SciLifeLab

The national board of Science for Life Laboratory

Minutes from board meeting nr 26
2017-08-29 (Stockholm)

Present members: Carl-Henrik Heldin (chair), Fredrik Elinder (LiU), Anders Gustafsson (KI), Sophia Hober (KTH), Anders Karlhede (SU), Margareta Olsson Birgersson (industry representative), Stellan Sandler (UU), Marianne Sommarin (UmU), Gunilla Westergren-Thorsson (LU)(on phone)
Other participants: Olli Kallioniemi (Director), Siv Andersson (Co-Director), Annika Jensen (Infrastructure Director), Fredrik Sterky (secretary), Eva Molin, Johan Rung (point 12)

Appendix:
A.Funding and organization of SciLifeLab Bioinformatics 2018

1. **Introduction**
   Carl-Henrik Heldin opened the meeting.

   Decisions:
   - The SciLifeLab board approved the minutes from meeting nr 25.
   - The SciLifeLab board appointed Marianne Sommarin to approve the minutes in addition to the chair.

2. **Update from the Director**
   Olli Kallioniemi presented an update about SciLifeLab and current work within the management group.

3. **Budget 2018 and reorganization of SciLifeLab genomics**
   Annika Jenmalm Jensen presented plans for reorganization of the leadership of National Genomics Infrastructure (NGI). The plan would unify the facilities in Uppsala and Stockholm under the same leadership, and the idea has been approved by the current facility Directors of NGI. The board emphasized that the budget is approved now only for 2018 to make SciLifeLab Genomics funding cycle match with those of other platforms along the 2+2 year cycle. As stated in the decision in board meeting no 24, the funding for genomics will be at least 40 MSEK annually during 2018-2020.

   Decisions:
   - The SciLifeLab board decided to:
   - - approve 44.5 MSEK funding for SciLifeLab Genomics (NGI Stockholm and NGI Uppsala) for 2018.
   - - approve the process for an internal search and nomination of a new director and co-director for SciLifeLab Genomics with a joint responsibility for

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the operations in Stockholm and Uppsala.
- - approve an allocation for a maximum of 2 MSEK in SciLifeLab national
funding for 50% of the new platform director's and co-director's salaries
during 2018. From 2019 these costs needs to be taken from the platform
internal budget.
- - ask the Director to engage the management group in order to initiate the
search for a new NGI leadership as outlined above.

4. **Budget 2018 and reorganizing of SciLifeLab bioinformatics**
Annika Jenmalm Jensen presented plans for reorganization and budget
levels for bioinformatics 2018. Funding to the Bioinformatics platform has
only been allocated for 2017. The evaluation of SciLifeLab platforms in
2016 suggested that SciLifeLab bioinformatics should be more closely
coordinated with the laboratory platforms. The IAB evaluation of the
Bioinformatics platform in 2017 emphasized the importance of long-term
funding commitment. There is also a need for central support for data
storage and management, which was discussed under point 12.

Decisions:
- *The SciLifeLab board approved funding to SciLifeLab Bioinformatics (NBIS)*
facilities during 2018 according to appendix A, table 1.
- *The SciLifeLab board approved funding to SciLifeLab Bioinformatics (Big*
Data, Uppnex and systems biology) activities/facilities in 2018 according to
appendix A, table 2.

5. **Budget 2018 and future of Protein Science Facility**
Annika Jenmalm Jensen presented plans for the Protein Science Facility
(PSF). PSF does not meet the requirements for national facilities but is still
important as mainly a local resource and a resource to other platforms. The
suggestion is to initiate discussions with the host universities (SciLifeLab
committees) and the Campus Solna Committee in order to find other ways
to fund the PSF operations in the future.

Decision:
- *The SciLifeLab board approved funding of 1920 KSEK to the Protein Science*
Facility for 2018 and suggests that its function and funding beyond 2019
should be evaluated together with the host universities.

6. **Research funding for the chair of the board**
Carl-Henrik Heldin left the room during this point, the remaining members
of the board appointed Anders Karlhede as chair for this point only.
The vice Chancellor of Uppsala University, Eva Åkesson, requested
compensation for Carl-Henrik Heldin linked to his appointment as chair of
the board.

Decision:
- *The SciLifeLab board decided to approve a research grant of 100*
kSEK/month to Carl-Henrik Heldin starting 2018-01-01 and to the end of his

appointment (2018-09-30). The grant should be considered a compensation for the whole first period of duty for Carl-Henrik Heldin.

7. **Discussion on IAB leadership**
   Olli Kallioniemi informed the board that the chair of the International Advisory Board (IAB), Bertil Andersson, has become member of the KTH Board. The SciLifeLab board is responsible for appointing this position and the question was raised whether this was a conflict of interest or not. The board discussed the issue.

   Decision:
   - The SciLifeLab board decided to postpone the decision.

8. **Legal issues to be considered with universities / ministry**
   Olli Kallioniemi informed the board about an internal memo about potential legal issues that could be brought to the host universities and/or the ministry of education. The list has been shown to the rectors and discussion will continue in order to take necessary actions or clarify the issues that i) have already been solved, ii) only concerns the host universities, or iii) require discussion with the ministry.

9. **Discussion on the IAB report and action items**
   Olli Kallioniemi presented the newly released IAB-report and their 42 recommendations to the SciLifeLab board. A suggested time plan for public release had been discussed with the rectors and was presented to the board. The 42 recommendations were briefly discussed.

   Decision:
   - The SciLifeLab board approved the time plan for release and decided to ask the Director to summarize the comments and recommended action items from the management on each of the recommendations at the next board meeting. A general comment from the board was also to involve the rectors and host universities in the planning for the next IAB meeting.

10. **Discussion on vision and mission statements for SciLifeLab**
    Olli Kallioniemi presented a preliminary mission and vision statement that was suggested to the IAB and approved by them. This statement reads as follows:

    SciLifeLabs vision is to be a national hub for molecular life sciences. SciLifeLab mission is:
    - to provide unique and enabling infrastructures for high-impact molecular life science research.
    - to facilitate internationally leading collaborative research in a community of excellent scientists.
    - to promote translation of biomolecular research findings into lasting societal benefits.

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Decision:
- *The SciLifeLab board approved the mission and vision statement.*

11. **SciLifeLab national research profiles**
Olli Kallioniemi informed the board about the preliminary plans to form research profiles for SciLifeLab. The rationale is that the profiles would lead to multiple advantages when it comes to branding, integration of research and infrastructure, critical mass in each community, definition of the faculty concept, recruitments, national impact, university collaboration and more. The SciLifeLab administration is suggested to coordinate the initiative.

Decision:
- *The SciLifeLab board decided to ask the Director to engage the management group and the host universities in the planning and present a suggestion on the next board meeting.*

12. **Budget and reorganization of the SciLifeLab Data office**
Johan Rung presented plans to reorganize the Data office into a Data center with a broader responsibility. The Data Center would i) support facilities with data management issues, ii) provide services (for example tools and databases) under the SciLifeLab brand to raise the impact of SciLifeLab generated data and facilitate cross-platform- or strategic projects, and iii) coordinate the various external and internal providers of IT systems and services (including the IT solutions for Campus Solna) by establishing a common integrated IT support function for the facilities. This expansion of operations would require additional funding of 4.0 million SEK over one year.

Decision:
- *The board decided to rename the Data Office to "SciLifeLab Data Center", and approve additional funding of 4.0 million SEK for 2018 from national infrastructure funding. This is a one-year trial and the initiative should be considered as a central support outside the SciLifeLab administration. If there are funding left over from the national sequencing projects after the final round, this source would be part of the funding for the initiative.*

13. **Launch of new web-site and celebration of the new center model**
Annika Jenmalm Jensen informed the board about plans for an official celebration of the new organization of SciLifeLab and the updated web-site. This would be an important manifestation of the success so far in meeting e.g. the national responsibility (per government's research proposal of 2016) and a nice way of branding SciLifeLab for the future. The event would be directed towards all major stakeholders of SciLifeLab.

14. **Dates for fall 2018**
A questionnaire regarding dates for board meetings during fall 2018 will be sent out.

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15. Other issues

Annika Jenmalm Jensen left the room during this point.

Olli Kallioniemi informed the board about the need to initiate a process for recruitment of an Infrastructure Director. This would be an international call for expression of interest, followed by a process to establish a position at one of the host universities.

Decisions:

- *The SciLifeLab board decided to appoint Marianne Sommarin and Margareta Olsson Birgersson as part of the recruitment committee. The other members will be the Director (or Co-Director) and one representative from the host universities suggested by the rectors.*

- *The SciLifeLab board decided to extend the appointment of Annika Jenmalm Jensen as acting Infrastructure Director until March 30, 2018 or until a new director is nominated.*
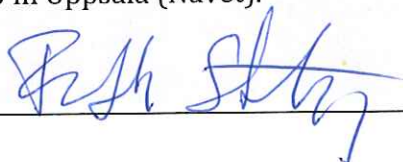
Upcoming meetings:

November 9, 2017 at 10.00-15.00 in Stockholm (Alfa 5)
February 8, 2018 at 10.00-15.00 in Stockholm (Alfa 5)
May 22, 2018 at 10.00-15.00 in Uppsala (Navet).
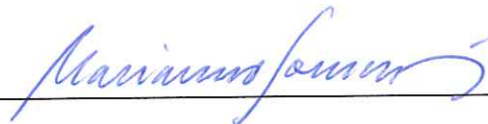
Fredrik Sterky, secretary _____

Minutes approved by:

Carl-Henrik Heldin _____

Marianne Sommarin _____

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Appendix A: Funding and organization of SciLifeLab Bioinformatics 2018

The SciLifeLab board decided to support Bioinformatics 2018 for the direct support to research projects, today successfully carried out by NBIS with important co-funding from VR and KAW, with national funding according to table 1.

Table 1: Facility	Funding 2018 kSEK
Bioinformatics short-term support and infrastructure (BILS)	6500
Bioinformatics long-term support (WABI)	2800

The SciLifeLab board decided to continue support Big data bioinformatics, Uppnex and System Biology, during 2018 with national funding according to table 2. The strategic long-term funding of big data and systems biology will be discussed, including their optimal role in the SciLifeLab national organization, which might have an impact on funding for 2019.

Table 2: Facility/Activity	Funding 2018 kSEK
Big data bioinformatics (WABI)	2000
Big data bioinformatics (System biology)	2000
Bioinformatics compute and storage (Uppnex)	2800
Bioinformatics long-term support Gothenburg (System Biology)	2000