



ATHENA Charter Update

Olga Evdokimov (University of Illinois at Chicago) for the Charter Committee

Charter status:

Last bi-weekly meeting:

- The first draft of ATHENA Charter and Policies was released on Monday, June 7th:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/1ljftm6x0h02ijx/CharterDraft_4IB_6.7.21.pdf?dl=0

- Everyone in ATHENA has access to the draft; we hope you will have broad discussion about it within your Institutions and will help us finalize the draft.
- We asked for input/comments/discussion – via IB representatives.
- We asked the IB to start forming the Election Committee. Once approved by IB, could start soliciting nominations for the two ATHENA IB Chair and ATHENA Spokesperson (if you are interested – start planning now!)

Charter status:

Updates:

- We received multiple suggestions and questions for the charter. Thank you all for active engagement in the charter review process!
- The Charter committee carefully considered all requests and proposals, and came up with a revised draft, now available at:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/3je4u7gsq27rp6a/ATHENA_Charter_revised_6.23.21.pdf?dl=0

and

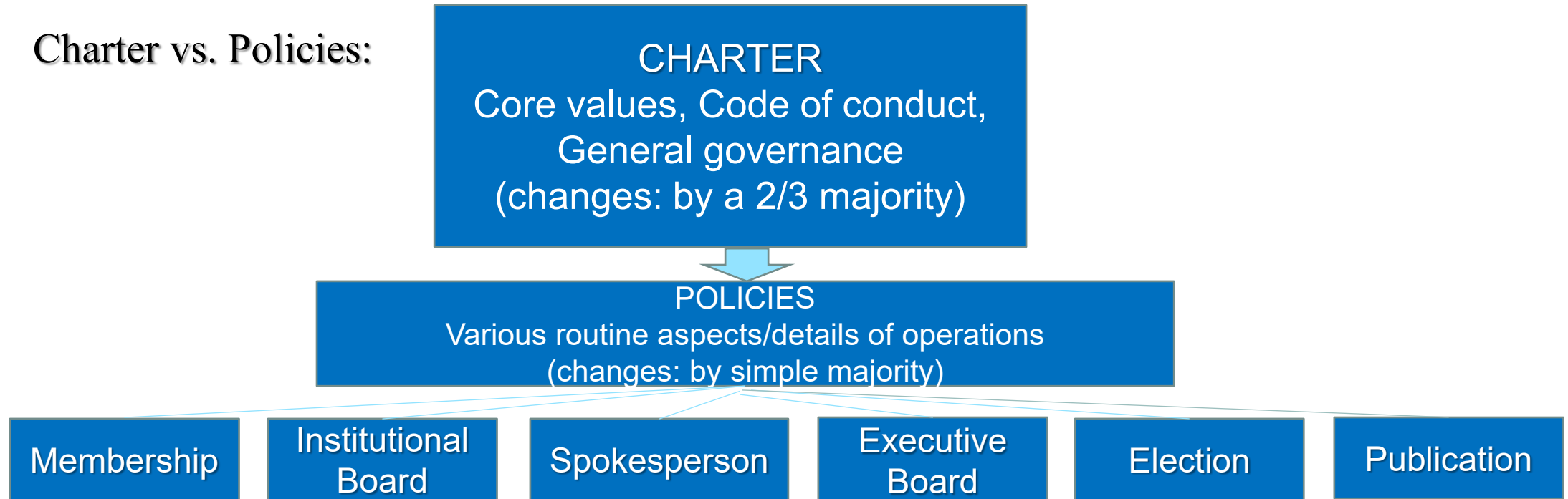
https://www.dropbox.com/s/ggrsgysurojstj0/ATHENA_CharterPolicies_revised_6.23.21.pdf?dl=0

(Also, diff. file was provided: https://www.dropbox.com/s/pchhhgjaazzz1kw/CharterDraft_4IB_revised_diff.pdf?dl=0)

- Documented responses to written comments were also provided to the IB.
- The revised draft is now under IB consideration for adoption; the adoption vote started last week and is set to close (tentatively) on July 1st. So far: **62 out of 94** Institutions have voted.
- If not done so – please vote NOW!
- In the following, I will discuss/clarify some major take-away points from the revision process.

Charter FAQ:

Charter vs. Policies:



- To avoid confusion, documents are clearly separated after the revision

Charter FAQ:

Collaboration status/Membership:

- We have presented/discussed from the kick-off meeting the plan to develop charter, form a collaboration and elect officially collaboration leadership by/during this summer.
- Comments: what will happen/change at/after proposal selection? What about new groups? What about a merger scenario? Will there be new charter/elections?
 - The Committee feels strongly about proceeding according to initial plan.
 - The Charter has a clear core-value statement on being inclusive and welcoming, and straightforward provisions on accepting new groups. The “new group” requirements are very similar to what was submitted by every ATHENA Institution.
 - The EIC community expressed strongly and continues to stand by the desire for the two detectors, and this is in line with what is requested in the “Call for Proposals.” Some regrouping after the proposal decision can be easily accommodated under proposed “new Institution” mechanisms.
 - The IB has a mechanism in place to call for a new Spokesperson election as needed.
 - In the highly undesirable case of only one experiment going forward via some “merger” leading to entirely new collaboration, a new charter/elections will be needed.

Charter FAQ:

Spokesperson/Deputy positions:

- Comments: why not two co-spokespeople? Should both be elected independently? Is the Deputy role a mere placeholder?
 - Both models (S+D and coS+coS) exist in the field; a single spokesperson is the prevailing model (especially in larger experiments).
 - The Committee felt that having one end-point of contact, one final voice for representing the collaboration to the outside world/other experiments/funding agencies, is the optimal model.
 - Having a leadership team of two independently-elected candidates, poses a high risk in terms of compatibility/decision-making ability. Having a leadership team elected together complicates final decision process/creates complications for re-election/unexpected end-of-term situations.
 - The Charter has a clear statement about Deputy Spokesperson role, defining it as a leadership appointment: *“The Deputy Spokesperson provides support and assistance to the Spokesperson in the management of the experiment and Collaboration. He/she may be authorized by the Spokesperson to act on his/her behalf and to represent the Collaboration.”*

Charter FAQ:

Spokesperson election:

- Comments: Should the election be carried by vote of all collaboration members (in good standing)? What if my IB rep does not talk/listen to me?
 - The Committee considered carefully several models of election voting:
 1. one vote per group (purely by IB membership)
 2. one vote per “Collaborator in Good Standing” (proportional)
 3. capped-proportional (current proposal)
 - Option one is prone to dominance by small groups; option two favors large groups
 - Our proposed capped-proportional weighting avoids these two extremes and allows for better balance
 - The revised Election Policy (in addition to provisions to have the whole Collaboration engaged in the process through public announcements and meetings with candidates) spells out clearly expectation for IB members to consult/consider their groups opinion.

Election/Nominating Committee:

- Thank you to everyone providing input and nominations!
- The proposed committee composition is as follows:
 - Pietro Antonioli (INFN-Bologna)
 - John Arrington (LBL)
 - Nicole d'Hose (CEA Saclay)
 - Yulia Furletova (JLAB)
 - Sylvester Joosten (ANL)
 - Brian Page (BNL)
- Endorsement poll has been sent to our Institution Board; closing today
(sneak peek: overwhelming support so far!)
- We hope that this committee (once approved and after Charter adoption) will start working on preparing first official ATHENA elections: IB Chair and Spokesperson!

Collaboration Charter Committee

- Our Charter Committee:

- Ken Barish (UC Riverside)
- Olga Evdokimov (UIC)
- David Gaskell (JLAB)
- Nicole d'Hose (CEA-Saclay)
- Tom Hemmick (Stony Brook)
- Zein-Eddine Meziani (ANL)
- Bedanga Mohanty (NISER)
- Marta Ruspa (Torino)
- Murad Sarsour (GSU)
- Ernst Sichtermann (LBNL)
- Daria Sokhan (Glasgow)
- Thomas Ullrich (BNL)
- Anselm Vossen (Duke)
- Qinghua Xu (Shandong)

- Many thanks to everyone involved!