

# THE FCPPL NEWSLETTER N°1

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## FCPPL NEWS

### Appointments

The science and technology service from the French Embassy (SST) has been deeply renewed in September. The new councilor is **Norbert Paluch**, while the person more specifically in charge with Physics will be **Philippe Martineau**.

After 4 years of great work, Jean-Claude Thivolle is leaving the head of the CNRS office in Beijing. The new head of office is **Patrick Nedellec**, a former member of the SST staff and a good friend of FCPPL. We are looking forward to working with him.

**Fabio Hernandez** resigned from his position of deputy director of the IN2P3 computing center and technical responsible for the French component of the LHC computing grid, to take a position with the French ministry of Foreign Affairs. He is based at the IHEP computing center and his work focuses on the development of a grid and cloud computing technology for scientific research in several domains of interest for both France and China. He arrived in Beijing late August and becomes the fourth French FCPPL member working on a long term positions in China, together with Frédéric Jugeau (IHEP), Thomas Saugrin (NAOC) and Olivier Martineau (IHEP/NAOC).

### Agenda

4<sup>th</sup> FCPPL workshop will be held on April 7 & 8 in Jinan, Shandong province. The steering committee will take place on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

The call for the Eiffel grants is now open and will close on January 7<sup>th</sup>. More details here: <http://www.egide.asso.fr/jahia/jahia/lang/en/accueil/appels/eiffel>.

### PhD students

Eleven students received a grant in 2010 for a co-PhD in the framework of FCPPL: Zhao DongHua on SVOM, Li Dikai on D0, Ruan Xifeng, Yao Liwen, Sun XiaoHu, Chen Liming, Li Bo on Atlas, Liu Bo on LHCb, Zhan Shi on CMOS developments, Xu Chenghai on the positron source development for the ILC and Zang DongSong on the LCG developments. Let's congratulate them and wish them success for their thesis!

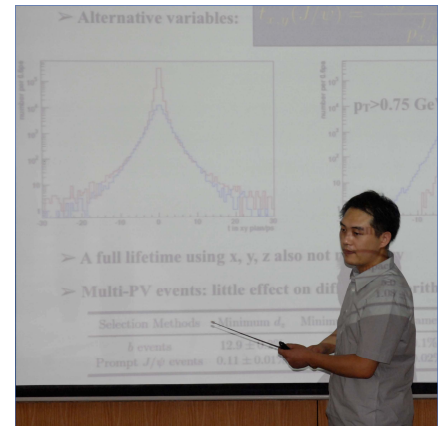
## 1. One among us... Qian Wenbin

*In this section, we shed light on one of the FCPPL member.*

Today we talk with Qian Wenbin, who has just finished a co-PhD between LAL and Tsinghua University on LHCb under the supervision of Patrick Robbe, Marie-Hélène Schune and Gao Yuanning.

September 2<sup>nd</sup> was the big day for him, as he defended his thesis at Tsinghua.

We talked with him just before he received his Doctorate degree.



Wenbin in action during his thesis defense

### Wenbin, tell us about your background:

I come from Nantong, a 7-million inhabitant's town close to Shanghai. I moved to Beijing when I was accepted in Tsinghua University. I first studied chemistry, and gradually moved to fundamental physics, as I felt eager to understand the basic principles of the world.

### How did the idea of doing this co-PhD in France occur to you?

It is actually Gao Yuanning who proposed this to me. I must admit that I did not think about it before. But when I told that I could go to France for work to friends and relatives in China, most of them said that it was a great opportunity, and that I should not hesitate. That was also the first time I was going abroad.

### What is your general feeling about France?

I found the people very

helpful and friendly in general. Only during the Olympic torch relay in Paris I did feel a bit of aggressivity towards China. Even though I have never been targeted personally, I felt bad about this. But I really enjoyed my time in France.

### What about work?

There are of course some differences with respect to Chinese habits: French people don't work on weekends [laughs], spend less time at work, but on the other hand I have the feeling that they work more efficiently. But all in all, I don't think I had too many difficulties to get accustomed to French work habits. This certainly comes from the fact that Gao Yuanning is quite "westernized" in his way of working: despite being very busy, he is very close to his students and always takes the necessary time to talk with us. This is very appreciable.

### Any regrets?

Not being able to pronounce correctly "Denfert-Rocheraud"\* after 2 years in France [laughs]. More seriously, I wish I could speak better French, but this would have required much more time ...

### What are your plans for the future?

I think I'll stay in Europe for a post-doc. In Germany, or England maybe... I am looking forward to discover a new culture. But in the long run, I think I'll come back to China: it is really tiring to be a foreigner in the long run, not to understand the language, not to understand how administration works, etc...

\* Denfert-Rocheraud is one of the main subway station in Paris, named after a French general who took part in the war against the Prussians in 1870.

## 2. Focus on ATLAS

*"A tout seigneur tout honneur" \*, as one says in France... In this kick-off edition of the FCPPL newsletter, we let Jin Shan & Emmanuel Monnier, ATLAS project leaders, talk in more details about the largest collaboration in FCPPL :*

All started during a visit at the Institute for High Energy Physics (IHEP) made during the ICHEP conference organized in Beijing in July 2004. A first round of discussion occurred between Tong Guoliang from IHEP, former ATLAS Chinese Cluster (ACC) group leader, and Emmanuel Monnier from the "Centre de Physique des Particules de Marseille" (CPPM). Then these discussions continued during the conference with the strong support of Francois Le-Diberder, former IN2P3 Scientific vice director for particle physics.

Following these discussions and after a quick visit of Tong Guoliang at CPPM in fall 2004, a more formal visit to IHEP was organized in 2005 to further discuss cooperation work. This was helped by the support from the French Embassy and its scientific service, in which Lydia Roos was working at that time, as well as the support from IHEP and IN2P3 management. There, cooperation was settled through the launching of an International Cooperation Program (PICS) for 2006 on the LHC Atlas experiment physics program and on Computing Grid developments. The first physicist and computer scientist visits and cooperation works then started between France and China, including later the first co-Phd student, Zhang Huaqiao. Soon followed a workshop on LHC Physics and Associated Grid Computing organized at IHEP fall 2006 in which Chen Gang, Dominique Boutigny, respectively head of IHEP and of IN2P3 computing center, Jin Shan, leader of the ATLAS Chinese Cluster and Emmanuel Monnier played an important role. All of these activities contributed at their level to the creation of the FCPPL in 2007.

Following these first fruitful steps, a cooperation program was then settled within the FCPPL framework under the leadership of Jin Shan and Emmanuel Monnier. This cooperation involves now several institutes from France and China and more than 15 people on each side,

senior physicists as well as co-PhD students. Since the center of gravity of the LHC program is centered at CERN, most physicists spend a fair fraction of their time in Europe through several month senior scientist visits as well as co-PhD programs of one to two years spent in France. In addition fruitful discussion occurs through regular video conference and phone meeting as well as short visits and meeting in China, not to mention also the FCPPL workshops every year. The scientific topics covered by this cooperation are centered on the LHC physics program and more particularly Higgs boson searches, top quark property studies, Standard Model and beyond studies including, W/Z, di-boson, SUSY.... In addition, to prepare the future, a research and development work on silicon detector for the super LHC program has recently started under Alexander Rozanov and Wang Zheng supervision.

All of this cooperation work is strongly supported by the FCPPL as well as by local funds. In order to get more to help this collaboration, there is a constant work done to find additional funds. Among them are CSC or EIFFEL grants as well as local funding agencies such as the region/city or the universities. Recently a CaiYuanPei program was awarded to our collaboration. It will foster our joint cooperation work and more specifically on top property studies with Shandong University. This is one of the accessible fields with the current 2010 data set and the foreseen one in 2011. Of course many of us are now actively analyzing the 2010 data set to get the first physics results and our cooperation work is up front many of the presented work in ATLAS meetings.

Looking backward, a lot has been achieved since the early days which put now our collaboration in the best condition to strongly contribute to important physics results in the years to come as well as to prepare the future upgrade of the detector. This could not have been done without the constant interaction and cross fertilization between senior physicists and students from both sides.

Of course, it is not always easy, especially in big scientific collaboration such as ATLAS. This requires a lot of adapta-

tion, cultural as well as scientific, for people from both sides involved in this cooperation to make it moving on.

All in all, it may be the food that has generated the largest difficulties : raw sea food such as sea urchin, alive drunk prawns, frogs in Sichuan pepper, on the food side may have hurt some sensibilities even if extremely delightful. Sometimes MacDonald's was looked after in China or a rice cooker in France but this has always been taken with humor and open minded by all of us making this cooperation a success.

Finally in addition to physics, both Shan and Emmanuel enjoy good food which always helps to settle things. One of the key for good cooperation is always to try to find solution to overcome difficulties, and there are many, especially administrative issues, by discussion and mutual esteem and confidence.

Emmanuel Monnier & Jin Shan

*\* Which could be translated to "you must give honor when honor is due" in English.*

## 3. Guess what this is...



... and win a FANTASTIC gift !!

It will be presented at  
the Jinan workshop  
to the author of the first  
(correct!) answer.

Reply @ [newsletter@cppm.in2p3.fr](mailto:newsletter@cppm.in2p3.fr)