

XV Workshop on Hadron Interactions – RETINHA XV

FOREWORD

The XV Workshop on Hadron Interactions (RETINHA XV) took place in one of the seminar halls of the Universidade Presbiteriana Mackenzie, São Paulo, SP, from 28 to 30 May, 2003. This series of workshops has been supported by the funding agency FAPESP over the last fifteen years. The main purpose of these meetings has been to gather researchers and students working in the field, stimulating new collaborations and the presentation of recent results. This is the ideal place for young students to present, for the first time, their contributions to an audience of experts. A balance between experimental and theoretical talks is provided.

The meeting of this year was special for many reasons. Firstly, it was the celebration of fifteen years of this continuous activity. It was also the biggest of all the meetings of the series. There were 51 participants and 44 talks, with intense discussions. Finally, it marked the beginning of the activities of the recently founded “Núcleo de Pesquisa Física para a Complexidade”, NPFC, of the Universidade Presbiteriana Mackenzie. The creation of this research center, result of the efforts of our colleagues Sérgio Szpigel, Fernando M. Steffens and Prof. L. C. Salomão, strongly suggests that it is indeed possible to develop high level research in physics at private universities.

We would like to thank all the staff of the Universidade Mackenzie, specially Prof. L. C. Salomão, and we acknowledge the essential support provided by FAPESP.

The short papers in this special issue of the Brazilian Journal of Physics give a broad and deep view on the many topics presented at the workshop and they represent fairly well the current interests of our hadron physics community, which is very much in line with the research directions of the main centers and laboratories dedicated to hadron physics in the world. Invited review papers, written versions of the invited talks, will be published soon in this journal. We would like to thank all the authors who contributed with papers to this volume. We also thank the referees who helped us in the effort to upgrade the quality of the editorial work. We are specially grateful to Prof. Silvio Salinas, editor of the Brazilian Journal of Physics, for his encouragement and support.

Fernando S. Navarra and Yojiro Hama
Guest Editors

Organizing Committee of the XV Workshop on Hadron Interactions

Fernando S. Navarra (Chair, IFUSP), Yojiro Hama (IFUSP), Francisco O. Durães (Univ. Mackenzie), Sérgio Szpigel (Univ. Mackenzie), Fernando M. Steffens (Univ. Mackenzie), Gastão I. Krein (IFT-UNESP), Takeshi Kodama (IF-UFRJ)