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NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN NUCLEAR SCIENCE

GOVERNING BOARD

Procedure for Making Permanent Research Appointments

Note by the Secretary

As requested at the last meeting of the Governing Board (Minute 4) the following statement of the proposed procedure is submitted for consideration.

1. The Institute's accelerators are provided primarily for use by universities. The Institute will themselves employ a number of scientists of University type on nuclear physics research using the accelerators. The policy of the Institute is normally to employ them only on a fixed-term basis, and although there will need to be a few permanent posts in order to preserve continuity in the programme and stability in management, the number of permanent posts will be kept as low as can reasonably be done.

2. Permanent appointments for nuclear research scientists of this kind will only be given to individuals who are judged to be of academic standing not less than that of a university reader. The assessment will be made by a panel including suitably qualified university physicists. Each such appointment will be individually considered by the Personnel Committee, having regard to the policy of the Board as summarised in paragraph 1 above.

3. The people to whom this paper refers are those scientists of university type who use the Institute's accelerators for nuclear research. A more specific and rigid definition has not been found. Most of them will have doctoral degrees, but there will be exceptions. The suggestion that the test should be whether their names will appear as authors of the scientific papers, fails because of the growing and praiseworthy practice of including among the authors of joint papers the names of technologists who have made a major contribution.

This paper applies to those described above, even when they also carry other kinds of responsibility in the Laboratory. The latter may well be a point in the case put to the Personnel Committee, but does not remove the need for the action described in paragraph 2.

This paper does not apply to physicists and others employed for the design, development and operation of accelerators and associated equipment. The policy of the Institute is to employ these on conditions closely based upon those of the Atomic Energy Authority, i.e. mainly on a permanent basis. Fixed-term appointments are not excluded, but the decision when to make them will be on a different basis.

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