

Meeting of the LNS USER Committee

January, 10th 2013 (LNS meeting room 4th floor)

Invited during the morning session

G. Cuttone (director)
G. Cardella (outgoing coordinator)
S. Romano (Scientific Secretary of the LNS PAC)

Present

G. Agnello (Scientific information service)
A. Capone, S. Cherubini, E. De Filippo, N. Le Neindre*, V. Patera (new user committee members)

(*) connected from LPC-Caen (France) in video-conference.

PROGRAM (from 11 a.m to 15:30 p.m.)

G. Cuttone (LNS director)

- Welcome to new committee and communications

G. Cardella

- Communications of the outgoing coordinator

Election of the new user committee coordinator

Discussion and future planning between members of the new committee

Lunch pause

Discussion and future planning between members of the new committee

Minutes of the meeting

G. Cuttone

The director thanks the old committee for the work done and in particular G. Cardella as committee coordinator. He points out on the role of the user committee as bridge between LNS users, services and direction. He notes that the LNS infrastructure has now grown and cannot be restricted just to the accelerators users. In particular the Portopalo laboratory and the Catania harbor site are integrant part of the LNS infrastructures as well as new users operating in different fields like biology, lasers, medicine, etc. There is a discussion how to include all these new users in the laboratory life in order to

have also their feedback on problems, services, facilities, etc, and how to promote a greater knowledge of the LNS activities in different fields.

G. Cardella

The former User Committee coordinator, G. Cardella, lists all new initiatives that the have been taken in the last years. In particular the: End-of-Run questionnaire, the LNS-news bulletin, a re-ordered and extended users database that have to be maintained and extended for the future. There are almost 800 users in the database and a list of 500 e-mail addresses. Amongst them a relatively small but significant percentage (106 users) have participated to the new committee election on December 2012. Cardella notes also that the committee have to organize each year a general user meeting (last year was held on 30th October 2012) whose number of participants has indeed lowered in the years, probably also for difficulties for non-local users to move to LNS just for this occasion. In the past the user meeting was held in connection with the PAC meeting to assure a greater participation, but causing also a more complex organization. G. Cardella, remembering that its mandate has expired, invites the Committee to elect the new coordinator.

G. Cuttone, G. Cardella and S. Romano leave the room. The Committee unanimously elect E. De Filippo as new coordinator for the term 2013-2014.

The discussion starts. Present: the Committee members and G. Agnello

E. De Filippo makes a very brief summary of news relative to the main accelerators (Tandem, Cyclotron) remembering that a long review has been done recently by D. Rifuggiato in the last user general meeting (slides available at LNS web site, User meeting page).

A discussion is started about the following items:

Users database: how to solicit all LNS users (not only the main facilities or big apparatuses ones) to give their feedback.

Managing of the End-of-Run questionnaire

LNS-news future and modifications

Status of the User group web-site pages

It is proposed by A. Capone to launch a general questionnaire (not linked to the End-of-Run one) in order to identify the needs of current users and future users with a list of questions and a general free comment. The questions will be not only linked to experiments already done or services used but also with a sight to the future or evolution of the current research. The final version of the questionnaire will be established within January 18. This questionnaire will be sent to all known users but also want

to involve users of the LNS infrastructure that make use of LNS services, facilities, etc. The afternoon discussion is dedicated to define a draft of this questionnaire.

A discussion is launched about the LNS-news. The previous numbers are reviewed in order to see which items or experiments are present or others aspects of research at LNS that have been never summarized in the review. It is decided that for the next numbers the committee can eventually solicit a research group to write a contribution on a given argument that can enlight a particular aspect of research at LNS that has been not appeared in LNS-news up to now or focusing a particular research aspect. As before users will be solicited to give, if they want, their free contribution to LNS-news whose periodicity is two or three times in a year.

Other themes:

It is remembered that LNS guest-house is no more free. A reservation form have to be compiled in order to use the guest-house. Also the LNS-warehouse has changed some rules. It is important that the users, in particular the foreign ones, are well informed about these changes.

Local members of the committee will meet G. Cardella in order to take over the database files, e-mail lists, web-site passwords and all materials relative to User group managing.

The discussion finishes at 15:30. The next meeting will be held by video-conference on Friday 18th January at 15:00 in order to discuss the final version of the new questionnaire.

Minutes by Enrico De Filippo