

**LIP International Advisory Committee**  
Meeting of 18 and 19 March 2005 in Lisbon

Present: E. R. de Arantes e Oliveira, J. E. Augustin, C. W. E. van Eijk,  
C. W. Fabjan, P. G. Innocenti, H. Schopper.

The LIP International Advisory Committee met in Lisbon on 7 April 2006 to review the 2005 results and discuss the 2006 programme of work.

In a formal session Committee Members met with members of the LIP Directorate, G. Barreira (Lisbon), J. Carvalho (Coimbra), R. Marques (Coimbra) and M. Pimenta (Lisbon). Catarina Espirito Santo, secretary of the LIP Scientific Committee also participated in the meeting.

Committee Members also met with the LIP group leaders in a question and answer session on results and perspectives.

The twentieth anniversary of the foundation of LIP and the end of the first five year contract as an Associated Laboratory offered the Committee an occasion for a thorough review of past and present activities and future plans.

Over the years LIP has grown into a reputed scientific institution. Today LIP's scientific achievements are unanimously recognised by the international community. The Laboratory has gained good visibility thanks to the quality of its work and the presence of its young scientists on the international scene. LIP is considered a reliable and desirable partner in collaborations.

Funding was analysed in some detail. The evolution of the funding from an almost exclusive sourcing through the Fundo CERN to a more diversified spectrum was judged as a positive evolution. Moreover, it was felt that the current science policy in Portugal is promising for an improved funding stability.

The overall funding situation made hiring of scientific and technical staff possible, in the framework of the contract of Associated Laboratory. This is a great improvement with respect to the past and the Committee looks forward to a positive appreciation of LIP in the review at the end of the first five-year period as Associated Laboratory.

As far as the research programme is concerned, entering into the Auger Project was, no doubt, the most relevant event in 2005.

This opens a new major line of research in astroparticle physics at LIP.

The preparation of the LHC experiments continued as a major effort in 2005 and the detectors for which LIP has taken responsibility are progressively being readied for operation, according to schedule.

LIP Coimbra has entered a partnership with GSI Darmstadt on resistive plate chamber for

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time of flight counters, bringing this line of detector research to profit in a large project.

Spin-offs of particle detector research into medical applications have been vigorously pursued both in Lisbon and in Coimbra. In this field LIP places itself as an essential source of knowledge for the medical field and as an inventive partner for industry.

Computing received an appreciable boost in 2005. This happened through the participation in GRID projects. New computing clusters are being installed both in Lisbon and in Coimbra in view LHC computing: the structure of these facilities is also aimed at improving collaboration in computing with other Portuguese institutions.

Organised by LIP, two major international conferences took place in Portugal: The EPS Particle Physics Conference in Lisbon and the IEEE Conference on Dielectric Liquids in Coimbra. Both were a success for number of participants and for quality of contributed papers.

Finally the outreach effort of LIP continued with a number of initiatives related to the "year of physics" for the general public and for high school students.

For the future the Committee supports the efforts to honour the current engagements in ATLAS and CMS at the LHC with in addition a serious preparation for obtaining physics results from the first collisions.

The Committee encourages a lively effort in Auger, where LIP should progressively be recognised as a key partner.

Basic research on detection techniques should be continued, notwithstanding the pressing demands for supporting experiments in large collaborations and for getting a reward by analysing data. Detector research is a field in which the Laboratory has accumulated a considerable know-how and has produced innovation. The role of LIP world-wide is and should remain important.

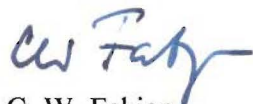
The Committee concludes with a very positive appreciation of the progress of LIP over the years and of the good results obtained in 2005. It is convinced that the current research programme is sound and matched to the available resources and competence.



E. R. de Arantes e Oliveira



C. W. E. van Eijk



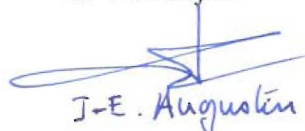
C. W. Fabjan



P. G. Innocenti



H. Schopper



J.-E. Augustin