

Towards an ECFA ECR panel

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Input Requested by RECFA Task Force

ECFA

European Committee for Future Accelerators



Collecting the thoughts that are on the minds of the early-career researchers on for example the topics below would be a good preparation towards our meeting

- What would be the main objectives of an ECFA ECR panel?
- How would you define “early” in ECR?
- How do you see the connection between ECFA and the ECFA ECR panel?
- How should ECR panel members be assigned?
- How would you proceed with meetings of the ECFA ECR panel?

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The results of a survey amongst the ECRs are shown in the next slides.

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Objectives

Definition of
“Early”

Connection
between
ECRs and
ECFA

Assignment
of ECR panel
members

How to
proceed with
ECR
meetings

Further
points to
mention

Objectives of the ECR panel

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- Create awareness for the ECR's situation.
- Represent the views of the ECRs on the physics programme and beyond.
This includes social and environmental concerns, and the sustainability of careers in academia.

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- Provide perspective to ECRs operating future experiments.
Provide a platform for discussion amongst many ECRs in diverse environments regarding ECFA activities and decisions.
- Improve communication between ECFA and ECRs.
The panel must be aware of activities inside ECFA and communicate these to the ECRs and vice versa.
- Keep track of where ECR recommendations are acted upon.
- The panel may adjust the objectives to altered situations.

The Interpretation of "Early" in ECR

Huge debate amongst ECRs:

- Definition of "Early" may depend on country.
- Include people who get a permanent position early on.
- Few ECRs voted for including people in permanent position.

Converged Opinion

- Not yet in a permanent position or less than 8 years in the field after obtaining the PhD degree.
- Apply common sense to exceptions (e.g. rolling grants in UK)

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Connection between ECFA and the ECR panel

Many options are considered

- The ECR panel provides input only.
- ECR observers inside the plenary ECFA.
- The ECR panel writes formal letters to which the ECFA is supposed to react.
- ECR delegates take a seat inside ECFA.

Obviously, an option, to which ECFA agrees is needed.

The Ultimate ECR Request

ECRs are in favour of sending ...

- an ECR delegation taking a seat in ECFA.
- One ECR delegate as observer to the restricted ECFA.

An ECFA delegation to ECR discussions is not excluded. Some issued concerns about hindering the discussion or diluting opinions.

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Assignment of the ECR Panel Members

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Representation

- Members should represent ECRs in their general field.
- Select members from different states in their career

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Multi-Layer Assignment Approach

How to ensure to get minor fields included?

- Each country selects 2 - 3 delegates
- Institutes select 1 delegate each
- ECR management may select additional people to assert adequate representation of each field, state of career, gender and whatever else is deemed appropriate.

How to proceed with ECR meetings

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Video-conferences

- Maybe once or twice a year
- ECRs stay with the idea to preserve the environment and avoid unnecessary travel.

Meetings in Person

- Are useful before major events.
- Maybe once or twice in five years.
- Use more frequently if video-conferences turn out unfeasible.

What else should be mentioned?

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- We highly appreciate the opportunity to shape the future of our field.
- Clear coordination and communication with ECFA are crucial.
- Current ECRs are the ones to work on the future experiments.
- ECR panel should be well organised and focus on clear and action oriented proposals.
- We need a fair selection and assert input from all countries/fields/institutes/minor communities.