

# NOTES OF THE 39th JACoW BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

## 22 July, 2021

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

Absent: Johan Olander

### 1. Approval of the Agenda of JBoDM39, and Notes of JBoDM38

The Notes of BoD#38 are approved with a minor correction. The Agenda is agreed without modification.

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

Christine has been struggling with the scientific programme management documentation for JACoW-Indico with respect to the SPC activities of invited oral proposals, the verification of Tracks (Main Classifications) and the prioritization of proposals. She is currently working on the procedure to schedule talks and assign programme codes. The lack of Indico documentation adds to the difficulty of the task.

### 3. Future Development of Indico for JACoW

#### *IPACCC Task Force*

There has been no recent news from the IPACCC Task Force. Ivan will soon meet with the IPAC'23 LOC/OC/SPC Chairs and will hopefully receive some information at that time.

#### *Indico Task Force*

Ivan reports that the CERN Accelerator Department is willing to continue funding JACoW-Indico development to tackle the remaining missing functionality. A candidate has already been identified and he should start work in the Indico Team in the IT Department from 1 October as a full time Project Associate for three years.

In view of Christine's current struggle to find her way around the JACoW-Indico tool, she would appreciate that a clear specification be drawn up and that JACoW experts be associated with the development and testing in real time.

Ivan further reports that in parallel to the above continuation of JACoW-Indico development, Thomas Baron is looking at possible tools in the existing CERN arsenal to move the existing Central Repository into a new, next generation, Central Repository. The first option might be to incorporate the Central Repository into Indico, but the Indico team first needs to better understand the purpose and different functions of the current SPMS Central Repository.

Ivan further notes that there is going to be a cost for hosting JACoW's Indico environment at CERN. As an indication, PSI pays 22,000 CHF/year to CERN for this service. Logically, JACoW should thus pay something

similar. While there is no cost to JACoW during the current development, funded by CERN's Accelerator Department, JACoW will in future possibly need to cover the hosting of an Indico installation for JACoW.

Ivan mentions that the migration of SPMS to Indico will render obsolete the Regional Support Centres at CERN and KEK, as well as the paper upload servers at PSI and JLab. The question of who/how to cover the cost of JACoW-Indico will need to be taken up with JACoW's Stakeholders.

### 4. JPSP-NG WG

The JACoW Proceedings Script Package (JPSP) needs to be adapted to JACoW-Indico. Johan Olander has volunteered to head the JPSP "New Generation" Working Group. As the time to migrate to JACoW-Indico approaches it is time to invest appropriate effort in this task.

At the last BoD David reported that Josh and Rosemary, who did such a wonderful job on the CatScan/Reference Search tools, are leaving ANSTO and that we are losing several valuable people who could have worked on these projects. There are several possible paths:

Option 1: Ask Volker to modify the existing scripts originally developed for Indico several years ago but fallen out of use for want of interest,

Option 2: Develop a new tool, using the logic of Volker's scripts but with new programming languages, integrated with Indico.

Option 2 requires developers and the effort will need to come from the accelerator community at large.

Ivan reports on a discussion within the IPACCC Task Force, whereby the next three IPACs, '23, '24 and '25 might be asked to contribute to sponsoring an additional developer for the next 2 or 3 years for this task. Ivan will report back to us in the coming weeks.

David adds that since Josh and Rosemary both enjoyed working with JACoW he will explore in a couple of weeks whether they might be interested in a good will contribution. They will be in new employment so we will have to see whether they would be able to continue on a voluntary basis. David will also speak with their former Supervisors as to whether their replacements might be involved in this development activity.

## **5. Outcome and Status of IPAC'21**

Regis recently provided a graph showing the current status of editing work. Since 3 July the editors are working from home rather than in a dedicated Proceedings Office. While a reduction in productivity has been observed, it is worth noting that the remaining work is more complex with the problem papers.

Regis further reports that with 8 editors, it was estimated the work would be completed within three months. They are actually two weeks earlier than planned. The editors started on 17 May and they have thus been working for two months.

Given the poor results with remote editing in connection with IPAC'20, the Brazilian organization would appear to have been more successful.

Volker has reported that the main difficulty for him has been keeping track of issues over the different time zones as compared to all editors working together in the same room during the period of the conference.

## **6. JACoW 2021 Chairman's Report to Stakeholders**

Ivan is finalizing his report to Stakeholders. It should be ready in the coming weeks.

## **7. JACoW 2021 Team Meeting**

As the Covid-19 pandemic continues into new waves, it is hard to predict what this year's Team Meeting will look like.

It is agreed that it is absolutely necessary for JACoW Managers and experts to meet in person after a two-year gap to deal with JACoW core business, developments and policy. It is also vital for the key people working on the forthcoming larger JACoW events in '22 and beyond, who

have little or no idea of JACoW's role in the organization of their events, leading to the publication of the proceedings.

The development of the programme will take this into consideration. Depending on those present, with a likely larger number of participants coming from Europe, the programme will provide the usual training in scientific programme management using our tools (SPMS and Indico), as well as electronic publication techniques. There will likely be in-person training sessions, and depending on attendance, some zoom/remote/recorded presentations on key issues. Some JACoW experts may be designated for one-on-one assistance for persons and events not represented.

The election of a new Chair and Coordinator could not be organized last year but it can be postponed no longer. Some thought will be necessary as to organize this year's elections with a likely number of Team Members not physically present to vote.

Since the last BoD meeting Stefano has begun setting up the TM'21 website. Ivan is still refining the options with respect to accommodation and meeting rooms. Since it will not be possible to organize the meeting at Elettra, the budget will need to include the cost of room rental. We will write to the Team as soon as the website carries the organizational information. The programme overview will follow in due course once registration is under way and participation is better understood.

## **8. Next BoD Meeting**

The next BoD meeting will take place on:

**Wednesday, 25 August, 2021 at the usual time.**

Notes prepared by Christine.