

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN NUCLEAR SCIENCE

DIRECTORS' MEETING

Minutes of the Directors' Meeting held at the Rutherford Laboratory on 30th October, 1964.

Present: Professor A. W. Merrison (Chairman)
Dr. T. G. Pickavance
Dr. A. C. W. V. Clarke
Mr. H. Rothwell
Dr. J. M. Valentine
Dr. J. A. V. Willis (Secretary)

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st October, 1964 were confirmed.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

2.1 Estimates It was agreed that revised estimates incorporating the minor changes made after the Board meeting should be sent to the A.E.A. after the discussion with the D.E.S. and the Treasury on 2nd November. X
VLSI

2.2 Computing in N.I.R.N.S. A preliminary meeting of the two Directors with Messrs Collinge and Walkinshaw had taken place.

2.3 Payment of members This matter had been cleared. The Chairman had written to the two university members of the Executive Committee on 19th October offering them honoraria of £500 per annum and both had accepted.

2.4 Date of meetings It was agreed that meetings would be held on the second Thursday of each month, i.e. a week after the Executive Committee, at the Laboratory other than that which the Executive Committee had just been held. X

2.5 Committees It was agreed to prepare an annotated list of Institute committees for critical consideration at a future meeting. Mr. Rothwell and Dr. Valentine were asked to prepare the list.

2.6 Exploitation of inventions Dr. Valentine referred to the case mentioned at the last meeting (not referred to individually in the minutes). He had drafted letters to Mr. Fell and to the A.E.A.'s exploitation expert. Dr. Clarke said that he had been considering this subject and would like to be consulted in cases of difficulty and in all cases where it was proposed to give information or rights without charge. He pointed out that there was at present no delegation of authority to do so.

2.7 Whitley Council

(a) Dr. Willis said that the Staff Side had agreed to postponement of the Annual Meeting until mid-December. It was suggested that the meeting should be at Daresbury. X

(b) It was agreed that after the next meeting it would be appropriate for Dr. Clarke to take over the Chairmanship of the Whitley Council. However, action should be deferred for the moment just in case there should be an early major organisational change superceding the N.I.R.N.S. Whitley Council. Sc

(c) Dr. Clarke would clearly join the Whitley Council at once. If this increased the number on the Official Side beyond that at present agreed the necessary arrangements should be made with the Staff Side. X

(d) A reply to the Staff Side's statement made at the last meeting would be expected. Dr. Clarke said that he would prepare a reply.

2.8 Joint Industrial Council It was agreed that Dr. Clarke should join the J.I.C. and could perhaps deputise for Sir Robert Aitken as Chairman in emergency but it was not likely that he could replace Sir Robert as regular Chairman at present.

3. BOARD MEETING

It was agreed to suggest to the Chairman that the Board meeting on 24th November should be postponed until a date when it would be appropriate to discuss the developments concerning the Science Research Council. Members should be asked to retain the 24th November date in case by chance things should be ready for discussion by then. X

4. PHYSICS COMMITTEE

The two main subjects for the Physics Committee meeting on 19th November are the nuclear structure laboratory and film analysis equipment.

(a) Nuclear structure laboratory: Sir John Cockcroft ought to have prepared his statement to the Board on reasons for the recommendations on siting. Although this statement would be for the Board the Physics Committee were likely to try to raise the subject. known

Dr. Willis was asked to see whether Professor Moon would like the Physics Committee to see his paper on Birmingham's cyclotron proposal. This ~~may~~ not appear to be relevant to the Physics Committee but in fact there are likely to be voices raised at the Physics Committee reopening the recommendation to have a double Emperor tandem and suggesting that resources would be better applied either to a cyclotron or to expenditure on computer equipment. ✓

(b) Film analysis: Dr. Willis was asked to draft a suggested note for Professor Flowers to submit (or speak from) on the siting of university film analysis installations. Dr. Pickavance expected to make verbally a statement on progress with the Glasgow SMP project. It would be appropriate for the Management Committee of this project to be set up by the Institute's Executive Committee. X
XEx

5. OXFORD UNIVERSITY FILM ANALYSIS PROJECT

Dr. Pickavance described a project proposed by Professor Wilkinson immediately after the Executive Committee meeting, whereby money available in the Institute's 1964-65 budget could be applied to purchasing computer equipment which Oxford would use for developing PEPR and SPASS systems. The cost would be about £90,000 and several difficulties, notably the need for Treasury approval of dollar expenditure over £50,000, were discussed. It was agreed that reference to the Treasury would be likely to delay the scheme so as to defeat it completely and it was left that Dr. Pickavance would consider a modified scheme of purchasing widely useful articles which would be applied to the Oxford purpose, within a total

amount which could be dealt with under delegated approval powers.

6. EXPENDITURE IN 1965-66

Points for a brief for the meeting with the D.E.S. and the Treasury on expenditure in 1965-66 were discussed in detail. A brief has been written up separately.

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

Dr. Valentine said that in line with the action agreed at the last meeting he had written to Mr. Rothwell setting out the main points on which agreement was still needed.

Mr Rothwell said that it was common ground that we should suggest that the Institute should establish three budgets - one for each Laboratory and one for the more general grants to universities. He now suggested that a member of the Executive Committee (presumably one of the university members) should be asked to take responsibility for the latter. It was agreed that this suggestion should be followed up and that Mr. Rothwell and Dr. Valentine should draft and circulate a paper on this basis in consultation with Dr. Clarke. The third branch of the Institute would need a small secretariat which would be provided from Dr Clarke's organisation.

J. A. V. Willis,
Secretary.