe has been started a few years ago. These plans for smaller sources are mainly supported by the Forschungszentrum Jülich and the LLB. H. Ronnow argues that new small neutron sources with a performance 10 to 100 times below that of SINQ are of not of interest for Swiss users. It would be better to support the existing neutron facilities to make sure all existing beam ports are used with state of the art instruments and sufficient staff. The members of SGN are invited to share their opinion about the strategy of the SGN and ENSA with the SGN board.
- c) As a successor of the successful NMI3 and SINE2020 programs to support the access of users to European neutron sources, a new EU funding program has been opened. Both NMI3 and SINE2020 were governed by the neutron facilities. For the new call, ENSA has become a proposer. The role of ENSA in future calls needs to be discussed.
- d) A new schedule for the construction of ESS is expected in Feb. 2018. There might be delays compared to the old schedule.

9. News from ILL (Ch. Rüegg)

- a) For 2017, three cycles with full power were planned for the ILL reactor. However, the reactor was stopped after only one cycle. Therefore, the second call for proposals in 2017 was cancelled. In the first call, there was a high demand from Swiss users, and beam time allocation according to national balance was applied

- for the first time. As a consequence, 4 Swiss proposals (25 beam days) were shifted to the CRG instruments with Swiss participation and 4 Swiss proposals (35 days) were cancelled or shifted to SINQ. In 2018 and 2019, three reactor cycles are planned, and 2 cycles are scheduled for 2020. During the SINQ upgrade in 2019, full beam production is planned at the ILL.
- b) The ENDURANCE program has been continued with high priority. First results from the new gamma-ray spectrometer FIPPS have been obtained and the new instrument PANTHER has made good progress. The second phase of the ENDURANCE program has been discussed in the Scientific Council and Steering Committee meetings in Nov. 2017.

10. News from ESS (from Ch. Rüegg)

- a) The European Spallation Source (ESS) is under construction in Lund, Sweden, and the installation of the first instruments is planned for 2020/2021.
- b) Switzerland is involved in five instrument projects. The reflectometer ESTIA (100% Swiss) is planned to be among the first instruments to be installed 2020/2021. Furthermore, there are Swiss contributions to controls, data, and software for ESS.
- c) In the current construction plan, about 300 MEUR are missing. It is expected that there will be delays in the construction of instruments. A new schedule from the ESS steering committee is expected in Feb. 2018.
- d) User operation with 8 instruments is now planned to start in 2023. In an earlier statement, user operation with 16 instruments was planned for 2025.

11. News from SINQ (from Ch. Rüegg)

- a) Work for the SINQ upgrade has started with the construction of an expansion of the guide hall for new sample environment and electronics laboratories. All neutron guides from the source to the instruments will be upgraded and will be installed until end of 2019. The powder diffractometer DMC will receive a new detector. SANS-II will be replaced with the SANS instrument P20 from the LLB, Saclay. Both these instruments will be placed in new positions in the guide hall. The reflectometer AMOR will be rebuilt with a Selene guide. The spectrometer Rita2 gets more space for the CAMEA setup.
- 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 LLB and the instruments Orion and Narziss without user access is planned to follow later in 2020.

12. Miscellaneous

- a) A vote about the proposed change of the society from “Swiss Neutron Scattering Society” to “Swiss Neutron Science Society” is postponed, as arguments against the name change have been brought forward. A poll among all society members and interested non-members will be necessary to collect all arguments and opinions against and in favor of the proposed name.

U. Gasser
May 2018