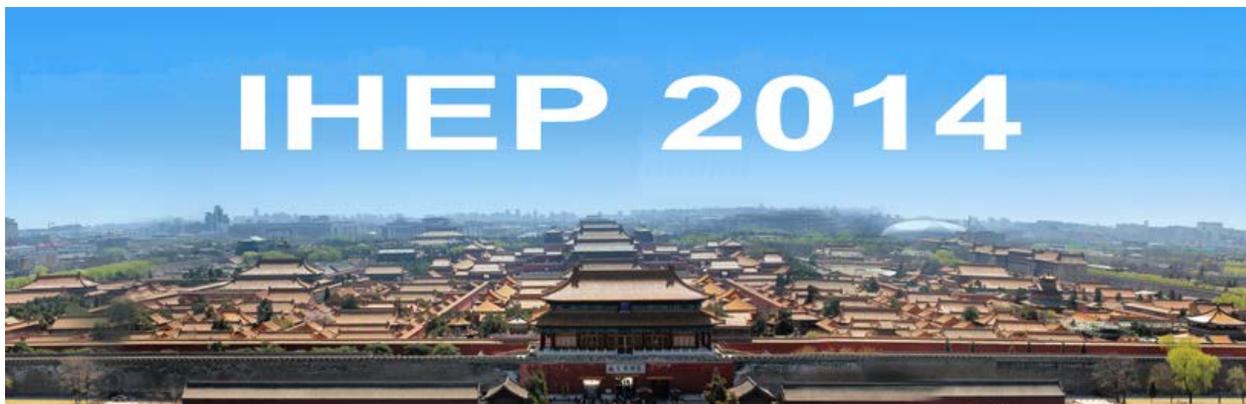


Celebrating IWAA's Anniversary

13th International Workshop on Accelerator Alignment
at



Good morning

I am honored to be speaking here at the beginning of the 13th incarnation of our workshop.

It is exciting to have the workshop for the first time here in China, a country with such a long history. Your ancestors had already built dynasties when many of ours were still gatherers and hunters.

But I am not here to talk about Chinese history, although I will talk about the past, but only our IWAA's past.

When I recently started clearing my office (I don't want to leave all my junk for my successor to dump) and waded through piles of old documents, I found a letter I had written in 1989 to my then colleagues Michel Mayoud at CERN and Franz Löffler at DESY.

Letter to M. Mayoud & F. Löffler

We, Michel Mayoud after he had taken the reins of the Alignment Group at CERN in 1986, F. Löffler of DESY, and I, had discussed many times how we could create a forum to exchange ideas. We all knew we needed such an exchange of ideas. This was the time when physicists started to talk about “micron” dimensioned tolerances when we still were struggling to achieve “sub-millimeter” tolerances. Before moving on into the micron world, we still had to solve many problems in the then present world, e.g. moving data analysis from mainframes to PCs or Unix workstations, creating data bases instead of using files, tapes or even punch cards, and many more. Instead for each of us reinventing the wheel over again, we wanted to find a way to cross fertilize our ideas.

Hence, in January of 1989, I took the initiative and suggested to create a workshop type meeting to discuss our technical problems and to exchange ideas. And voilà, IWAA was born.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

STANFORD LINEAR ACCELERATOR CENTER

SLAC
P. O. Box 4349
Stanford, CA 94309
(415) 926-3300

January 25, 1989

Mr. Michel Mayoud CERN-Site
de Preessin F-01631 CERN
CEDEX FRANCE

Dear Michel,

Thank you for your letter. I hope you too had a good start into 1989 and that you and your family will have a successful New Year 1989.

It seems that we will have an interesting year. The preparation for our version of CLIC, the TLC, has come to a point where the alignment questions need to be addressed. I guess we have to enter a new world of alignment and measurement in order to accomplish these tolerances. We have been used to the Millimeter as a natural unit, now we will have to become accustomed to the Micron. However, besides worrying about this new age, we still have to solve or to smooth many problems in our present world, such as: data analysis in narrow linear networks; geodetic data bases; transfer of magnetic centerline of a magnet to fiducial marks; using convergent industrial photogrammetry to survey (map) beam lines and many others.

With all this in mind, I would like to continue our conversation from last July as to a better way of exchanging ideas and collaborating in certain areas by bouncing the following idea off of you.

Presently, you, Franz Löffler and I are all working on the same kind of problems but everybody works more or less by himself. We probably have reinvented the wheel many times over. To create a forum for discussion of problems particular to alignment in high energy physics, I suggest that we consider an annual workshop type meeting to be held on a rotational basis at CERN, DESY and SLAC. I could imagine that every group gives a more or less formal presentation on present activities, problems and directions of research. We could then discuss as one large group or in smaller working groups areas of immediate interest. This type of informal meeting would further open the avenues of communication about current projects and problems. I think a time frame of 3 to 5 days should be sufficient time to discuss most topics. We might also consider whether part of that meeting should be open to the wider community, i.e. ESRF, Trieste, ELSA, Fermilab, CEBAF etc.

To start the ball rolling I will stick my neck out and volunteer SLAC as the site of the first meeting which could be held sometime this summer. If, in view of your and Franz Löffler's construction alignment commitments, this would be untimely and inconvenient, I am happy to agree to a meeting location of your choice.

That's my proposal. I hope some kind of communication link like that will help us to more effectively tackle our present and especially future projects and problems.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Ruland

RR:br

You might wonder, why do I delve into the past?

Because 2014 marks the 25th anniversary of IWAA, it's time to celebrate!

1st International Workshop On Accelerator Alignment

31 July – 2 August 1989, SLAC



Thank you to all who have attended workshops to make IWAA the success it is. The fact that the workshop is still here after such a long time only shows that it is still relevant.

And with your continued participation, it will continue for a long time.



Adapted from IMSA-25 Anniversary logo

The following table represents the IWAA history condensed onto one page. All presentation and papers are available at the shown web address.

After the third workshop, we changed the schedule to a two year rhythm and a venue rotation sequence from the Americas to Europe to Asia.



SLAC 1989



DESY 1990



CERN 1993



KEK 1995



ANL 1997



ESRF 1999



Spring8 2002



CERN 2004



SLAC 2006



KEK 2008



DESY 2010



FNAL 2012



IHEP 2014

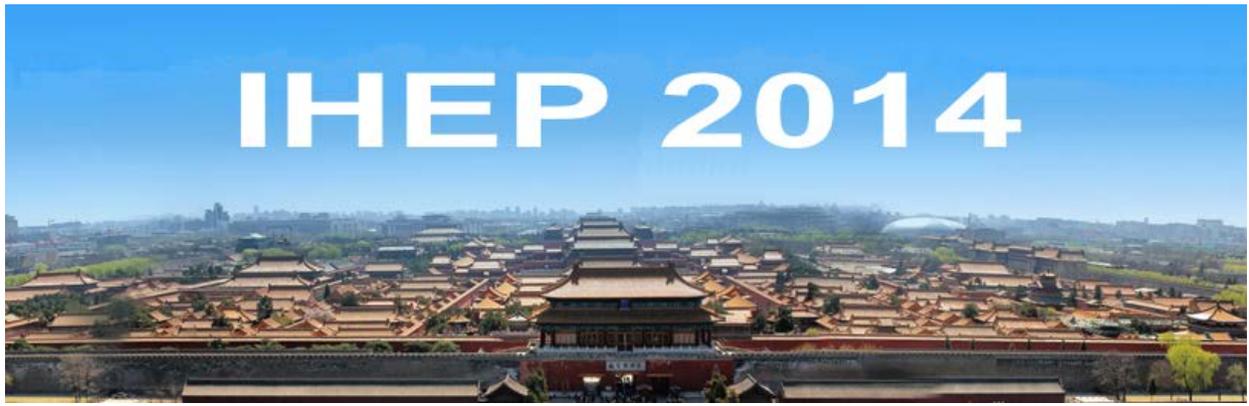
IWAA Homepage:

<http://www-conf.slac.stanford.edu/iwaa/default.htm>

But back to today,

Let the

13th International Workshop on Accelerator Alignment
at



begin.