

26 JUN 1963

RUTHERFORD HIGH ENERGY LABORATORY
HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the First meeting held on 7th May, 1963 in
Building R.1 Conference Room

Present: Dr. G.H. Stafford - Chairman
Dr. T.G. Pickavance
Mr. L.B. Mullett
Mr. M. Snowden
Mr. W. Walkinshaw
Dr. W.D. Allen
Dr. L.C.W. Hobbis
Dr. E. Pickup
Dr. P.G. Murphy
Dr. J.J. Thresher
Dr. A.M. Segar - Secretary

1. Appointment of Secretary

2. Frequency of meetings

It was decided to hold meetings approximately every four weeks, but also at other times as required. The meetings would normally be held on Thursdays at 10.30 a.m.

3. Terms of Reference

Attendance would be limited to Rutherford Laboratory staff. Those attending would be group leaders, with others invited when the discussion was of interest to them.

4. The method of accepting experiments for Nimrod

Dr. Stafford explained that so far only tentative acceptance had been given to the experiments submitted to him. It remained to work out a system of final acceptance and scheduling.

After discussion it was agreed that generally only the best experiments should be chosen for acceptance on to the Nimrod experimental programme and that this should not be inconsistent with satisfying the responsibilities of Universities to their research students.

It was agreed that the final selection of experiments should be done by a Nimrod Experimental Programme Committee, which should be set up now as soon as possible. The committee would consist of the Director as Chairman, Dr. Allen or Dr. Hobbis (Nimrod Operations), Dr. Stafford and two theoretical physicists. To this number an additional experimental physicist may be added. The University members would be appointed for a fixed period.

Action
Dr.
Stafford

It was then agreed that the next step to be taken in scheduling Nimrod was for Dr. Stafford to circulate a note to all groups concerned. This would fix some date, to be determined by progress on Nimrod, before which all proposals for initial scheduling on the machine would have to be submitted. Later, a further note would be circulated, setting out the pattern of possibilities for scheduling and arranging a co-ordinating meeting between physicists of the groups to discuss compatibility of their respective experiments. Dr. Pickup volunteered to work out this pattern in the first instance.

Dr. Pickavance said that he would take up the question of appointing the Nimrod Experimental Programme Committee with the Governing Board.

A second committee dealing with day to day scheduling would contain machine operating staff and physicists. Dr. Murphy asked that the physicists be strongly represented, to avoid the troubles experienced at Brookhaven, where programme changes have sometimes been made without consideration for their adverse effect on experiments.

The meeting then considered the appointment of people to do the co-ordinating work, like that performed by Uridge on the P.L.A. or Bonaudi at C.E.R.N., and the liaison work like that of Hyams at C.E.R.N. and Cool and Rau at Brookhaven. Mr. Mullett said that it was intended that eventually Mr. Russell would co-ordinate machine operation, while Dr. Hobbs should liaise with experimental groups. It was decided to discuss this further at another meeting.

5. The Appointment and Role of High Energy Physicists

There was a general discussion on this subject in an attempt to clarify ideas on the most effective method of appointing high energy physicists to fixed-term posts and once appointed the role they would play in the laboratory.

There was agreement that physicists would not be "drafted" into a University group but may of course collaborate through some common interest in an experiment. If, however, a University group was to perform effectively it would be essential for them to have some of their own staff resident in the laboratory for extended periods.

It was agreed that the leaders of the high energy physics groups should have responsibility within the restrictions of their complement for the appointment of staff.