

Minutes from the GUEC meeting held on zoom Tuesday, 15.2.2022, 14:00 – 17:00

Participants:

Silvia Leoni (SL,Chair), Emmanuel Clément (EC), Maria Colonna (MC), Andreas Görger (AG), Antoine Lemasson (AL), Adam Maj (AM), Marika Schleberger (MS), Marlene Assie (MA);
Management: Patrica Chomaz (PC), Fanny Farget (FF).

Agenda of the meeting:

- 1) Welcome from new management
- 2) Presentation of GANIL direction roadmap (PC)
- 3) Actions and role of GUEC during last year (SL)
- 4) Terms of reference and actual running of GUEC, propositions for improvements (ALL)
- 5) Propositions of GANIL management to improve the sense of GANIL community (FF)
- 6) Organization of GANIL Community Meeting, October 2022 (ALL)
- 7) AOB

1&3) Welcome from new management and role of GUEC

After a welcome from the new management, SL briefly reminds the GUEC composition, the role of GUEC during the last years (following the terms of reference published at the GANIL web page), the meetings held in the periods 2018-2020 (Chair: Adam Maj) and 2020-2022 (Chair: Silvia Leoni), including the organizations of the User Sessions at Colloque GANIL in 2019 and 2021. The important role of GUEC is underlined, particularly in connection with the large size of the GANIL User Community, which counts about 1000 Users, according to the registration to the GANIL User portal in September 2021.

The following points are also reminded:

- an updated and more flexible web page is needed;
- the GANIL PhD Award (coordinated by AG) is a very successful initiative which is held every second year, with two editions so far. The selection committee is made of outstanding scientists and the entire process is suggested to be better advertised at the GANIL web page;
- in general, very little response is received by the Users Community, although Users have been contacted in several occasions (e.g., decommissioning of SPEG and future of G3 Cave, EUROLAB suggestions on how to improve access to GANIL, preparation of Question Time session for Colloque GANIL User session). Actions should be taken to encourage/stimulate the interactions with Users.

2) News from GANIL Management and GANIL roadmap

- *Status of GANIL at the end of 2021*

The LINAC operation and first experiments with NFS are major milestones for the GANIL laboratory. However, important delays are recognized which are related to a combination of factors, such as previous complex relations with National Safety Authority, a late delivery of Decree « Mise En Service » (DMES) SPIRAL2, a large number of ongoing projects in a context of limited manpower.

- *GANIL Roadmap*

A Working Group (WG) on "Pluri-annual activities of GANIL" was set up by CNRS/IN2P3 and CEA/DRF, following the conflict in Summer 2021. Several recommendations were delivered in December 2021, as follows:

- Redefine a realistic programming of ongoing projects like S3, DESIR, NewGAIN;
- Carry out a refurbishing of the cyclotrons enabling them to stay in operational conditions for 20 years;
- Adjust the operation of the cyclotrons and LINAG accelerators to allow the proper execution of the projects in 2022-2023, with a possible stop of the cyclotrons for 2 years (for refurbishing) already in 2024-2025;
- Parallel operation of cyclotrons and LINAC only to be planned from 2026 onwards;
- Interactions of GANIL management with members of the Groupement d'Intérêt Economique (GIE) are encouraged;
- Recommendations on manpower: a minimum level of permanent staff should be guaranteed, the number of fixed-term contracts should be increased and subcontractors should be used;
- The attractiveness of GANIL should be strengthened: it is suggested to encourage the number of PhDs and post-docs, set up a system of GANIL fellows for periods of a few months or more, improve the experiments preparation with dedicated teams for each instrument.

Following the above recommendations, the GANIL management is undertaking the following actions:

- *Analysis of the recommendations* with GANIL technical groups;
- *Prioritization of projects*, resource reviews to be launched for some of them;
- *For the cyclotrons refurbishing*: creation of a pre-project team to study different scenarios;
- *Work with the technical teams* on the operating schedule and the possibilities of parallel operation of the GANIL cyclotrons and the SPIRAL2 LINAC;
- *Discussion with the members of the GIE* on the recruitment plans for the coming years;
- *Actions in progress to reinforce the attractiveness of GANIL*, with respect to personnel, students, and the community of users.

In this respect, to foster the involvement of users in GANIL developments:

- i) a GANIL visitor program is going to be launched, with scientific programs attached to experimental campaigns as well as theoretical topics;
- ii) a GANIL PhD fellowship will be funded every year to the Caen Doctoral school, for projects related to GANIL experimental and theory activities (co-supervisions are encouraged).
- iii) a GANIL fellow will be funded every year, associated to the GANIL experimental campaigns.

The yearly calls for the visitor, PhD and fellow programs will be announced at the GCM and/or GANIL Colloque (around October). For 2022, an early call is foreseen (around March 15th). The GUEC will be requested to analyze the applications and to advise the GANIL direction for the selections;

- *Links between the GUEC and the GANIL Scientific Council will be strengthened*. In particular, the GANIL management intends to discuss with GUEC, representative of the

user's community, the topics to be addressed at the Scientific Council, and reports of Scientific Council are going to be public.

4) Terms of reference and actual running of GUEC, propositions for improvements

- A representative of CIMAP management will be included to the GUEC meeting with the GANIL management, in order to strengthen the links with interdisciplinary activities;
- GUEC will be requested to analyze the applications and to advise the GANIL direction for the selections of GANIL visitors, and GANIL PhD programs;
- Connections with GUEC and the GANIL Scientific Council will be strengthened with the invitation of the GUEC Chair to the Scientific Council meetings;
- The management of GANIL is willing to identify the community of PhD thesis using the beam of GANIL. An association of GANIL PhDs is planned to be built.

5) Propositions of GANIL management to improve the sense of GANIL community

See points 3) and 4), above.

6) Organization of GANIL Community Meeting, October 2022

The organization of the GANIL Community meeting, to be held in CAEN 17th-21st October 2022, is discussed at length. A bottom-up approach will be followed, with GUEC fully involved in defining the program of the various sessions. The aim is to ask the GANIL User community to report on their research programs (both in experiment and theory) to be performed at GANIL in the next few years. The physics at the cyclotrons, NFS, and interdisciplinary projects will be discussed, as well as the impact of the cyclotrons shut down for refurbishing. Sessions will be also devoted to opportunities at S3, DESIR and future technical developments (e.g., NEWGAIN).

Preparatory meetings between GUEC and the Managements are planned to converge on a preliminary program.

7) AOB

- It is announced that only one PAC meeting will be held in 2022, around Autumn;
- The present GUEC will stay in charge until the GCM meeting (October 2022), and elections for the renewal of GUEC will be held later this year.

Silvia Leoni closed by thanking all participants for the constructive meeting.