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NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN NUCLEAR SCIENCE

DIRECTORS' MEETING

Minutes of the Directors' Meeting held on 29th July, 1964 at Daresbury.

Present: Professor A. W. Morrison  
Dr T. G. Pickavance  
Dr J. H. Valentine  
Dr J. A. V. Willis

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17th June, 1964 were approved.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th May, 1964:

Banking arrangements: Professor Morrison said that the Secretary and he had a short meeting with Mr. Drake. Mr. Drake's letter of 27th April, 1964 seemed to imply that the Institute had no proper system of central financial control. It had therefore been pointed out that such a system did exist, based on the Directors' Meeting. It was agreed that the Institute would make unified cash demands on the Authority in a way consistent with this situation.

Minutes of the meeting held on 17th June, 1964: There were no matters arising from this meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PHYSICS COMMITTEE MEETING ON 14TH JULY, 1964

3.1 The SLP and "insurance" computer unit: The Meeting discussed the arrangements needed for managing the SLP and computer unit to be provided by the Institute for general university use but sited at one university. The minimum provision would be a controlling committee, probably chaired by a senior professor of the university concerned and including a project leader from the university staff, and a N.I.R.N.S. representative, the committee having limited financial powers delegated to it from an Institute source. Besides controlling finance the committee would need to see that other universities needs were fairly met. This might involve additional membership.

The question whether Institute staff might be seconded to the project was also discussed without conclusion.

It was noted that the points mentioned above would be discussed by the Siting Panel which might make positive recommendations.

3.2 Action on the recommendation to the Board for further SLP's:

The Secretary was asked to make a first draft of a recommendation in the name of the Chairman of the Physics Committee. This would have as an appendix a statement by N.I.R.N.S. staff on finance.

In the normal way, this recommendation would fall to be fully considered in time for the next five year forecasts at the beginning of 1965. However, the Physics Committee would certainly hope that it would



be possible to make a start on the second unit in 1965/66. Therefore the proposal to include appropriate provision in 1965/66 estimates must be put before the G.P.C. and the Board without delay. It was agreed that at this stage this should be done by addition to the estimates at present being drafted, treating the second, third and fourth SHP units as a new project in the same position as the project for further exploitation of the Rutherford Laboratory. Choices between one proposed new project and another should be left to the Board.

3.3 Agreement with the D.S.I.R. on film measuring equipment: It was agreed that this should be reviewed at a suitable opportunity. In the mean time it was noted that the provision of large computers had been outside the scope of Mr. Jolliffe's letter, which referred to the measurements from second generation film measuring machines being analysed on existing large computers.

3.4 Professor Flowers' Working Party on computing needs: Dr. Pickavance said that he had discussed this briefly with Professor Flowers. They had concluded that the business of the Working Party would be to investigate the computing needs of nuclear and high energy physics. Bearing in mind that the recommendation would eventually reach the A.C.S.P. for consideration they thought that it would be useful for the Working Party to keep in touch with representatives of other subjects such as crystallography and cosmology which had very large computing requirements. Thus when the time came to report there might be the possibility of co-operation and at least the Working Party would be armed with some knowledge of other big requirements.

3.5 Nuclear Structure Laboratory: It was agreed that the Nuclear Structure Laboratory proposal required final consideration by the Physics Committee before submission to the Institute. The interim report recently prepared would not suffice for this purpose. A final report was needed and there was a feeling that the arguments for the Laboratory needed stronger presentation than in the original Adams Report. As some urgency was involved and Professor Allen was abroad Professor Harrison said that he would encourage Dr. Green to start preparing material for the final report, first making contact with Professor Wilkinson and Professor Allen.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING ON 21ST JULY, 1964

The letter dated 22nd July, 1964 from Mr. Thompson to Mr. Drake stating that no more than £0.1M must be committed was discussed. After a telephone conversation with Mr. Drake it was agreed that unless he and Mr. Thompson would take the responsibility of advising Dr. Pickavance to commit the additional £0.2M, in the circumstances which had been described to them, we must press for immediate reference to the Treasury. The Secretary was asked to write to Mr. Drake accordingly.

5. PROGRESS WITH THE ESTIMATES

The state of preparation of estimates and plans for preparation of a full draft for consideration on 17th August were discussed.

6. APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT

The Secretary submitted copies of the draft appropriation account



1963/64 and it was agreed that subject to final check that Mr. P. G. Walker had no further queries this could be sent to the A.E.A.

7. PLANS FOR AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The paper by the Secretary dated 21st July was discussed in detail in order to prepare the way for the preparation of a first draft of the Board paper. The Secretary was then asked to prepare this first draft.

8. N.I.R.N.S. GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES

Dr. Valentine's paper entitled "N.I.R.N.S. Committee Structure" dated 21st July, 1964 was discussed. Professor Herrison said that he had expected a paper on N.I.R.N.S. Grants to Universities based on his own previous paper but revised in the light of the discussion at the meeting on 20th May, 1964. After further discussion, intended to clarify the position, Dr. Valentine said that he would try to produce such a paper.

9. PROMOTION REVIEW PROCEDURE

The meeting had before them a substantial series of notes and comments by Mr. Mullett but members had not had time to study these thoroughly. It was agreed that a meeting of the Promotion Committee for this purpose should be held as soon as possible and with holidays intervening a great effort would be needed to reach conclusions by the time that the January, 1965 review ought to start.

10. GOVERNMENT ACTION ON THE TREND REPORT

It was agreed that the Chairman should be invited to write to the Secretary of State for Education and Science about the recent Government Statement on the Trend Report, pointing out that the Institute had made representations on this subject and that they still felt strongly that the various aspects of nuclear physics should be dealt with through the same channel. Professor Herrison and Dr. Pickavance would discuss this point with the Chairman when they saw him the following day.

J. A. V. Willis,  
Secretary.