

Network meetings 01.10.04-30.09.06

A) The first network meeting was organized by the CERN node on Dec 6-8, 2004. Scientists and students (56 participants in total) from all nodes and from all the scientific areas participated, as shown in the meeting's web page:

<http://wwwth.cern.ch/quest/welcome.html>

The three days' activity was organized in morning and afternoon sessions. The first speaker of each morning session was providing an overview on the status of a specific subfield, and was for this reason assigned a full hour time. The rest of the talks consisted of shorter presentations (about 30 minutes) aimed at presenting interesting new results. In addition to senior scientists several postdocs and students from the nodes took part in these presentations. Part of the second afternoon was devoted to the administrative meeting among the senior scientists of all the nodes. On that occasion a strategy to coordinate the hiring of postdoctoral fellows among the different nodes was devised. A committee was also established aimed at organizing the scientific program of the Corfu School.

B) The second network meeting was organized by the Madrid node (Instituto de Fisica Teorica - IFT) on Dec 12-13, 2005. Scientists and students (60 participants in total) from all nodes and from all the scientific areas participated, as shown in the meeting's web page:

<http://gesalerico.ft.uam.es/workshops/nwmeet/index.html>

The meeting was combined with the XI-th IFT Christmas workshop

<http://gesalerico.ft.uam.es/workshop11/workshop05.html>

which took place on the three following days 14-16-th December. During the first two days all young researchers of the network along with some other postdocs gave 30 minute talks on their current work (16 talks in total). More senior speakers were concentrated on the second part of the meeting (the XI-th Christmas workshop). In this second part 22 scientists gave talks. The topics covered all the different areas of research present in the network. In addition to the local members of the Madrid node, there were 27 representatives from all the nodes, in particular Oxford (4), Pisa, Polytechnique (3); Saclay, Bonn, CERN, Warsaw, Valencia, Greece (2), and Lisbon, SISSA, Hamburg, INFN Rome, USA (1). The five days' activities were organized in morning and afternoon sessions. Part of the first afternoon was devoted to the administrative meeting among the senior scientists of all the nodes.

In addition to the two main network meetings, there were three more major meetings (listed first below) and 15 additional "peripheral" meetings organized and partly funded by the network, where the majority of network nodes participated, that played an important role in the training program of young researchers, the communication among network members and the research and management activities of the network:

1) The international conference "From the Planck scale to the Electroweak scale" (Planck 05), organized by the ICTP team of Trieste node on 23-28 May 2005. This series of meetings is one of the important events that are annually organized by members of our network. Nine network nodes were represented, including the US team (Palaiseau, Saclay, Bonn, INFN, Trieste, Lisbon, Madrid, Oxford, Warsaw). The program focused on the central research efforts undertaken by our network. More information can be found in the web page:

http://cdsagenda5.ictp.trieste.it/full_display.php?ida=a04191

A coordination meeting of the network had also took place among scientists in charge.

2) The school and workshop “The Quest for Unification: Theory Confronts Experiment” (Corfu, Greece, 11-18 September 2005) in the frame of the Corfu Summer Institute on EPP. The total number of participants was about 100. There were given 43 talks on all the topics covered by the Network. In the mornings, there were one hour lectures for students of the Corfu School, while in the afternoons there was a workshop with half-hour talks. Eleven network nodes were represented, including the US team (Palaiseau, Saclay, Bonn, Greece, INFN, Lisbon, Madrid, Valencia, Oxford, Warsaw, CERN). Many young researchers (postdocs and students) have participated, including I. Peddie who had just started his employment in the Greek node.

3) The international conference ‘Planck’06 – “From the Planck scale to the Electroweak scale”, Paris, France, May 29-June 2, 2006. Organized by the members of Saclay and Polytechnique nodes (E. Dudas, C. Grojean, S. Lavignac and G. Servant). The program focused on the central research efforts undertaken by our network. There had been 42 plenary talks, mostly presented by network members as well as by few invited speakers from the United States and Japan, and 84 parallel talks. A special attention has been devoted to the participation of young postdocs and PhD students. There were about 150 participants and 11 network nodes were represented (Palaiseau, Saclay, Bonn, Greece, Warsaw, INFN, Trieste, Madrid, Valencia, Oxford, CERN), as well as the US team. A coordination meeting of the network also took place among scientists in charge. More information can be found in the web page:

<http://www-spht cea.fr/pisp/grojean/Planck06.html>

- The X-th IFT-UAM/CSIC Christmass Workshop on Particle Physics that took place in Madrid from the 15 to 17 of December 2004, with about 50 participants. Topics covered several of the main objectives of our research program. Six network nodes were represented (Saclay, Bonn, INFN, Oxford, CERN, Madrid). More details can be found in the web page:

<http://gesalerico.ft.uam.es/workshop10/workshop04.html>

- The 1st Annual Meeting of the European Network on Theoretical Astroparticle Physics ENTApP2005, a branch of the ILIAS project., organized by the Valencia node on 11-15 April 2005. Around 75 people attended. and there were participants from eight network nodes (Bonn, Greece, INFN, Trieste, Madrid, Oxford, CERN, Valencia).

- The IFT Miniworkshop on Neutrino Physics, that was organized by the Madrid node on 18-20 May 2005. There were about 70 participants, many of them from different nodes. Nine network nodes were represented (Bonn, INFN, Trieste, Lisbon, Valencia, Oxford, CERN, Madrid, Palaiseau), including the US team. More details can be found in the web page: <http://gesalerico.ft.uam.es/workshops/neutrinos1/index.html>

- The ICTP Spring School on Superstring Theory and Related Topics (14-22 March 2005) and Summer School in Particle Physics (13-24 June 2005), organized by the ICTP group of the Trieste node. There were about 150-200 participants, while several network nodes were represented. Many network postdocs and students have attended.

- The “GUSTAVOFEST” Symposium in Honour of Gustavo C. Branco, organized by the Lisbon node on 19-20 July 2005. The main focus was on CP Violation and the Flavour Puzzle. Around 50 people attended, and eight network nodes were represented (Palaiseau,

Saclay, INFN, Trieste, Madrid, Valencia, CERN, Lisbon).

- The Summer School at Les Houches on “Particle Physics beyond the Standard Model”, 1-26 August 2005, organized by members of Saclay node (S. Lavignac). Almost all topics of our network project were covered in about 100 hours of lectures. There were about 50 students (ESR and ER) and 12 lecturers. Most of the network nodes were represented by students and speakers.

- The series of workshops “Flavour in the Era of the LHC”, organized by the CERN node at CERN on 7-10 November 2005, 6-8 February 2006 and 15-17 May 2006. The goal of this Workshop is to outline and document a program for flavor physics for the next decade, addressing in particular the complementarity and synergy between the LHC and the flavor factories vis a vis the discovery and exploration potential for new physics. Several members of the network were actively involved in the organization as convenors, while nine nodes were represented (CERN, Lisbon, INFN, Madrid, Valencia, Oxford, Bonn, Trieste, Warsaw), as well as the US team.

- The 1st “LHC Olympics” meeting, organized by the network coordinator and the CERN node at CERN on 25-26 July 2005. Almost 40 physicists, with expertise ranging from the most theoretic aspects of string theory to experimental physics, took part in this program as witnessed in the meeting’s web site

<http://wwwth.cern.ch/lhcOlympics/lhcolympicsI.html>

The goal of the Olympics, is to foster scientific exchange and also collaboration between the string and field theory community and the experimental community, in the forthcoming LHC era. The meeting was declared a success by all participants. Eight network nodes were represented (Palaiseau, Greece, Bonn, INFN, Trieste, Madrid, Warsaw, CERN), including the US team which also was part in the organization.

- The 2nd “LHC Olympics” meeting was organized by the CERN node at CERN on 9-10 February 2006. About 60 physicists, with expertise ranging from the most theoretic aspects of string theory to experimental physics, took part in this program as witnessed in the meeting’s web site

<http://ph-dep-th.web.cern.ch/ph-dep-th/content2/workshops/lhcOlympics/lhcolympicsII.html>

Eight network nodes were represented (Palaiseau, CERN, Trieste, Saclay, Greece, INFN, Oxford, Madrid), as well as the US team. A third meeting was also organized in KITP, Santa Barbara on 24-25 August 2006, as part of the ‘String Phenomenology’ program and conference.

- The ICTP Spring School on Superstring Theory and Related Topics (27 March - 4 April 2006) the Summer School in Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics (10 - 21 July 2006) and the Workshop on ‘Nongaussianity in Cosmology’ (24-28 July 2006), organized by the ICTP group of the Trieste node. There were about 150-200 participants, while several network nodes were represented (CERN, Palaiseau, Trieste, INFN, Oxford and the US team). Many network postdocs and students have attended. More information can be found on the web pages:

http://cdsagenda5.ictp.trieste.it/full_display.php?smr=0&ida=a05197

http://cdsagenda5.ictp.trieste.it/full_display.php?ida=a05213

-The international conference “HEP2006: Recent Developments in High Energy Physics and Cosmology” organized mainly by the Hellenic Society for the Study of High Energy

Physics (Ioannina, Greece, 13-16 April 2006). The total number of participants was about 125. There were given about 80 talks on all the topics covered by the Network. Six network nodes were represented (Greece, CERN, Palaiseau, Saclay, Oxford, Valencia). Many young researchers (postdocs and students) have participated. More details can be found in the web page: <http://hep2006.physics.uoi.gr>

- The ‘International Workshop on The Dark Side of the Universe’ (20-24 June 2006) organized by the Madrid node in the IFT in Madrid. In this meeting around 100 senior and postdoc scientists joined together to discuss the interface of Particle Physics and Cosmology, with particular emphasis on the Dark Matter and Dark Energy issues. There were representatives of seven networks nodes (Oxford, Lisbon, Bonn/Hamburg, INFN, Palaiseau/Orsay, Valencia and Madrid). More information can be found on the web page: <http://dark.ft.uam.es/dsu2006/>

- The extended program ‘New Directions Beyond the Standard Model in Field and String Theory’ and the ‘Johns Hopkins workshop : Where do we go from the standard model’ have been co-organized by members of Palaiseau and Madrid nodes (E. Dudas and A. Pomarol) in the Galileo Galilei Institute for Theoretical Physics, Florence, Italy (June 6-8, 2006). The topics included : electroweak symmetry breaking, supersymmetric models and supersymmetry breaking, string vacua and model building, warped compactifications and holography, modifications of gravity and cosmological implications. 81 researchers attended this workshop among which members of 8 network nodes (Palaiseau, INFN, Trieste, CERN, Saclay, Bonn, Madrid, Oxford) and the US team. More information can be found on the web pages:

<http://www.fi.infn.it/GGI/activities/JohnsHopkinsWorkshop.htm>

<http://www.fi.infn.it/GGI/activities/NewDir.html>

- The Cargese Summer School on “Strings and branes: The present paradigm for gauge interactions and cosmology” (May 22-June 3, 2006, France) has been organized by members of the LPTHE subnode (L. Baulieu, P. Windey) and the Saclay node (P. Vanhove). There were 18 lecturers (5 from the network). The lectures topics included : perturbative string and M-theory, Holography, Black hole entropy, Cosmology, String phenomenology, String field theory, Topological Field Theory, Tachyon condensation, D-branes on curved spaces, Non-commutative field theories. There were about 85 participants (ESR, ER and lecturers) among which members of 5 network nodes (Palaiseau, Saclay, INFN, Trieste, CERN) and the US team. Most of the participants presented short talks. More information can be found on the web page: <http://string.lpthe.jussieu.fr/cargese/>

- The summer school “Particle Physics and Cosmology: the Fabric of Spacetime”, Les Houches, France, July 31- August 25, 2006. Organized by a member of Saclay node (C. Grojean). Almost all topics of our network project in the area of cosmology and astroparticles were covered in about 100 hours of lectures. There were 49 students and 17 lecturers (7 members of the network). Four network nodes were represented (Saclay, Oxford, Valencia, CERN), as well as the US team. More information can be found on the web page: <http://grojean.web.cern.ch/grojean/LesHouches06.html>