

D. Willis
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NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN NUCLEAR SCIENCE

DIRECTORS' MEETING

Minutes of the Directors' Meeting held at the Daresbury Laboratory on
1st October, 1964

Present: Professor A. W. Morrison (Chairman)
Dr. T. G. Pickavance
Dr. A. C. W. V. Clarke
Mr. H. Rothwell
Dr. J. M. Valentine
Dr. J. A. V. Willis (Secretary)

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September, 1964 were confirmed.

2. NUCLEAR STRUCTURE LABORATORY

Dr. Pickavance agreed to be responsible for arranging with Professor Allen for the reports on the proposed Nuclear Structure Laboratory needed for the Physics Committee meeting on 19th November.

Dr. Willis was asked to see that Professors Moon and Burcham knew of the recommendation concerning siting and concerning the P.L.A.

3. ESTIMATES

Dr. Willis said that the preparation of the Estimates in Treasury form was proceeding satisfactorily. X

4. FILM ANALYSIS EQUIPMENT

Mr. Hudspith had been working on a draft letter to the Department of Education and Science, (D.E.S.) intended to achieve approval of the Glasgow S.M.P. unit in advance of approval of the Estimates. After discussion with the D.E.S. he had advised that to achieve such approval it would be necessary to say that the Institute felt so strongly about the S.M.P. unit that they would have it even if they had to keep to the Chief Secretary's figures in 1965-66; sacrificing other things if necessary.

It was agreed that such an assurance should not be given; it was clearly impossible to give it in relation to the expenditure of the two Laboratories together, and to offer such an assurance in respect of the Rutherford Laboratory separately would involve making assumptions about an apportionment of the shadow cut included in the Chief Secretary's figures. This the Directors were not prepared to do.

It was agreed that Mr. Hudspith's letter was still needed, but now its main object was not to secure early approval of the Glasgow S.M.P., but to tell the D.E.S. the effect of the requirement - new to us - that we should not make commitments which would prevent a return to the Chief Secretary's figures in 1965-66.

5. COMPUTING IN N.I.R.N.S.

It was agreed that the various computing requirements for nuclear physics in the Institute should be co-ordinated for the Executive Committee by about January, 1965 in time for the next 5-year forecast. The three elements were

- (a) Daresbury Laboratory needs
- (b) Rutherford Laboratory needs
- (c) University needs

It was suggested that in the analysis and presentations useful distinctions could be drawn between (i) on-line work, (ii) other N.I.R.N.S. Laboratory work and (iii) installations at universities.

It was agreed that Professor Flowers' Committee recently set up by the Board would be closely concerned with the final recommendations; before that stage was reached there should be a preliminary meeting between the two Directors and Messrs. Collinge and Walkinshaw to co-ordinate the ideas of the two Laboratories.

6. AGREEMENTS WITH UNIVERSITIES

Paper DMP/29 representing counter-proposals to DMP/26 by Mr. Mullett and Dr. Stafford was discussed to clarify certain points. Professor Morrison said that he would study it in detail before expressing his opinion.

It was not decided whether a paper on this subject would be prepared for the first Executive Committee meeting.

7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(a) Arrangement of Business

It was agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee that they should meet monthly on a regular day, at the two Laboratories alternately. It was thought most desirable for Lord Bridges to attend those meetings which dealt with major financial matters. These would probably be about four a year and their timing was fixed by the financial calendar. Personnel matters involving major financial considerations should come to these particular meetings too, but other Personnel matters could come up at any meeting - indeed preferably at other meetings, to spread the business. Certain minimum financial information would probably be needed at every meeting, and simple financial papers, such as used to be sent to the G.P.C. by correspondence, could then be presented for approval. The Committee might also like certain personnel information at each meeting.

The question was discussed whether the Chairman of the Physics Committee and the Research Reactor Committee should be invited to attend the Executive Committee when they were discussing recommendations of these Committees. It was agreed that Sir John Cockcroft's wishes, were the major factor here. Presumably he would be invited if he wished to come.

(b) Directors' Meeting

It was agreed that the Directors' Meetings would still be very necessary. For the present, they would be arranged about a week after each Executive Committee meeting. Most discussions at the Executive Committee

would be the better for preparation at the Directors' meeting, and Executive Committee agendas might have a standard item "Matters for discussion at the next meeting".

(c) Agenda for the first Meeting (a major finance meeting)

The following items were suggested:-

- (i) How do they want the agenda constructed? and which of their papers do they want to go to the Board?
- (ii) Minutes of the last G.P.C. and Personnel Committee Meetings.
- (iii) Relationship of N.I.R.N.S. to S.R.C. (correspondence with Turnbull).
- (iv) University Agreements (if ready - see 6 above)
- (v) Financial Report (a) Second Quarter Review
(b) Chief Secretary's figures in 1965-66
- (vi) Minor Financial Business (some approvals to request)
- (vii) List of important matters which the Committee will have to deal with.
- (viii) Matters for discussion at the next meeting.

(d) Payment of Members

Dr. Pickavance said that a series of different objections had been met with and the Treasury were still insisting that payment could only be by the day, not annually, and that the right figure was 10 guineas per day of attendance. It was agreed that an attempt should be made to make a fresh start perhaps on the basis of paying these Members as consultants. An annual rather than a daily payment was considered essential. Dr. Willis was asked to approach Mr. Thompson in the D.E.S. on this basis.

(e) Terms of appointment of Members

It was agreed to suggest to the Chairman that in writing to invite people to be Members of the Executive Committee he should say that it was hoped that Members would normally serve for a substantial period but that it would be desirable to make arrangements for some rotation. However, this would not start for at least a year.

8. EXPLOITATION OF INVENTIONS

It was agreed that policy on the commercial exploitation of Institute inventions and know-how should be similar to that of the A.E.A. in respect of the Culham Laboratory. In principle, drawings etc. should be charged for, but the charge could in suitable cases be nil. Drawings etc. should not be supplied without specific consideration of this point, and should not be taken away by staff leaving Institute employment. Such people should apply like anyone else.

9. BENEVOLENT FUND

It was reported that a Benevolent Fund scheme was ready for discussion with the Trade Unions. It was agreed that such discussions should go ahead, the point being made that the D.E.S. or Treasury might want to delay the scheme until the S.R.C. was set up, but that the Employers' Side of the Institute did not feel that they should themselves hold it up.

10. WHITLEY COUNCIL

It was proposed that the next meeting of the Whitley Council should be held at about Christmas time. Dr. Clarke said that he would like to look into the Institute's Whitley Council machinery and perhaps make suggestions.

J. A. V. Willis