

## Professors' meeting 03.06.22

**Present:** Andreas Sch., Ben, Christof, Cristina, Fabian, Gino, Ilaria, Johan, Katharina (Minutes), Lea, Massimiliano, Peter, Philippe, Prasenjit, Thomas Ge., Thomas Gr., Stefano

**Excused:** Adrian, Juerg, Laura, Marc, Nico

### Agenda

1. Minutes of the meeting of 06.05.22
2. Status of building 56 [Fabian]
3. SPIN course [Titus]
4. Budget cuts 2023: projects for 2% teaching refunding
5. Varia

Welcome: Ilaria Brivio, new SNF PRIMA professor for theoretical particle physics was welcomed

#### 1) Minutes of the meeting of 05.03.22

##### 2) Status of building 56

The renovation of Y56 will be more expensive than expected (partly due to present lack of building material) and requires approval by the Universitätsrat, the work is therefore delayed to spring 2023. We look for plan B for the CMS detector development (additional lab space in the institute, lab Serra).

There will be another meeting in week 23 but the request should be put to the UR asap.

Building Y56: we start removing old infrastructure. Let Katharina know if you are interested in anything (eg granite blocks for vibration free setups)

##### 3) SPIN course HS22/FS23

The present lecturer retires and Roland will take over the teaching. Furthermore the new rooms in the chemistry building are not suitable. This is taken as opportunity to redesign the course, eg using flexible *Raspberry Pi* setups. TA should help in redesigning the experiments. Therefore TAs are missing for the lab courses.

We look for TAs in Physics, Chemistry, Neuroinformatics, interested students should contact Roland and Titus. Dani Kiper will start looking for TAs in Neuroinformatics as soon as the teaching profile is finalised (Titus, Roland, Katharina).

##### 4) Budget cuts 2023

2023 there will be a 4% budget cut, corresponding to about 260 kCHF for our institute. **This 4% cut will mostly affect the group BKs** as it cannot be saved in the central budget. The implementation plans will be discussed late summer individually with the professors together with the implementation of the global budget for '23 and finally approved in a management board meeting.

2% can be recovered by institutes for improvements to teaching (MNF-internal redistribution) to follow the UZH guidelines to have more equal teaching load among the PhDs. These 2% need to be used to reduce teaching load of PhDs, this will be discussed in a meeting with the Dean, June 8. The funding cannot be used to pay lecturers.

Teaching hours of PhDs at our institute: survey in '21 shows that our PhD students in average teach 480 hours, they get paid if they are above the maximum allowed 420 h (total in 2021: 4000 hours paid). In addition we pay semester assistants for 6000 hours each year. UZH would like to have a more equal teaching load among the PhDs. The institute is paying 300'000 for semester assistants and top-up for PhDs from central resources.

Reducing the money we spend to pay the extra hours in teaching would mean to reduce the quality of teaching (eg exercise classes with 50 students instead of 10-15).

The Dean asks to **new initiatives to reduce the teaching load of the PhDs**, requests should be handed in until mid June.

We see following possibilities for re-investment into teaching:

- T&R fellows: former PhD or MSc students employed for 1-2 semesters, with high teaching load, maximal 30% reserved for research
- additional top-ups for PhD students
- semester assistantships (keep them and possibly extend)
- stress extra teaching load to get independent of ETH
- permanent T&R fellows (full teaching during the semester) at senior scientist level
- reduce Postdocs salary to 90% plus 10% for teaching. Currently, postdoctoral researchers on third-party funds contribute to teaching on a voluntary basis, and without extra remuneration. The payment would

make this solution more sustainable and could help to involve more postdoctoral researchers in teaching.

- pay PhDs and Postdocs from PSI for support to specific PSI-related teaching. Eg medical physics in physics for medicine or physics for life sciences. This also strengthens our connections to PSI.

Questions/Suggestions:

Can EK money be used for salaries? Under exceptional circumstances this is possible in specific, well motivated cases.

How are PhDs in other institutes paid? We will find out specifically about the policy in maths (high teaching load).

Can we ask to pay for schools/workshops of the PhDs? No, this does not affect the teaching load and it is not a lot of money.

5) Varia

- Schrödinger Colloquium Elena Aprile: June 13
- Career Event with Elena Aprile, June 13 for PhDs and Postdocs  
motivate your younger group members to register  
<https://www.physik.uzh.ch/en/events/Career-Event-with-Elena-Aprile.html>
- Nico Serra gets SNF Advanced Grant
- Next meetings: October 7, November 4, December 2
- Discussion of global budgets for groups will start over the summer
- June 15: Symposium "Recent Developments in Astroparticle Physics"  
give your feedback to the committee members: Florencia, Laura, Gino and Thomas until the evening of June 15th