

NOTES OF THE 38th JACoW BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

11 June, 2021

Present: Board of Directors: Ivan Andrian, David Button, Regis Neuenschwander, Johan Olander, Christine Petit-Jean-Genaz

1. Approval of the Agenda of JBoDM38, and Notes of JBoDM37

The Agenda of JBoDM38 is approved with the addition of two items under AOB: Stakeholders & TM'21. The Notes of JBoDM37 are approved without modification.

2. JFIC – JACoW Fake Indico Conference (Indico testing) Progress

Christine has just sent out the next request to the SPC Testing Team to test the activities of verification of Track Groups and rating of proposals for invited orals.

She has run into a number of issues requiring a modification of usual methods. The testing should provide indications as to potential new feature requests.

As soon as the “SPC” Testing Team will have reviewed the proposals for invited orals, Conveners will be assigned the accept/reject privileges. The accepted proposals automatically become contributions, and Christine will then tackle the scheduling, and assignment of programme codes.

The next activity will be general abstract submission, prior to which the future track groups/tracks will be set up. There will be no need to review these as thoroughly as for the current exercise since the procedure is now better understood. A random set of proposals will be accepted for contributed oral presentation, and they'll be scheduled and assigned programme codes.

The remaining activity will then be the assignment of programme codes to poster presentations, following which the other Working Groups will begin work.

3. Future Development of Indico for JACoW

IPACCC Task Force

The IPACCC Task Force has met 3 times. One meeting focussed on the programme, the second on the process of migration to Indico, and the last was a discussion to prepare conclusions. Ivan has no official news of the outcome, but he has understood that all members are willing to support JACoW, in particular via laboratories and conferences.

The coming IPACs represented on the Task Force are willing to see Indico as the future tool for IPAC scientific programme management. They are interested to explore how to support it. Ivan expects that an official report and word from the IPACCC should be available in the coming weeks. Nevertheless, he has had some contact with CERN people. An informal meeting took place with the Indico-JACoW development team last Monday. Under discussion was the possibility of having a commitment from CERN

on future developments. Gianluigi Arduini and Ronny Billen received positive echoes from the Accelerator Department Management to complete the introduction of the important missing JACoW features. The original 3-year project began in 2016 with a goal to introduce the most essential SPMS functionality, mostly concerning the editorial module. The next stage will be to complete the process. In the coming weeks, Ronny and Thomas Baron will prepare a document to submit to CERN Management requesting JACoW development support.

Issues for discussion are the missing features, and the transition of the Central Repository. Several ideas were expressed, including the transfer of the Central Repository to Indico, bringing all data into an expanded Indico. There will also be an analysis of other tools already used at CERN and by Indico. Thus, we may eventually have a different tool. All of these issues need to be analysed and decided. A CERN team will carry this out.

It is expected the next development will also take around three years to complete. There is a further discussion about the hosting of future instances. Until now there were 3 SPMS Regional Support Centres with 3 different deployments. This has been reduced to two, but in future there may be only one Indico Instance at CERN. The hosting management is under discussion since CERN hosts Indico for PSI, and PSI pays for the service. CERN may request some payment for this service, or an in-kind contribution to the community.

The other issue is JPSP development. There are several possible directions. The first, and easiest, is to modify the existing scripts. Also, Volker invested some effort to adapt his scripts to Indico several years ago, following John Poole's effort to develop an Indico Cookbook, but this was not efficient and gradually dropped. The shortest path would be to update the existing scripts. Doing more or less the same things as the JPSP scripts.

The second would be to write new scripts based on the old ones, from the very start as plugins to Indico. At the present time Ivan prefers the latter, a new tool using modern technology, to get the same result. There are actually many pieces of software in the publications world doing this kind of thing. ORE, Open Research Europe, offers free publication for European projects. It is a modern platform to manage papers. There are other such projects. JACoW might use one of these existing tools. But that is far in the future. For the time being we need a prompt deployment of our scripts.

4. JPSP-NG WG

It is time to start JPSP Next Generation scripts. We need to plan for this development, starting by identifying

the developers, either within Institutes, or via sponsorship such as that found for IPAC'19 for the References and CatScan tools.

Johan, who volunteered to lead this effort (members of group are Johan, Josh, Volker and Ivan), feels the first hurdle was to get JPSP onto github. He however has no idea where to start with respect to recruiting developers. He will be grateful for any ideas that he could promote.

David reports that Rosemary is leaving ANSTO so is lost for this development. Her Manager expects to find a replacement. David will explore with Josh, who is experienced with new age web issues, whether he would like to continue. He has not given up hope of finding more help within ANSTO though budgets are extremely tight.

In response to a question from Johan, Ivan estimates the new scripts will be necessary and should be in production next year in time for FEL'22, therefore after August 2022. A preliminary version by the end of this year with final development early in 2022 might be a reasonable aim.

In conclusion, Johan will begin by tackling the planning. Ivan will be happy to contribute and expresses his gratitude to Johan for coordinating this WG.

5. Outcome and Status of IPAC'21

Regis explains that the recorded IPAC'21 material will be available for a further 2 months.

The live sessions were good. The Q&A was more complicated, but after the first day people were more familiar with procedures. The most complicated was the Poster Sessions, with 360 zoom rooms every day. There were also 5-minute oral posters videos. The zoom people could manage it, with new zoom rooms each day.

Attached in Annex 1 are the transparencies prepared by Liu Lin providing an overview of the event.

David asks whether there might be an interest in the future for virtual events. Regis mentions there were discussions regarding video vs. in-person events with lots of lively discussion. He wonders whether a mixture of the two might emerge, though it would be difficult to control

the budget, unless there was a fixed number of in-person participants to balance the budget.

Ivan is also aware of a fair amount of discussion on this topic. A return to in-person events is top on the list, but conference organizers are also considering mixed events. Some are pushing to get an estimate for mixed conferences. He mentions that Linac'22 will be an in-person event, but with the possibility to have a broadcast and streaming of the orals, for a fee. Nevertheless, most organizers have doubts about the sustainability of this model.

Christine mentions that industrial exhibitors are drawn to events where there is a substantial number of participants and the possibility to meet the people who are responsible for projects and budgets. They might hesitate to exhibit at virtual events, or smaller in-person events, making it harder for organizers to cover costs via registration fees only.

6. AOB

JACoW 2021 Stakeholders Chairman's Report.

Ivan will prepare his report to Stakeholders when more information will be available from the IPACCC Task Force. He expects to have something by end June.

2021 Team Meeting

Ivan is still collecting information concerning space and accommodation. Because of Covid there are some issues to be resolved. Furthermore, the IPAC'23 SPC/2 remains to be scheduled. As soon as there is something to report, Stefano will prepare the Home Page on jacow.org and Christine will write to the Team.

8. Next BoD Meeting

The next BoD meeting will take place on:

Friday, 22 July, 2021 at the usual time.

Notes prepared by Christine.

Annex 1: IPAC'21 Report by Liu Lin