

Statutes of the Scientific Advisory Committee of SINQ

(modified version dated June 1, 2024)

A. Function

The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of SINQ advises the management of PSI and of SINQ on all scientific and technical questions regarding the scientific work in neutron scattering and imaging with a particular emphasis on:

- the proposed developments and upgrades of guide system, instruments and auxiliary equipment and their priorities concerning user operation. Notably, such upgrades should be evaluated with regard to their potential to address current and future key scientific challenges.
- the scientific evaluation of new proposals for user experiments at SINQ. The SINQ instrument scientists in parallel provide information about the technical feasibility and about a reasonable amount of necessary beam time for the new proposals.

B. Composition

1. The SAC shall be composed of international experts covering all fundamental research fields and applied questions that may be studied with the suite of neutron scattering and imaging instruments of SINQ. They shall be appointed by the head of the PSI Center for Neutron and Muon Sciences (CNM) based on the recommendation of the head of the Laboratory for Neutron Scattering and Imaging (LNS).
2. Members of the SAC are appointed for a term of office of at least three years.
3. Members may lose their membership if they do not attend two consecutive meetings of the Scientific Advisory Committee.
4. The head of the PSI center CNM, the heads of the laboratories LNS and LIN together with the secretary of the Advisory Committee attend the meetings in non-voting capacity.
5. On request, additional technical or scientific PSI staff may attend a meeting as subject matter experts while specific topics of the agenda are discussed.

C. Chairperson

The head of the PSI center CNM appoints a Chairperson from among the members of the SAC. The Chairperson may serve longer than a regular member of the Committee. He or she chairs the Committee meetings and prepares the agenda with the help of the secretary.

D. Deliberations

1. The SAC shall meet as the need arises, but normally once a year (in person) for a strategic advisory meeting and in addition typically twice a year (virtually) for the evaluation of new proposals for user experiments at SINQ. For the latter the committee splits off into scientific subcommittees. At the written request of half of its members a meeting must be convened within 4 weeks.
2. The SAC takes its decisions by simple majority of the members present. The SAC's decisions may only be of advisory character.
3. The SAC may decide to hold a closed meeting or part of a meeting with members only and - if necessary - with the PSI management.
4. The head of the PSI center CNM and those of the laboratories LNS and LIN shall report during the meetings of the SAC.
5. Minutes in note form shall be composed for each meeting. Electronic copies are to be sent to the members of the SAC, to the director of PSI, to the heads of CNM, LNS and LIN and to the group leaders involved.

E. Entry into force

The present version of the statutes will enter into force on June 1, 2024.