

The ICFA Neutrino Panel: terms of reference

Preamble

1. ICFA has established the Neutrino Panel with the mandate [1]:
To promote international cooperation in the development of the accelerator-based neutrino-oscillation program and to promote international collaboration in the development a neutrino factory as a future intense source of neutrinos for particle physics experiments.
2. The Panel reports to ICFA, an international organization for discussion of the international aspects of particle physics, the membership of which is approximately representative of particle-physics activities in the different regions of the world [2].
3. The Panel has prepared these Terms of Reference to define its principal objectives and modus operandi.

Objectives

4. Through consultation with the neutrino-physics community, funding agency and laboratory management and other stakeholders, the Panel will carry out a review of:
 - (a) The present status of the neutrino-oscillation programme and the developments that can be expected on a 4–7-year timescale;
 - (b) The opportunities for discovery for which the accelerator-based neutrino-oscillation programme must be optimised on the 7–25-year timescale; and
 - (c) The measurements and R&D (including software development) that are required for the near-term (4–7-year) and medium- to long-term (7–25-year) programmes to fulfil their potential.
5. The Panel will assess the benefit of cooperation or collaboration on aspects of the near- and medium- to long-term programmes with a view to identifying a scenario or a number of scenarios by which the discovery potential of the programme can be optimised.
6. The Panel will provide written reports to ICFA at key milestones in its programme and a final report by March 2016 in which the Panel's recommendations for the development of the optimal scenario(s) through cooperation in the development of the accelerator-based neutrino-oscillation program and collaboration in the development a neutrino factory are articulated.

Modus operandi

7. The Panel will meet as required by teleconference and exploit the various international workshops and conferences, on a “best-efforts basis”, to meet face-to-face at least once per year.
8. In its first year, the Panel will organise a “mini-workshop” in each region to communicate that the Panel exists, to collect input from the community and to receive reports from the regional planning activities. The Panel will write a short report summarising its findings.
9. In its second year, the Panel will continue its community consultation and engage with Laboratory Directors and Funding Agency representatives to refine its understanding of the factors that influence the development of an optimal scenario or optimal scenarios. A mini-workshop (or series of mini-workshops) will be organised to present progress, solicit input and discuss the emerging scenario or scenarios. The Panel's findings and the emerging scenario or scenarios will be outlined in an interim report.
10. In its third year, the panel will continue its community and stakeholder consultation while preparing its final report. The contents of the report will be circulated and mini-workshops will be organised to present the draft findings and to solicit input from the communities and stakeholders.

References

- [1] The International Committee on Future Accelerators, “ICFA Neutrino Panel.”
http://www.fnal.gov/directorate/icfa/neutrino_panel.html, 2013.
- [2] The International Committee on Future Accelerators, “ICFA WWW site.”
<http://www.fnal.gov/directorate/icfa/>.