

## Candidate presentation: Prof. Dr. Karin Schönning

**Background:** I got hooked on experimental particle physics after being a CERN summer student within CMS and a master project within COMPASS at CERN in 2002. I chose to pursue my PhD studies in Uppsala with WASA at CELSIUS, the first experiment to employ a *pellet target*. Small experiments are good to learn the “craft” of experimental physics, and the insights from WASA have helped me a lot in my research career.

As a CERN research fellow within COMPASS, my main activities were in the hadron analysis group where I gained knowledge in *hadron spectroscopy*. I also participated in the COMPASS measurements of space-like *nucleon structure* observables, complementary to the future PANDA studies in the time-like region. In COMPASS, I also started to develop my leader skills as the *Monte Carlo coordinator*.

In 2012, I returned to Uppsala, where successful grant applications enabled me to start new activities. In BESIII, these are mainly related to *hyperon structure and decay* and in PANDA to *software development*. In addition, we could consolidate the PANDA *hyperon analysis* activities initiated by Tord Johansson. When becoming convener of the non-perturbative QCD working group in 2014, I realized that this, as well as the baryon spectroscopy group, were subcritical in terms of personpower. Since both groups focus on hyperons, I suggested a merger, which enabled us to efficiently address and solve problems together. As a result, the role of hyperon physics in PANDA has strengthened which I believe is beneficial for PANDA as a whole. This is particularly true given the recent changes in the physics landscape and the experimental constraints of the first phases of PANDA.

I recently joined the hyperon Phase 0 initiative with HADES, partly because I find it important to establish PANDA in the other FAIR and GSI communities.

During the last four years, I have been the deputy physics convener. Together with physics convener Johan Messchendorp, we have focused on presenting an up-to-date and convincing program for the first phase of data taking and coordinating the analysis efforts.

**Role of deputy spokesperson:** In my opinion, the deputy spokesperson should be a complement to the spokesperson in terms of experience, interests and competence. The spokesperson candidate Ulrich Wiedner and myself cover together a large part of the PANDA physics program and we have different expertise of the experiment itself. I feel comfortable pursuing this challenge with someone as experienced as UW. If elected, I will do my best to

- present a convincing physics case for PANDA to the physics community
- bring physics, instrumentation and software in PANDA closer together
- contribute with new ideas.

**My strength:** I really care about PANDA and I always try to serve PANDA in any way I can. One example on how this has been beneficial for PANDA is the recycling of parts of the LHCb outer tracker (OT) in the PANDA forward spectrometer, an idea I got when having a beer in Beijing with one of the OT experts that I bumped into by coincidence.

**PANDA's strength:** I think PANDA has a unique spirit, especially the community of young members. No one can claim we have had an easy ride so far, but the atmosphere has remained positive, welcoming and solution oriented. My impression is that the young scientists like being PANDA members. Now, our challenge is to find ways to keep these youngsters in the collaboration. This is why I would like to work on creating attractive career paths within PANDA.