SciLifeLab

The national board of Science for Life Laboratory

Minutes from board meeting no 33
2018-11-15 (Solna)

Present members: Carl-Henrik Heldin (chair), Karin Dahlman-Wright (KI)(until §8), Fredrik Elinder (LiU), Sophia Hober (KTH), Anders Karlhede (SU), Margareta Olsson Birgersson (industry representative), Stellan Sandler (UU), Marianne Sommarin (UmU), Gunilla Westergren-Thorsson (LU)
Other participants: Olli Kallioniemi (Director), Siv Andersson (Co-Director), Annika Jenmalm Jensen (Infrastructure Director), Fredrik Sterky (Head of operations), Jenny Alfredsson (Vice Head of operations), Ulf Gyllensten (§8), Lars Hammarström (§13).

Appendix:
A. Incorporation of Pilot facilities 2019-2020
B. Funding for the DD platform 2019
C. Budget for Operations office 2019

1. **Meeting formalities**
   Carl-Henrik Heldin opened the meeting.

   Decisions:
   - The SciLifeLab board approved the minutes from meetings no 31 and 32.
   - The SciLifeLab board appointed Marianne Sommarin to approve the minutes of the present meeting, in addition to the chair.

2. **Update from the Director**
   Olli Kallioniemi presented an update about SciLifeLab and current work within the management group (MG) and operations office (OO). Part of the discussion concerned the importance of facilities having the freedom to operate and its personnel not having any conflicts of interests.

   Decisions:
   - The board asked the Director to update agreements with facilities taking into account that the facility has the freedom to provide its services without infringing on any patent rights and without interfering with commercial or market interests. Also, SciLifeLab should ensure that key personnel and decision makers at SciLifeLab facilities do not have personal conflicts of interests with the companies they rely upon to provide services.
   - The new text for the agreements will be presented to the board at the February meeting.

3. **Administrative support system for core facilities**
   Karin Dahlman-Wright described the work with purchasing and implementing an IT system at KI for use by all of its core facilities. UU is also considering

this option and all SciLifeLab facilities and platforms are encouraged to look into the benefits of the system. Optimally all four host universities should join the tendering process.

4. **Funding for incorporation of old Pilot Facility Projects (first phase)**
Annika J. Jensen described the continued evaluation of the applications to incorporate pilot projects into existing platforms. Two decisions were taken at board meeting no 32 and two more were suggested at this meeting.

Decision:
- The board decided to fund the incorporation of two facilities into existing platforms during 2019 and 2020 according to appendix A. The board want to stress that any possible conflicts related to spinoff companies should be resolved. Funding for pilot projects should be governed by the same facility agreements as indicated in point no. 2.

5. **Organization and funding of the DD platform**
Annika J. Jensen presented the Diagnostic Development (DD) platform and its organization. Funding to the platform was previously decided on, but now the discussion concerned the division of the funding into the existing facilities, as well as to a new national network (linked to an expansion to Linköping, Umeå and Örebro and the corresponding Genomic Medicine Sweden network).

Decision:
- The board decided to fund the DD platform during 2019-2020 as described in appendix B.

6. **Platform coordination and networking in preparation for the next evaluation**
Annika J. Jensen presented the planning process to prepare for the next infrastructure evaluation. A stronger coordination of facilities at the platform level is needed for SciLifeLab services to remain flexible and cutting-edge during the 4-year budget periods. Increased need for national coordination has been brought up for discussion with the National SciLifeLab Committee. Some platforms already have activities at a national level, whereas others need funding to assist with the coordination to ensure that national interests and contributions are covered. In order for SciLifeLab to prepare for the international evaluation during 2020, the management requested that funding is allocated for two project coordinators positions during 2019, as well as funding for meetings, travelling etc. After the evaluation, a new discussion will clarify the role and need for coordination costs at platform level.

It was proposed that a planning group is established; the composition of the group will be determined by the MG based on nominations from the platforms. The planning group should consider: i) Future organizational aspects of the platforms; ii) Suggestions on how to implement new technologies as well as how to phase out others; iii) The strategies should be anchored with stakeholders at all major universities, the NSC, users, RCPs, international experts and external funders, such as VR.

Decision:
- The board allocated 3 MSEK to Operations office for 2019 in order to recruit two persons as coordinators for developing the plans for the new organization of SciLifeLab infrastructure at the platform level.
- The board approved the establishment of the group to plan for the future organization of the platforms, the implementation of new technologies and the phasing out of others.

7. 2019 budget for operations office and overall budget
Olli Kallioniemi and Fredrik Sterky presented the suggested budget for Operations office during 2019, including a suggested decrease in the research grant for the SciLifeLab chair. Carl-Henrik Heldin left the room during the first decision and Sophia Hober acted as temporary chair.

Decisions:
- The board decided to change the earlier decision on research grant compensation to Carl-Henrik Heldin as chair of the board to 25 kSEK per month. This change will be effective from October 2018.
- The board approved the budget for Operations office for 2019 according to appendix C.

8. Presentation of the SciLifeLab NGI platform
Ulf Gyllensten presented the work and plans within NGI and SciLifeLab Genomics. He described the planned organizational change, which is aimed to improve the coordination of activities across the Uppsala and Stockholm sites as well as to establish closer links with the single cell and the ancient DNA facilities. Another goal of the new organization is to have closer interactions with the bioinformatics and clinical sequencing platforms. The plan for the coming year is also to prepare for the future change of leadership at the SciLifeLab Genomics platform through interactions and discussions with the host universities on a recruitment strategy for a professorship that could potentially be combined with the role as Director of SciLifeLab Genomics.

9. Approval of a member in the DDD steering group
Annika J. Jensen presented a request from the Drug Discovery and Development (DDD) platform to add Lars Lannfelt as member in the DDD steering group.

Decision:
- *The board approved Lars Lannfelt as member of the DDD steering group.*

10. Appointment of the SciLifeLab Genomics Platform Director
Siv Andersson gave an update on the recruitment process of a new leader for SciLifeLab Genomics. Ulf Gyllensten, presently Scientific Director, Uppsala University and Facility Director of SciLifeLab Genomics, was suggested by SciLifeLab management to be appointed as Platform Director from 2019-01-01 until 2020-12-31 or until a new director has been nominated.

Decision:
- The board appointed prof. Ulf Gyllensten as Director of SciLifeLab Genomics Platform until a new director has been nominated, from 2019-01-01 until 2020-12-31 at the latest. The board requested that a plan for a new SciLifeLab Genomics platform organization is developed together with MG and all other stakeholders to be brought up for approval at the board meeting in the fall of 2019.

11. New members of the International Advisory Board (IAB)

Olli Kallioniemi presented Jo Bury and Sarah Teichmann as persons suitable to replace the two members of the IAB who have stepped down (Bertil Andersson and Janet Thornton).

Decision:
- *The board appointed Sarah Teichmann (Sanger and EBI) and Jo Bury (VIB) as members of the IAB. The appointment starts immediately and lasts until 2022-02-28.*

12. Planning the visit of the International Advisory Board (IAB)

Olli Kallioniemi described the plans for the IAB visit in March 2019.

13. Investigation of the legal representation of SciLifeLab

Lars Hammarström presented plans to initiate an investigation (to be supported by a Vinnova grant) on how to increase and simplify the ability of SciLifeLab to form collaborative activities and partnerships with companies, health care and other organizations. The Board has previously agreed to carry out such an investigation, but further discussions on the details of this process were held.

Decision:
- *The board approved the initiative to continue preparations for the investigation of legal representation with Vinnova-funding. Host university representatives, including board members, IDs and heads of legal departments should be actively involved in the process. All other relevant parties will also have an option to be included in the interviews during the process.*

14. NSC meeting

Gunilla Westergren Thorsson informed the board about the discussions that were held with the National SciLifeLab Committee on November 5, 2018.

15. Meeting dates 2019

The meeting dates for 2019 is listed below. Some members of the board will be exchanged in the spring of 2019; however, both the old and new members will be invited to the May strategy Board meeting in Uppsala.

16. Other issues

No other issues.

Upcoming meetings:

- February 8, 2019 at 10.00-15.00 in Stockholm (Earth, Gamma 2)
- May 29, 2019 at 11.00-17.00 (exact times TBD) in Uppsala (followed by dinner)
- September 25, 2019 at 10.00-15.00 in Stockholm (Earth, Gamma 2)
- November 11, 2019 at 10.00-15.00 in Stockholm (Earth, Gamma 2)

Fredrik Sterky, secretary_____

Minutes approved by:

Carl-Henrik Heldin_____

Marianne Sommarin_____

Appendix A. Incorporation of Pilot facilities 2019-2020

No.	Platform	Facility	Pilot Technology	Funding applied for 2019 (kSEK)	Funding applied for 2020 (kSEK)	Proposed funding 2019 (kSEK)	Proposed funding 2020 (kSEK)
3	Genomics	NGI Stockholm	Infrastructure Based on Spatial Transcriptomics Technology	1 420	1 420	1 000	800
4	Single Cell Biology	Eukaryotic Single Cell Genomics	In Situ Sequencing Facility	1 800	1 200	1 000	800

	2019	2020
Total funding:	2 000	1 600

Appendix B. Funding for the DD platform 2019-2020

Platform	Facility / Facility Node	Current SciLifeLab funding (kSEK)	Proposed funding (kSEK)	
		2018	2019	2020
Diagnostics Development	Clinical Genomics Göteborg	2 200	2 200	2 200
	Clinical Genomics Lund	2 200	2 200	2 200
	Clinical Genomics Stockholm	5 000	5 500	5 500
	Clinical Genomics Uppsala	2 700	2 700	2 700
	National network*	0	1 000	1 000
SUM		12 100	13 600	13 600

*A plan for usage of the funding should be presented to the SciLifeLab management before December 20

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Appendix C. Budget for operations office 2019

No	SciLifeLab Operations office budget 2019 kSEK	2019 Natl/DDD
	MANAGEMENT	
1	Management	6 483
2	Management administration	729
	SUPPORT FUNCTIONS	
3	Management of Operations Office	3 146
4	Economy	1 069
5	Communications	5 988
6	Quality management (planning, reporting, evaluation and system support)	2 508
7	Campus Solna and Navet: support functions	566
	CENTER INFRASTRUCTURE	
8	Data Centre	3 500
9	Center premises	8 500
10	Center IT infrastructure	2 920
11	Campus Solna and Navet: investments	0
12	Evaluation of infrastructure	263
	COLLABORATIONS/EXTERNAL RELATIONS	
13	Collaboration and utilization	1 884
14	Networking activities (infrastructure)	4 620
	TRAINING AND COURSES	
15	Training and courses	1 491
	RESEARCH COMMUNITY	
16	SciLifeLab National Fellows	3 000
17	Strategic recruitments and SciLifeLab Fellows programs	0
18	SciLifeLab Prize and Keystone	1 025
19	Research conferences	2 033
20	Research networks	1 584
21	Funding to research groups	0
22	Research grants	6 500
	Total	**54 309**