

Recommendation to ICFA to suspend the IHEPCCC Panel

July 2008

The IHEPCCC was formed 5 years ago to foster collaboration and communication between the HEP computing communities. The first Chair of the IHEPCCC was G.Wormsers (2004-2006) and followed by R.Sobie (2006-present). The Panel has met on a regular basis over this period with the minutes and meeting presentations available on the IHEPCCC web site (<http://www.ihepccc.org>). The IHEPCCC Chairs have made presentations at a number of meetings such as HEPiX and CHEP. The IHEPCCC has formed two technical working groups both of which submitted the results of their work at the HEPiX meeting in CERN (April 2008). The IHEPCCC submitted its first written report to ICFA in February 2008. The IHEPCCC Chairs have also reported to ICFA on an annual basis at the winter meeting.

It has been apparent to the majority of the IHEPCCC members that the WLCG and its committees are addressing a substantial fraction of the Panel's mandate. The WLCG has become the global organization for HEP computing. Many of the IHEPCCC members participate in WLCG activities and committees. The IHEPCCC has endeavored to tackle issues that did not overlap the WLCG such as non-HEP computing at the ICFA Laboratories, environment and power issues in the computing facilities and other topics such as software licensing. Some members feel that the IHEPCCC has an important role beyond the scope of the WLCG and that the Panel should continue. The weakest support for the IHEPCCC is from the large HEP laboratories that are very active in the WLCG project. The strongest support for the IHEPCCC is from the members from the regions outside of Europe and the USA.

In respect of the varied opinions of the Panel members, the IHEPCCC decided to make a call for a new Chair from the existing membership. It was agreed that candidates would present their plan for the IHEPCCC at a future meeting. Only one member volunteered to be Chair and he presented his ideas for the IHEPCCC at a second meeting. There was extensive discussion and a request was made for a written proposal that would be voted on by the IHEPCCC members. The committee and the candidate unanimously agreed that two-thirds of the members would be required for a positive outcome. However, in June 2008, the member withdrew his candidacy for the IHEPCCC Chair due to other commitments. No other member of the committee has expressed an interest in taking on this role. The IHEPCCC has not actively searched for an external candidate.

In light of the significant role of the WLCG in HEP computing, the committee recommends the suspension of the IHEPCCC. As the situation in HEP evolves, it is possible that there will be a need for an IHEPCCC-like committee in the future, however, the committee strongly recommends that ICFA review the mandate to make it a more effective and valuable resource to ICFA.

IHEPCCC Members:

P. Avery	Gainesville	R. Gardner	Chicago	R. Mount	SLAC
S. Banerjee	TIFR/Mumbai	V. Guelzow	DESY	F. Ould-Saada	Oslo
D. Boutigny	IN2P3	A. Hoummadda	Casablanca	R. Sobie	Victoria
Gang Chen	IHEP/Beijing	S. Kawabata	KEK	R. Tafirout	TRIUMF
P. Clarke	Edinburgh	V. Korenkov	JINR, Dubna	J. Templon	NIKHEF
J.G. Conteras	Cinvestav Merida, Mexico	S. Lin	ASGS/Taiwan	W. von Ruden	CERN
M. Ernst	BNL	M. Mazzucato	Padova	V. White	FNAL