

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICIELLES

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF CERN USERS Summary of the 11th meeting held on 27 February 1991

Introduction

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming and introducing the new members of ACCU.

News from the CERN Management

J.J. Thresher, speaking in the absence of the Director General, mentioned the ACCU Chairman's report given to the Management Board the previous week which had been well received. A summary of the December Council Meeting was then presented by J.J. Thresher with particular reference to the financial situation of the Organization. The ECFA recommendation to approve the LHC as soon as possible had been noted. As regards the LEP programme, the energy upgrade and increased luminosity of LEP were proceeding with high priority. A proposal to upgrade the IBM mainframe in the computer centre will be submitted to the Finance Committee in March. If approved, it could be installed at Easter.

Chairman's report to the Management Board (22.2.91)

The Chairman summarized his presentation to the Management Board where he discussed, amongst other matters, Office space, Medium and short term housing, Transport, CERN services and the Fellows and Associates programme. His opinion was that the exercise had been well worth while, and that the Board would discuss Users' matters at future meetings.

Election of ACCU Chairman

P.R. Norton was re-elected Chairman until the end of 1991.

The CERN Nursery School and Garderie

P. Berry, Chairman of the School Management, presented the current situation concerning the number of children using these facilities, and outlined the reasons behind this academic year's increased fees. He reminded ACCU that local Geneva equivalents are heavily subsidized by the State. ACCU considers that the school provides a very necessary and valuable service.

The restructured CN Division

D.O. Williams describing the new Computing and Networking Division said that its objectives were to provide the computing infrastructure necessary to the laboratory, the applications-related hardware and software services in collaboration with other divisions, and to maintain relations with the major computer manufacturers.

Computing in ECP Division

G. Kellner described the rôle in ECP Division of the five groups related to computing. Topics covered by these groups include Read-out architectures; DAQ systems; Simulation, Reconstruction and Analysis; Production Support and Computing Infrastructure; and Programming techniques.

Desk-top publishing

J. Ferguson reported that the pilot centre, set up in Building 4, is now functional. A progress report will be made in the summer before further expansion. ACCU endorsed the introduction of the DTP, and considers it a very important service, whilst emphasizing that the bulk of the initial typing should be done outside the DTP service.

Users' Office news

ACCU was reminded by E. Lillestøl that the UO now handles the distribution of the video tapes and copies of the transparencies of the Academic Training Course Lectures. In response to a question concerning the accuracy of numbers of users, he replied that Personnel Division in collaboration with the Users' Office was examining the data-base and has started to remove people whose Swiss or CERN identity documents are more than two years out of date. It is expected that some 400 people will be affected.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be on 12 June starting at 10.00 hrs.