

Geant4 Oversight Board Meeting

CERN, 6 November 2007

- Participants: Mauro Morandin (INFN), Richard Mount (SLAC), John Allison (STFC, HIP, via telecon) Vladimir Grichine (Lebedev), Albert De Roeck (CERN, Technical Forum chair, part time), John Apostolakis (ex officio - Spokesperson), Makoto Asai (ex officio – deputy Spokesperson), Petteri Nieminen (ESA, Chair)
- Introduction of Mauro Morandin (New INFN OB representative). Mauro is based at INFN Perugia, and is currently holding a coordinating position in the INFN Computing Committee. He has also been the BaBar Italian collaboration spokesperson. The OB warmly welcomed him in his new position.
- Report from the Technical Forum (ADR): The forum started in 2003 for interaction with the Experiments to consolidate their various requirements, and continues to operate successfully. The next meeting is to be held 7 November; release questions and performance related issues will be discussed. There are about five TF meetings per year. The meetings at CERN are always attended by the large experiments, with on average ~30 people attending. Aside from HEP, other communities are also approached (e.g. space). The TF has overall been a very useful instrument to aid the Collaboration, and works to complement other communication means (such as HyperNews).
- Report from the previous Steering Board meetings on 21st June and 19th September 2007 (JAp): Various workshops and meetings with users (e.g. a joint developers meeting with the GATE Collaboration) have been held. JAp also outlined the latest release, 9.0, and their major features and the patches released in August. The next Geant4 release is planned for 14 December. New collaborators and departures were reported. The next Collaboration Workshop will be held in Kobe, Japan, in the second week of October 2008, whereas the one in 2009 will be held in Catania, Italy. The OB agrees that a link to the Geant4 2007 review report from the Geant4 website can be provided.
- Collaboration status was discussed. Current total Collaboration FTE is of the order of ~28. Almost two years have passed since the introduction of the Collaboration Agreement. Hence elections for new Working Group representatives, where not carried out in the mean time, are becoming timely, as is the election for the next Geant4 Spokesperson. The next SB meeting is planned for December time where the election process will be discussed. Main outcomes and recommendations of the Geant4 2007 review were briefly discussed.
- JAI introduced the initiative to form a company, provisionally named “Geant4 Associates International”, which was already discussed in the SB. This will be a new non-profit company, established by Geant4 “retirees”, with the purpose of enabling and supporting their continued work on Geant4-related issues.
- Next OB meeting: Provisionally, a telephone conference in mid-January 2008 to discuss preparations for the delta review. RM agreed to discuss with the 2007 review chairman, Charlie Young (SLAC) to ascertain the availability of the reviewers for November 2008.