



yHEP Report

Farah Afzal

Annual meeting of KHuK in Germany

8 December 2023

On behalf of the yHEP management board:

Felipe Peña, Leonel Morejon, Michael Lupberger, Pardis Niknejadi, Farah Afzal, Srijan Sehgal, Philipp Krönert, Valerie Lang

Young High Energy Physicist Association



- Representing early career scientists (everybody w/o permanent contract)
Phd students, Postdocs, Junior Research-Group Leaders, etc.
 - Founded in 2015, currently ~300 members
- Sections → Related to committees
 - Particle physics → [KET](#)
 - Astroparticle physics → [KAT](#)
 - Physics of Hadrons and Nucleons → [KHuK](#)
 - Accelerator physics → [KfB](#)
- yHEP with one ex-officio member in KET, KAT, KHuK (KfB ongoing)

- Goals

- Assessing and improving situation of non-permanent scientists
- Shaping the future of physics
- Improvement of environmental sustainability in science
- Networking

Contact & Info:

yhep-info@desy.de

[Webpage](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

Become a member?

Sign-up to the mailing list

yHEP Management Board



- Elected by members every year → 2 representatives per section
 - Next election ongoing → Many thanks to our election team: Christian Grefe & Jan Reher

Particle Physics



Valerie Lang

Chair

Akad. Rat a.Z.
Uni Freiburg



Michael
Lupberger

Postdoc
Uni Bonn

Astroparticle Physics



Leonel
Morejon

Postdoc
Uni Wuppertal



Srijan Sehgal

PhD student
Uni Wuppertal

Hadrons & Nuclei



Farah Afzal

Dep. Chair

Postdoc
Uni Bonn



Philipp
Krönert

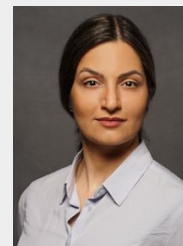
PhD student
Uni Bonn

Accelerator Physics



Felipe Peña

PhD student
Uni Hamburg/
DESY



Pardis
Niknejadi

Tenure track
scientist
DESY

yHEP activities in the past year

- Triggered by/Based on:
 - Requests from KHuK/NuPECC and/or the corresponding other committees: KAT, KET, KfB + European counterparts
 - Providing young scientists' view in the committee work
 - Our own agenda

Potential changes in the KHuK-Satzung



- Discussion on whether or not PhD students should be allowed to vote
- Our recommendation: Keep PhD students in the list of KHuK voters
 - Previous yHEP-representatives Annika Thiel and Elisabetta Prencipe introduced the idea to include PhD students as KHuK voters to give young people a voice in KHuK
 - PhD students represent a large number of academic staff
 - Professors have to make lists of Postdocs for the election. It is not much more work to also list their PhD students
 - We have asked PhD students to give us their opinion in a short survey:
 - 80% want to cast their vote directly in the KHuK elections
 - Majority (55%) does not prefer that yHEP-KHuK representatives cast the vote for the PhD student's community
 - Request: Candidates should make short statements about their background, experience and motivation to be elected → Informed voting possible
 - We recommend to KET, KAT, KfB to also include PhD students as voters.

yHEP interaction with NuPECC



- yHEP wrote a letter to chair of NuPECC in 2022, proposing to also include representatives from young researchers in their committee→ positively received
- yHEP submitted in 2022 contribution for NuPECC LRP 2024:
 - Inclusion of direct representatives of early career researchers in NuPECC
 - Support the establishment of more groups like yHEP in other European states
 - Establish working groups with young researchers within NuPECC
- Received invitation to be part of thematic working group (Nuclear Science - People and Society) to help draft recommendations
 - A. Thiel involved in working group and helped draft recommendation to e.g. include early career researchers in the NuPECC committee

Potential reform of the WissZeitVG



- Act on Fixed-Term Employment Contracts in Academia (WissZeitVG)
 - [Original proposal for reform](#) published on 17.03.2023 → Huge objections from different sides
 - [Statement by yHEP](#) published on our [webpage](#) on 26.05.2023
 - [Possibility for endorsement](#) shared on 16.06.2023
 - In parallel: Updated BMBF proposal: [Expert draft \(Referenten-Entwurf\)](#) on 06.06.2023
 - [Collection of various statements](#) on BMBF proposal (incl. yHEP) on webpage of Network for Decent Labour in Academia (Netzwerk für gute Arbeit in der Wissenschaft - NGAWiss)
 - Also interesting: [NGAWiss argumentation help](#)
 - Suggestion by NGAWiss, supported by yHEP: Contact your local MP! - See [instructions](#)
 - In case of questions, feel free to contact us!

Sustainability



- yHEP campaign: “Know your footprint”
 - Idea: Calculate your private and professional CO₂ footprint to identify the biggest contributors
 - Side-effect: Get a feeling for magnitude of emission numbers in tCO₂-eq: How much is much?
 - Work ongoing in 4 categories of the professional footprint:
 - Experiment/Collaboration, Institute/Research centre, Computing, Travel
 - Core team: Naman Bhalla, Simran Gurdasani, Pardis Niknejadi, Valerie Lang
 - Stay tuned for the release of the yHEP CO₂ calculator
- yHEP involved in organization of workshop: Sustainability in the Digital Transformation of Basic Research on Universe and Matter
 - [Workshop 30.05.-02.06.2023 in Meinerzhagen](#) (DIGUM with support from ErUM-Data-Hub)
 - Publication released on arXiv on 2 November 2023: [Resource-aware Research on Universe and Matter: Call-to-Action in Digital Transformation](#)

yHEP involvement with DPG



- Representative from yHEP MB in DPG programme committee
 - For DPG 2022 Heidelberg: Valerie Lang (KET)
 - Since DPG 2023 Dresden: Michael Lupberger (KET)
- Industry session
 - Jointly organized with jDPG and Working group Industry & Economy (AIW)
 - DPG 2023 Dresden: 3 speakers, ≈300 participants, Beer & Prezels (thanks to FV T)
 - For DPG 2024 Karlsruhe: again organised by Michael Lupberger (KET)
 - For DPG 2024 Giessen (HK): organised by Farah Afzal (KHuK)
 - Save the date for next year: Evening, Tuesday, 12.03.2024
- yHEP annual meeting(s)
 - Taking place as hybrid meeting at DPG spring conferences
 - Now organized as part of the programme of the respective section, e.g. Particle Physics
 - Save the date for next year: Evening, Wednesday, 06.03.2024

Future collider



- Future collider → will be operated by the younger generation
 - Ideas of the young generation important for the success of any future project
 - yHEP started gathering input on: “What Future Collider would excite you?” or “*What criteria would a Future Collider have to fulfill such that you would be enthusiastic about it?*”
 - Collection of input still ongoing → a few important points already
 - Physics case important; sustainability essential for political and societal acceptance
 - Timescale: Operations starting before current ECRs retire!
 - Either build something with existing technology soon (~10 years),
 - Or when game-changing technology at hand (plasma acceleration, room-temperature superconductors, muon collider, etc.)
 - Personal prospects: Needs to allow for a career (towards a permanent position)

Teaching



- Teaching
 - Discussion at [2022 annual KET meeting](#) ([yHEP points](#), [additional points](#) - not discussed for organizational reasons) → Discussion largely triggered by yHEP 2022 survey results
 - yHEP started gathering further input on regulations regarding teaching at German universities
 - Few key points already:
 - Training for teaching! → Active encouragement needed or mandatory
 - For PhDs, teaching as part of the examination requirements needed or paid separately (particularly relevant for people on stipends)

yHEP webpage

- New and improved yHEP webpage: <https://yhep.desy.de>
 - Was announced on 22.12.2022 just in time for Xmas
 - If there are any suggestions for improvements, please contact me (Farah Afzal)



Conclusion

- yHEP = young High Energy Physicists Association
 - Representing interests of early-career researchers in Germany
 - Management board elected every year → Next election to start next week
- Lots of activity in the past year
 - Looking forward to more activities in the next year with a new management board!

→ Spread the word to PhD students, postdocs, etc
→ Get in contact!

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Thank you for your attention

Future Collider Input



- *What criteria would a Future Collider have to fulfill such that you would be enthusiastic about it?*

To be more specific:

- *Are there particular physics cases that would excite you? And/or would you need a more clear physics case in the first place to motivate you?*
- *Must a physics case be the main motivation for a project or do you see other drivers?*
- *Should a Future Collider use particular new technologies? Which technologies would you like seeing used?*
- *On what timescale would you like to have a Future Collider operationable?*
- *Does it need to fulfill particular criteria regarding sustainability? What criteria would be important to you?*
- *What diversity of projects would you like to see in the future? Rather one large project or several medium ones?*
- *Would you prefer a Future Collider at CERN or elsewhere? Where and why?*
- *Any other criteria, wishes, considerations that a Future Collider should target?*

yHEP interactions with the BMBF

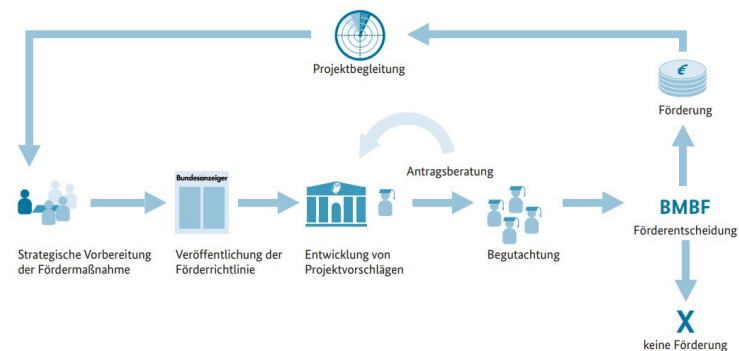
- Discussion on BMBF funding cycle timescales
 - Late BMBF funding notifications problematic in previous years, in particular for young researchers → Protest letters by yHEP, KET, KHuK in November 2021
 - Main request: shift of funding cycle ahead by 3 months → BMBF agreed and so far ~on track
 - Strategy discussion: 2-3 Feb 2023
 - [Publication of the ErUM \(Erforschung von Universum und Materie\) call](#) on 28 April 2023
 - Deadline for funding applications: 1 July 2023
 - Expect funding notifications by April 2024
 - Start of new funding cycle in July 2024

- [Evaluation of BMBF ErUM programme](#)

- Conducted by external company: Technopolis
- Survey distributed to yHEP members, Interviews with yHEP management board members

- BMBF Prisma-Trialog on Sustainability

- 6 working groups emerged from this → Participation still possible → Please get in contact



Source: [BMBF Aktionsplan ErUM-Pro](#)