The CERN Academic Training Committee

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ACCU, 10 March 2004
Mandate

• The mission of the Academic Training Committee is to:
• - Provide members of the CERN community, including users as well as staff members, with opportunities to deepen and broaden their academic knowledge, in particular by programming lecture courses at CERN on pure and applied scientific subjects,
• - Make these opportunities as available to the CERN community as possible, in particular by publicizing them widely and providing options for distance learning via electronic and print media,
• - Make the programme responsive to the CERN community by soliciting suggestions for courses to be offered and monitoring the assessments of those who follow them,
Mandate (2)

- Offer within the lecture programme courses of lectures serving the needs of postgraduate research students, who may be unable to attend suitable postdoctoral lectures offered by their home institutes,

- Monitor and advise the Summer Student Committee on the content and organization of its programme,

Liase with the Joint Training Board, the Training Executive Committee and the organizers of CERN Schools and Colloquia on matters of joint interest,

- Propose to the Director-General new initiatives for academic training as appropriate, and report to the CERN management as required.
Composition and Meetings

- Chairman: G. Giudice PH–TH
- Secretary: M. Storr HR
- representation of CERN departments, users, Summer Student Lectures, Staff Association
- one representative from ACCU (before R.W.L. Jones, now FLN)
- two WGs: HEP, AppliedPhysics
- meet/s to prepare & follow up questionnaire(s); + posters (e-?), mailing lists, monitoring of lectures
- budget ~30 k (low! increase?)

FLN, ATC, 10 March 2004
Questionnaire(s)

- available on the Web (only, 1st time) until 03/19
  http://cern.ch/Academic.Training/questionnaire
- HEP: Theory & general subjects (7), Phenomenology & experiments (7), Instrumentation (6) + suggestions
- AP: Accelerators (4), Computing (5), Engineering (5), Other topics in AP (2), Physics & society (5) + s…
- eye-catching titles, eye-catching abstracts → then, if chosen, catch the lecturer, book the room & eventually baby-sit the series
Some statistics 2003-04

- Introduction to QCD, was attended by 30 (-> smaller room in future?)
- Energy policy in the EU member states, wab 14
- MC modeling of hadron calorimeter, wab ~30

*as a comparison*

- Seminar on EPR with Bs, wab ~10 (mostly retired)
- reasons wrt past/LEP epoch & future/LHC epoch
- less people around or just shorter visits to CERN
- more busy with technical problems (construction, simulation, software)
- perhaps GL advice PhD students to be productive rather than academic!

FLN, ATC, 10 March 2004
Lecture programmes

• 2003-04 programme comprises 15 lecture groups
• 2004-05 programme to be frozen by June 30
• some titles can be recirculated, cycling period is ~3 y, perhaps PhD time spent at CERN
• questionnaires (needed at all?)
• future of ATC, min -> current program defined
• distance learning (WG)?
• produce open access courseware?
Conclusions

• The Academic Training lectures are/should be very important for CERN users (not only staff), and for younger users in particular
• They require organization and follow up
• The success of some lecture series (& some seminars) seems not to be enormous (after having been selected by popular vote)