



APC Colloquia

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APC Biennale 2024

May 24, 2024



What are the APC colloquia?

- Once per month
- **Not 'yet another seminar':**
A group seminar is from an expert to experts.
The colloquium is aimed at a broader audience.
i.e. a cosmologist should be able to attend a colloquium on particle physics and actually get out of the room being wiser
- We offer coffees/tea/cookies before/after the talk for informal discussions
- And lunch/dinner with the speaker.
(with the inviting group and friends.
We literally never said no to anyone. It is a big opportunity for young researchers to talk to experts. Take it!)



Some stats on the 2022-2024 colloquia

Sonia and Matteo organizing colloquia during January 2022- April 2024.
Now being organized by Floriane and Luca.

- 26 colloquia organized
(roughly one colloquium per month, sometimes we had exceptional colloquia)
- We have a 2k€/year budget (sic!) for coffees and lunches. We do **NOT** invite people
- Attendance is often low
Fluctuates a lot between record low of ~10(sic!) to about 60 (in person and zoom)
- Attendance is particularly low from PhDs
You are the audience!
Ideally you should attend one colloquium per month and your group seminar per month. **It's 2 hours per month in total!**



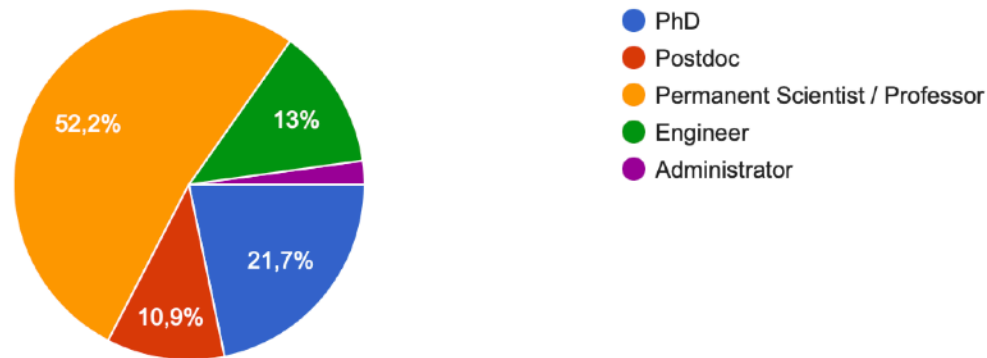
The YouTube APC Channel

- All colloquia are streamed live on YouTube and accessible offline
- Some of them have many visits
(best one: DES December colloquium has 600 views in 5 months)
- Colloquia are *not only* part of lab life,
but also impact our public image
- Follow our YouTube channel!
It has only 186 followers.
(right now we cannot monetize it ...)

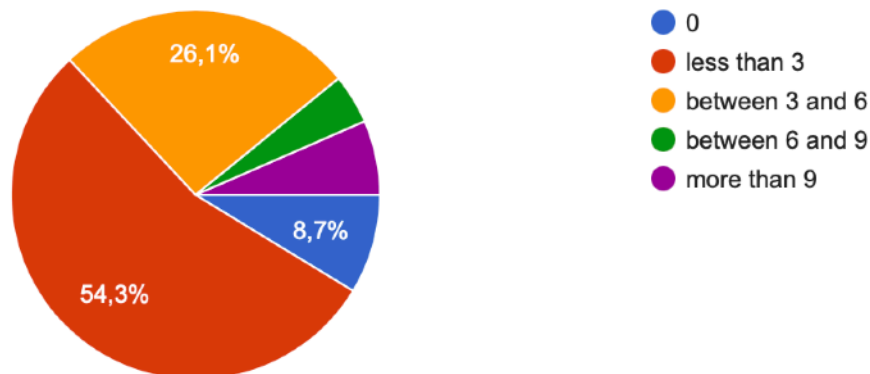


Feedback from the lab

46 replies, here by position



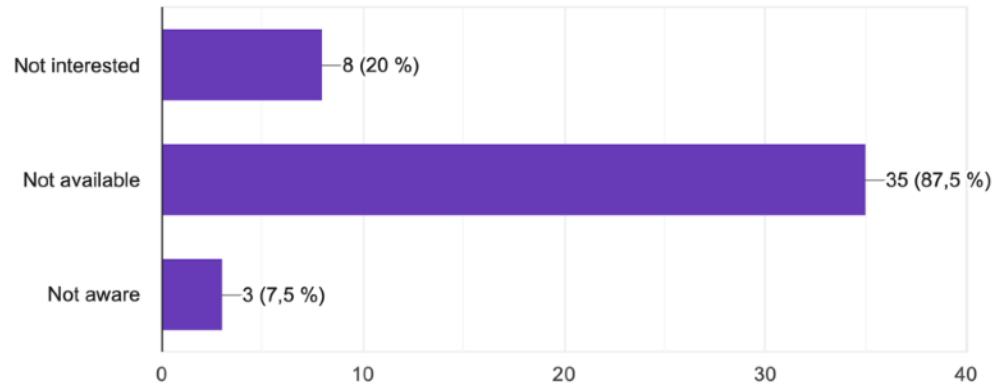
How many colloquia did you attend last year?



Feedback from the lab

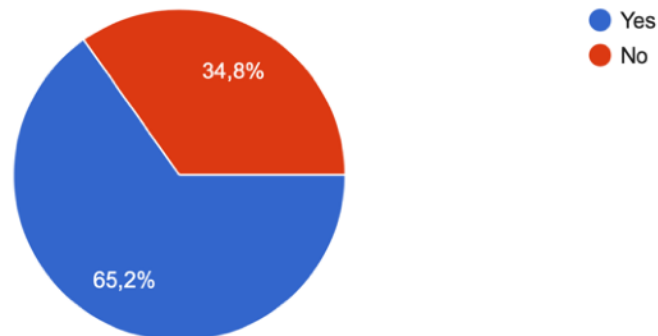
If you didn't attend regularly, what has limited your participation?

40 réponses



Remote participation conflicts with lab life. Would you agree to suppress the zoom connection but keeping YouTube recordings?

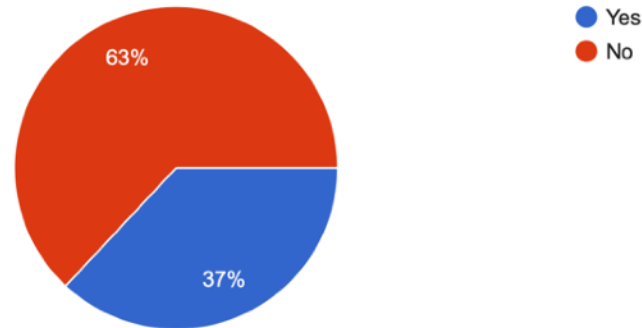
46 réponses



Feedback from the lab

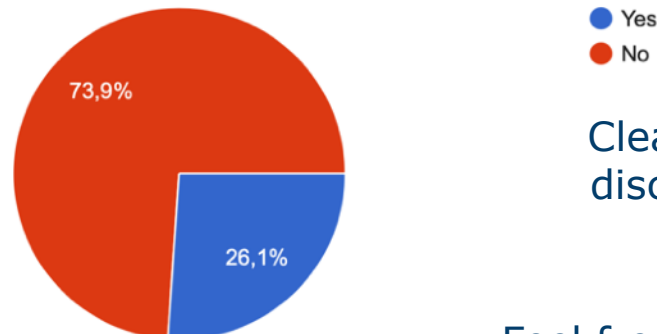
Have you ever used the YouTube recordings, and watched the colloquium offline?

46 réponses



Was the choice of speakers suggested by your group discussed at group meetings?

46 réponses



Clearly there is a group who discusses colloquia at group meetings.

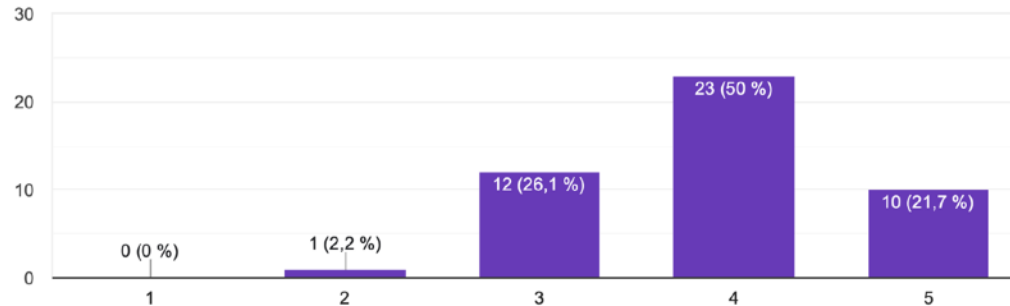
Feel free to bring forward interesting speakers and topics!



Feedback from the lab

How do you judge the quality of the topics? (1 is negative and 5 is excellent)

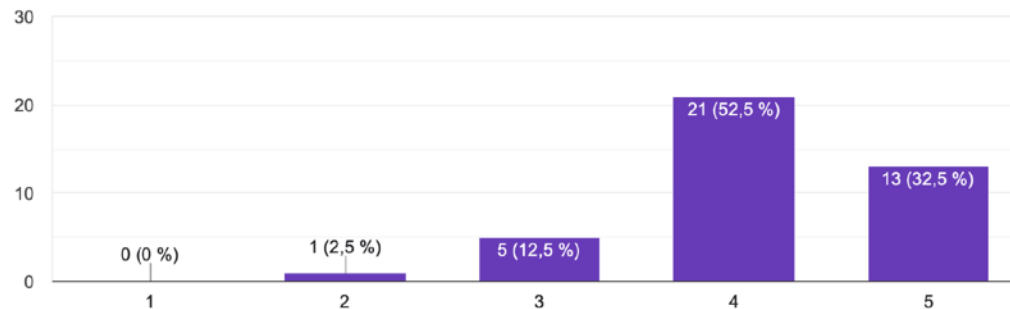
46 réponses



Average: 3.9

For the colloquia that you attended, how do you judge the quality of the speakers? (1 is negative and 5 is excellent)

40 réponses



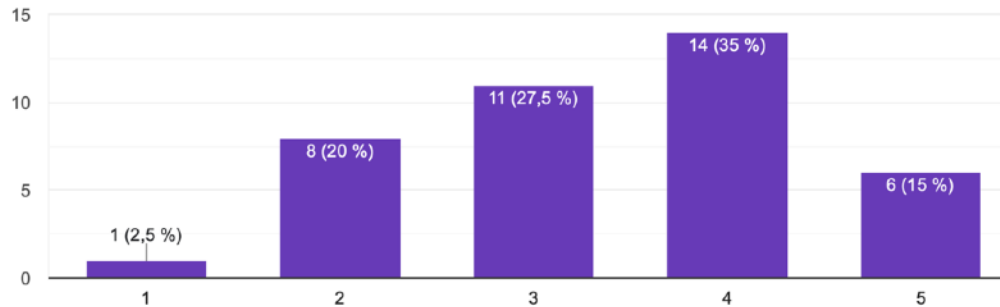
Average: 4.2



Feedback from the lab

For the colloquia that you attended, did they match the spirit of a colloquium (presentation aimed at a large audience, including non experts in the lab, of...as basically a seminar', 5 is 'that's a colloquium!')

40 réponses



Average: 3.4

We do instruct the speakers about the goal of a colloquium.

On average it seems it is perceived by the audience as different from a seminar,
But there is room for improvement



Free comments

- too much specialized;
more pedagogical introductions for non-experts;
having a reminder of the intended public would help
- I would emphasize that the colloquium is also an opportunity to socialize with the rest of the lab,
to meet new experts and to be kept updated. It is an important activity for "all ages"
- keep thematics broad and representative of the different teams of APC
- Zoom has become part of life, but I agree it should not be used in place of physical presence
when that is humanly feasible
- It would be nice that the speaker meet the Ph.D. students before or after its talk.
- Keep always the same time slot
- Do not send by email multiple Mb attachments
- Colloquiums are more interesting when the subject is transverse, outside of astrophysics, or very
broad/aimed at a large audience
- Rare colloquium (one a month) with good preselection of speakers



Feedback from the lab

Overall positive feedback from the lab
We share the goal, but we can improve it

Our propositions:

- Be strict on the time slot
(we know that... but we do not invite the speakers.. not always possible)
- Then let's invite (some of) the speakers!
Increase budget from 2k€ to 12k€:
about 4x2.5k€ invited speakers/year
i.e. same as today but 4 of the colloquia are actually invited specifically for that
- **No more hybrid!** Still possible to follow it offline on YouTube, but there won't be any live zoom anymore (Seems oked by the interviews)
- 'Encourage' student participation making it mandatory somehow
(can the ED help us with that? Can the supervisor be more 'encouraging'?)
- Add a dedicated student slot after the meeting, and different from the lunch/dinner where PhD students can chat with the speaker





APC colloquium



PennState
Eberly College of Science

Wenesday, May 29 at 11am

Room Luc Valentin, 454A

Doug Cowen

PennState, Eberly College of Science

Astrophysical Tau Neutrinos and Other Recent Results from the IceCube Neutrino Observatory

Neutrinos are very reticent fundamental particles. Tau neutrinos make electron and muon neutrinos look positively gregarious. The IceCube Neutrino Observatory at the South Pole has sensitivity to all three active neutrino flavors over an energy scale spanning six orders of magnitude. We report on recent results from the experiment, including the first high-significance measurement of the most energetic tau neutrino candidates ever observed.