

## Daily Newsletter – Tuesday, 28 July

*We are on day six of EPS-HEP conference. The program is culminating and we will, as usual, guide you through the highlights.*

### Astroparticle Physics / Cosmology / Gravitation

Tomer Volansky will review theories of Dark Matter, including proposals that suggest that Dark Matter may be a strongly interacting particle in the hidden sector. Jocelyn Monroe will give us an overview of Dark Matter direct detection with underground searches, containing the efforts that seek a directional detection. Ken Ganga from the Planck satellite collaboration will talk about the cosmic microwave background.

### Detector and accelerator R&D

The first afternoon session will be devoted to future accelerators and detectors, with a talk about “Detector R&D for the HL-LHC upgrade” by Didier Contardo, and overview of the status of circular collider projects by Weiren Chou and linear colliders by Andrei Seryi.

### QCD and Hadronic Physics

The strong interaction affects all reactions studied at the Large Hadron Collider and needs to be understood to high precision experimentally as well as theoretically. This is essential to perform precise measurements of particle properties and their interactions within the Standard Model as well as within models going beyond it. The plenary talk by Alessandro Tricoli covers an overview of processes that test the current understanding of the strong interactions and in particular of jets, which are the most common objects produced in high

energy collisions. The production of jets in association with other particles such as gauge bosons will also be discussed.

### Heavy Ions

RHIC and LHC refined the understanding of two key manifestations of the hot and dense state of matter known as the quark-gluon plasma: the parton energy loss phenomenon and quarkonium suppression. In addition, particle correlations are observed from the largest to the smallest systems, including new results from p-Pb collisions and the recent 13 TeV pp high-multiplicity collisions, revealing collective phenomena, at least down to the scales of p-Pb collisions.

### Social Events

Before dinner, there will be a guided tour of “Austria’s most visited sight”, the Schönbrunn Palace, starting at 18:15. Tickets are sold out!  
The Conference Gala Dinner at Orangerie Schönbrunn starts at 19:30.

### “Everything must run smoothly”

As the EPS HEP 2015 nears its final few days, we talked to the EPS HEP team who put together a fantastic experience about how and why such events matter. Excerpts:

***Brigitte De Monte**, outreach project leader, conference organisation, Institute of High Energy Physics of the Austrian Academy of Sciences*

### **How early do you start planning for a conference like the EPS HEP?**



You have to start organizing early, almost as soon as the previous one is done. There aren't many places where you can organize a dinner for 700 people or have them interact easily. Booking

must be made well in advance. We started planning two years ago. You have to make the cost plan – take into account the coffee breaks, hotels, logistics and decide the conference fee.

### **What is important to remember when you are organizing such an event?**

Everything must run smoothly and details must be attended to – wifi, quiet rooms for working, electric outlets, video conferencing rooms. Participants must enjoy the programme and work with ease. We put together the talks, social and public events which you have to think about and balance so people have a good experience.

### **What part of the organisational aspect would like to improve?**

The booklet this year did not have the names of the people who presented their posters because the online timetable on indico was still not complete by the time the print deadline had come around. The communication between session convenors and the local organizer needs to be improved so all the necessary information is available when needed. It also helps the participants decide their hotel and flight bookings in advance and gives them credit for the work they did in our booklet.

### **How do you measure success?**

We ask for feedback when the conference is over. For now, people aren't coming to complain at our desk so that's a measure of success. We had someone coming to ask about why the wifi code, which was meant for the conference venue, was not working for his wife in their hotel. But that sort of complaint doesn't count.

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