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Ref: Report on QUIPROCONE grant 032

To
QUIPROCONE

Dear Madam/Sir,
theThird Conference of the ESF programme Quantum Information Theory and Quantum Computing "ADVANCES IN QUANTUM INFORMATION PROCESSING: FROM THEORY TO EXPERIMENT" has taken place from the 15-22 March 2003 in Erice, Italy. See <http://www.lsr.ph.ic.ac.uk/~plenio/erice2003/erice2003c.html> for detailed information on the conference.

A total of 119 participants attended the conference and witnessed 25 talks by invited speakers as well as 3 poster sessions. Participants came from 17 different nations with the largest contingents coming from the UK, Italy, Germany, Spain and the USA in that order. The support of QUIPROCONE allowed us to invited a number of excellent speakers from overseas to address the conference. 32 postdocs and 35 PhD students attended the conference following our stated aim to support younger people to attend the conference. To increase the diversity of the conference we had adopted the policy that invited speakers had not previously spoken at the ESF programme conference in Gdansk in 2001. To ensure the participation of internationally leading figures in the field we introduced the idea of invited chairmen who would not themselves present any work but help putting the presentations into context. We are grateful to C.H. Bennett, J.I. Cirac, A. Ekert, N. Gisin, R. Horodecki and P.L. Knight for accepting this role. Three presentations addressed topics that were not directly from the area of quantum information but were intended to reach out to other related communities.

The conference was organized in a way to allow significant time for discussions to enhance communication within the community and we hope that it has been the starting point of many new collaborations.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Plenio