
The national board of Science for Life Laboratory

Minutes from board meeting no 49, 3 February 2021

Present members

Carl-Henrik Heldin (UU)(chair), Fredrik Elinder (LiU), Anders Gustafsson (KI), Anders Karlhede (SU), Göran Landberg (GU), Lotta Ljungqvist (Cytiva), Katrine Riklund (UmU), Stellan Sandler (UU), Annika Stensson Trigell (KTH)

Other participants

Olli Kallioniemi (Director)(absent § 20), Mia Phillipson (Co-Director), Annika Jenmalm Jensen (Infrastructure Director), Gunilla Westergren-Thorsson (chair NSC)(from § 5), Jenny Alfredsson (Acting Head of operations/OO), Per Arvidsson (§ 16), Titti Ekegren (§ 18), Sandra Falck (§ 17), Disa Hammarlöf (§ 14), Jörgen Jensen (§ 16), Anna Lidin (§§ 3-6), Kristian Sandberg (§ 16), Alice Sollazzo (§ 14), Anna Höglund Rehn (secretary)

1. Meeting formalities

Carl-Henrik Heldin opened the meeting.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab board appointed Katrine Riklund to approve the minutes of the meeting in addition to the chair.

The SciLifeLab board approved the minutes from meeting no. 47 and meeting no. 48.

2. Update from the Director

Olli Kallioniemi presented the quarterly update from SciLifeLab.

3. SciLifeLab Annual report 2020

Dnr VC-2021-0008

Jenny Alfredsson presented highlights from the draft SciLifeLab Annual report 2020.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the annual report for SciLifeLab 2020 to be presented to the KTH board for final approval.

4. SciLifeLab Infrastructure budget 2021 – Platforms and Operations - revision

Dnr VC-2020-0030

SciLifeLab board made a decision on the budget for 2021 at their board meeting no. 47 on Nov 10, 2020. At this point, the research proposition from the government (the 'Forskningspolitiska propositionen 2020') had not yet been presented. Also, the exact amount of basic national funding to SciLifeLab to be budgeted was not known either.

Jenny Alfredsson presented the revised SciLifeLab budget for 2021.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab board approved the budget for SciLifeLab Operations 2021 according to appendix 1.

The SciLifeLab board approved the total budget for 2021 according to appendix 2, including the fixed sum of 1.4 MSEK for coordination of capabilities.

The board approved the 40 MSEK extra budget for Pandemic preparedness of which a fixed sum of 1.4 MSEK is allocated for coordination of pandemic preparedness at SciLifeLab.

The final distribution of the allocated funding under 'Calls, Initiatives and Public Authority Collaborations' for Pandemic Preparedness will be done in the next meeting or per capsulam.

5. SciLifeLab Infrastructure budget 2021 and 2022 – preliminary discussion on allocation of extra basic funding

Dnr VC-2020-0030

On 17 December 2020, the research proposition was presented by the government which included a suggested allocation of additional basic funding for SciLifeLab 2021-2024, increasing the total funding, as well as extra funding for pandemic preparedness. More information about allocation of the additional basic funding will likely be presented by the government in the "Vårändringsbudget".

Annika J Jensen presented the plans regarding this extra basic funding for 2021, which will be allocated based on the i) international evaluation and national review just completed last year, ii) the published SciLifeLab 10-year strategy and the "inspel to the research proposition", iii) feedback from platforms and discussions of their challenges, iv) other recent strategic considerations, such as the launch of the DDLS program. These suggestions include among other things:

1. Funding to the platforms to be allocated based on their identified needs.

2. Extra support to new units for their start.
3. Support to national expansion and networking, such as building-up of SciLifeLab national nodes and funding to build precision medicine and other cross-platform capabilities.
4. Strengthening of individual high-profile units with future potential, but does not yet have a full track record.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the main directions in the preliminary suggested plans for the extra basic funding for 2021.

The final budget for the extra base funding will be brought for approval once the government has allocated these funds.

6. DDD distribution of funding, including a suggestion of a phase-down of facility funding

Dnr VC-2020-0030

At the board meeting no. 47 on Nov 10, 2020 the SciLifeLab board decided on the budget for DDD as a whole for 2021 (49 MSEK) and tentatively for 2022 (49 MSEK). These annual budgets include funds from the accumulated LÄK surplus. DDD directors are suggesting the allocation to the individual units of the platform, approved by the DDD steering group. Annika J Jensen presented the suggested distribution of funding. In addition, DDD suggests a phase-down of one of their units; the *In Vitro and Systems Pharmacology*.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the suggested allocation of funding to DDD units for 2021 (appendix 3).

The SciLifeLab board approved the suggested phase-down of SciLifeLab LÄK funding to the Facility In Vitro and Systems Pharmacology starting April 1, 2021 at a level of 80% of year 2020. The phase out period is ending after 18 months, i.e. October 1, 2022.

7. Interim Platform Directors and Platform Coordination Officers appointments

Dnr VC-2021-0009

As presented and approved at the board meeting no. 47 on November 10, 2020, the infrastructure from 2021 and onwards will be organized into 10 platforms. In the proposed platform steering document, also presented at the board meeting, each platform should appoint a Platform Director (PD) (and Platform Co-Director if appropriate) as well as a Platform Coordination Officer (PCO) to be approved by the Board. Open calls or letter of intent procedures will be arranged to identify the best candidates for the permanent PD and PCO positions, aiming at

formal decisions on 2 + 2-year appointments at the board meeting in May 2021.

Annika J Jensen presented the suggestion.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the suggested interim Platform Directors, Co-Platform Directors, and Platform Coordination Officers to act in these positions from March 1, 2021, until May 30, 2021 (appendix 4).

Formal 2 + 2-year appointments will be decided upon by the board in May 2021.

8. Member in the DDD platform steering group

Dnr VC-2021-0010

The SciLifeLab board appoints members to the DDD (Drug Discovery and Development) platform steering group. The previous mandate period ended December 31, 2020, and the chair of the SciLifeLab board decided to prolong the mandate period until the next board meeting on February 3, 2021.

The mandate period for the DDD platform steering group is four years.

Annika J Jensen presented the suggestion.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved members of the DDD platform steering group (mandate period until 2024-12-31):

Academic:

Håkan Billig (Göteborg University, chair)

Maria Jenmalm (Linköping University)

Lars Lannfelt (Uppsala University)

Mef Nilbert (Lund University/University of Copenhagen)

Industry/Innovation organization/funding agencies:

Tomas Lundqvist (RISE)

Anna Sandström (AstraZeneca)

Outi Vaarala (OrionPharma)

9. Genomic Medicine Sweden (GMS) - Adjunct member to the SciLifeLab board

Dnr VC-2021-0011

SciLifeLab and GMS have close interactions and the Diagnostic Development platform (now the Clinical Genomics Platform) forms a critical part of GMS and its support base across Swedish universities.

Olli Kallioniemi informed about the suggestion.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board is positive to have a representative from GMS to join the SciLifeLab Board as a co-opted participant when appropriate.

10. SciLifeLab precision medicine capability

Dnr VC-2021-0012

Precision medicine is one of the priorities of the Swedish life science strategy and that of SciLifeLab. It is important that SciLifeLab nominates and gives a mandate to a scientific lead to represent the entire organization and also work towards integrating molecular platforms and data handling with health care needs.

Olli Kallioniemi informed about the suggestion.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board decided to launch a call for a 50% precision medicine lead at SciLifeLab for a one-year period starting by summer 2021. This person should be selected in an open call by the MG and nominated by the board. This person is suggested to be a SciLifeLab representative to GMS, and in the future to a number of other key national and international committees and boards. The task for the scientific lead is expected to be of 50% effort, that will be funded from the national budget. A fixed sum of 400 000 SEK has been allocated for the assignment for 2021.

In addition, a fixed sum of 1 MSEK has been allocated for a full-time coordinator to help with the task.

11. IAB visit 2021

Dnr VC-2020-0031

The International Advisory Board (IAB) typically visits at SciLifeLab every other year. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic in addition to a number of major changes underway at SciLifeLab, such as the launch of DDLS, the meeting initially scheduled for the spring of 2021 is postponed until the fall of 2021.

Olli Kallioniemi informed about the plans for the upcoming IAB visit.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab board approved the IAB meeting for SciLifeLab to take place on October 20-22, 2021, and that the meeting two years ago will be used as a model and template for the practical arrangements.

12. Director's decisions 2020

'Delegationsordning för SciLifeLab' regulates the decision rights for the SciLifeLab board and how these can be delegated.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board noted the information to the minutes.

13. Campus Solna 2-year action plan

Dnr VC-2021-0013

In May 2019 the SciLifeLab board decided to set up a committee to look into the specific recommendations from the International Advisory Board regarding Campus Solna. The Campus Solna Action Group was asked by the board at meeting no 44 to continue their work by putting together a 2-year action plan for Campus Solna.

The CS Action Group has drafted this 2-year action plan for the continued development of SciLifeLab Campus Solna. The overall goal of the action plan is to enhance and further develop Campus Solna as a vital component of SciLifeLab.

The Campus Solna Committee approved this document on January 21, 2021.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the Campus Solna 2-year action plan (appendix 5).

14. COVID-19 research program

Dnr VC-2020-0032

SciLifeLab has had an active role in coordinating research across Sweden during the COVID-19 pandemic. This has been supported both by SciLifeLab national funds during 2020, as well as specifically by major donations from the KAW foundation. In 2020, SciLifeLab launched a number of efforts, all of which focus on promoting national collaborations, team science and sharing data openly.

14a. Second phase of the research program

In the fall of 2020, SciLifeLab received new donations from KAW to continue the research (50 MSEK for 2021-2022) as well as funds for a specific COVID-19 vaccine research program (40 MSEK for 2021-2022). Also, SciLifeLab launched a call for ideas (letter of intent) for pandemic preparedness and for data-driven COVID-19 research.

Olli Kallioniemi informed about the calls.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the process to set up national calls on COVID-19,

the application instructions, the processing of applications and the review of applications.

The board approved the reviewers selected for the various calls (appendix 6).

14b. Open SciLifeLab COVID-19 call: New KAW-supported COVID-19 research program on vaccine effects

Dnr VC-2020-0017

Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation (KAW) granted Science for Life Laboratory 40 MSEK for research related to research on the function and efficiency of COVID-19 vaccines in November 2020. KAW is also willing to support vaccine proposals with an additional donation of 13 MSEK.

The call for SciLifeLab COVID-19 vaccine proposals was open between December 15, 2020 and January 15, 2021. 24 applications were submitted. The proposals have been reviewed by an external evaluation committee, with Prof. Jan Holmgren acting chair of the committee.

Olli Kallioniemi informed about the call and evaluation.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board decided to fund the ten top-ranked proposals with a total of 53 MSEK, with the condition that SciLifeLab receives the additional 13 MSEK from Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation to research related to COVID-19 vaccines (appendix 7).

The SciLifeLab board approved the conditions for funding and the nomination of these projects as part of the SciLifeLab-KAW national COVID-19 research program.

15. SciLifeLab pandemic preparedness capability

Dnr VC-2021-0014

SciLifeLab has received funds and a task from the government for setting up laboratory preparedness for future pandemics. This will involve the immediate follow-up and integration and optimization of ongoing COVID-19 actions during 2021, but then increasingly other future capabilities during 2022 and onwards.

Olli Kallioniemi informed about the proposal.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board decided to appoint Prof. Staffan Svärd, UU Scientific Director, as a lead for the pandemic preparedness at SciLifeLab for a one-year period starting March 1, 2021. The task for the scientific lead is expected to be up to 50% effort, and this will be funded partly from the pandemic preparedness funding (up to 30%), and partly from existing SD role for Prof. Svärd. A fixed sum of 400 000

SEK has been allocated for the assignment as lead for the pandemic preparedness at SciLifeLab.

In addition, a fixed sum of 1 MSEK has been allocated for a full-time coordinator to help with this task.

16. OligoNova project: a new DDD facility co-supported by KAW

Dnr VC-2021-0015

Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation, Gothenburg University and SciLifeLab/DDD (with links to AstraZeneca) have been collaboratively planning the funding and launch of a national technology platform for the discovery of oligonucleotide therapeutic molecules. This unit would be located at GU/WCMM and belong to the DDD platform as a facility.

Olli Kallioniemi, Per Arvidsson and Kristian Sandberg informed about the suggestion.

Decision:

The board decided to tentatively commit to the OligoNova Project, and is ready to allocate long-term funding to this initiative, up to 24 MSEK over 8 years (with a step-wise increase of 1 MSEK in 2021, 2 MSEK in 2022, 3 MSEK in 2023 and 4 MSEK in 2024) assuming that i) other partners co-fund the initiative and that ii) government allocates the promised extra 30-50 MSEK/year additional annual basic funding for SciLifeLab part of which will be used for this commitment.

SciLifeLab expects the new facility to be incorporated into the DDD platform, and it will operate under DDD rules and regulations and agreements, such as the selection and prioritization of projects, and that it will undergo mid-term checkup and international evaluation after four years (at which point funding levels may be adjusted) like any other SciLifeLab facility. Final funding decisions beyond four years will only be made after this review. It should also be made clear to all parties that the funding allocated at this point does not take into account expenses at DDD facilities outside GU that are needed to develop therapeutic oligonucleotides. These will have to be covered as well, for the OligoNova project to yield any drug candidates.

The SciLifeLab board therefore noted that this decision will require additional discussions and "due diligence" to ensure how the new modality pipeline will impact on the overall budget situation and pipelines at SciLifeLab-DDD. The current challenges identified could be solved by additional basic funding from SciLifeLab, by external funding, increased user/project fees, or by significantly reducing capacity from the existing small molecule pipelines.

17. Legal representation

SciLifeLab often needs to make agreements with national and international parties, which require that all four host universities agree and sign for on behalf of SciLifeLab. This process is neither trivial nor efficient, and is resulting in delayed and sometimes lost possibilities.

Mia Phillipson gave an update on legal challenges identified and possible solutions that also have been discussed at the rectors' council. Lawyers from the four host universities have also been engaged in this discussion. Board members from the host universities are encouraged to also be actively involved, along with university directors, to develop better practices. Key questions include whether KTH as a host can, in certain situations, sign agreements on behalf of the other host universities and whether it is possible to define better policies for MoU-types of agreements on SciLifeLab as a "partnering node" (like the ongoing one with EMBL).

18. SciLifeLab and Wallenberg program for Data-driven Life Science (DDLS) Dnr VC-2020-0034

18a. Update

Olli Kallioniemi gave an update from the first meeting with the DDLS steering group on January 18, 2021.

18b. Tentative budget phase 1

The three-year budget for DDLS needs to be approved for administrative reasons to ensure that the program follows the KAW donation letter. The DDLS steering group agreed to the overall budget posts in the tentative budget.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the three-year budget for DDLS.

18c. DDLS steering and organization Dnr VC-2020-0041

The DDLS steering group has formulated a document describing its role and mandate. Reference groups and other functions of DDLS are also being started. The members of the steering group wished that the national mandate is emphasized, according to the document

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the DDLS steering and organization (appendix 8).

18d. Recruitment packages phase 1

Dnr VC-2021-0016

The DDLS Steering group has discussed the process and conditions for funding for the recruitment of DDLS fellows in phase 1 of the program.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the recruitment process and timeline, phase 1 (appendix 9), but noted the importance of a swift process for final approval of the DDLS fellows.

19. National nodes concept

SciLifeLab has four host universities, where still the majority of the activities take place. Increasingly, SciLifeLab has also activities at multiple other locations. With the launch of the DDLS program, it becomes even more important to identify synergies across Sweden between SciLifeLab infra units at each location, local and national networks, local infrastructure, data handling, data science as well as computational expertise, and many others.

Olli Kallioniemi informed about the plans.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board supported the idea of creating the national node concept and its launch during 2021-2022. More detailed plans will be presented in the future.

20. SciLifeLab Director – prolongation of appointment

The appointment of SciLifeLab Director Olli Kallioniemi ends 30 June, 2021.

Carl-Henrik Heldin informed about contacts with the government and with the rectors of the host universities.

21. Other issues

There were no other issues.

Upcoming meetings

- Wednesday May 19, 11.00-17.00 in Uppsala or by Zoom
- Wednesday September 22, 10.00-15.00 in Solna
- Thursday November 11 (preliminary) in Solna

Anna Höglund Rehn, secretary

Minutes approved by:

Carl-Henrik Heldin

Katrine Riklund

SciLifeLab Operations budget 2021 vs 2020

		2020	2021		
No	kSEK	Natl./DDD	Natl./DDD	Diff	Comments
MANAGEMENT					
1	Management	6 114	6 660	546	Increase in wages
2	Management administration	641	585	-56	Decreased travelling costs 35 tkr and meeting costs 30 tkr
SUPPORT FUNCTIONS					
3	Management of Operations Office	5 607	5 916	309	Increase in wages
4	Economy	1 380	1 420	40	Increase in wages
5	Communications	4 895	4 794	-101	Decreased costs due to 0,4 FTE less than 2020 (-261 tkr) but increased costs for website
6	Quality management (center planning, reporting, evaluation and system support)	2 054	2 663	609	IAB visit 693 tkr, no bibliometry from Leiden -100 tkr,
7	Campus Solna and Navet: support functions	1 293	1 362	69	Increase in wages
CENTER INFRASTRUCTURE					
8	(Data Centre moved to Platforms-part)	0	0	0	
9	Center premises	12 530	12 169	-361	Increase 1 MSEK funding of premises in Navet but decrease 745 tkr rent for premises in Solna
10	Center IT infrastructure	4 518	6 123	1 606	Increased running costs IT 400 tkr and increased depreciation 1 132 tkr (new clientbackup 1 000, storage solution 4 000, serverbackup 500 depr 5 years)
11	Campus Solna and Navet: investments	0	0	0	Investments are included in item 9 and 10
12	Evaluation of infrastructure	1 449	281	-1 168	No international evaluation 2021, -1 175 tkr
COLLABORATIONS/EXTERNAL RELATIONS					
13	Collaboration and utilization	1 974	1 985	11	Small decrease in personnel cost -259 tkr but 270 tkr higher running costs due to more planned activities for a larger external relations office
14	Networking activities (infrastructure)	1 391	2 671	1 281	Facility Forum 1 400 tkr planned for 2021 and Lab leadership course for group leaders (facilities/Fellows/researchers) but no costs for platform coordination personnel
TRAINING AND COURSES					
15	Training and courses	957	169	-789	Only personnel costs for coordination 2021. New training and courses concept, therefore no OO course call 2021.
RESEARCH COMMUNITY					
16	SciLifeLab National Fellows	3 000	3 000	0	Same as 2020. Three national fellows Peura SLU, Zelezniak Chalmers and Barandun Umeå
17	Strategic recruitments and SciLifeLab Fellows programs	0	0	0	SFO funded
18	SciLifeLab Prize and Keystone	1 100	750	-350	No Keystone 2021 -350 tkr. Same national funding Prize project.
19	Research conferences	3 910	2 343	-1 566	No SciLifeLab 10Y -1 000 tkr, No event call -400 tkr, redistributed personnel -0,3 FTE
20	Research networks	1 813	1 266	-547	Less national funding to events -200 tkr planned 2021 and Lab leadership course 2021 moved to item 14 and no national funding to NMMP projectcall 2021
21	Funding to research	0	0	0	No funding to research groups
22	Research grants	6 500	7 700	1 200	Same level as 2020 for Co-Director 1 200 tkr and Chair 300 tkr. NSC Chair 300 tkr. First 6 months for Olli's appointment 2015 still left to be paid (2,5 MSEK from 2015+2,5 MSEK jan-jun+150 tkr/month jul-dec)
Sum Operations		61 125	61 857	732	

General comments:

- * Increase in wages by 2%
- * National funding Operations Office staff 9,2 FTE Sthlm and 6,7 FTE UU
- * Increased national funding IT-personnel 0,2 FTE
- * Budgeted costs are systematically checked against outcome
- * Every item in the budget has an assigned OO member that is responsible for the content
- * Increased national funding to Navet 1 MSEK

SciLifeLab Total budget 2021 and tentative Platforms budget 2022

	2021
kSEK	Natl./DDD
MANAGEMENT	
Management	6 660
Management administration	585
SUPPORT FUNCTIONS	
Management of Operations Office	5 916
Economy	1 420
Communications	4 794
Quality management (center planning, reporting, evaluation and system support)	2 663
Campus Solna and Navet: support functions	1 362
CENTER INFRASTRUCTURE	
(Data Centre moved to Platforms-part)	0
Center premises	12 169
Center IT infrastructure	6 123
Campus Solna and Navet: investments	0
Evaluation of infrastructure	281
COLLABORATIONS/EXTERNAL RELATIONS	
Collaboration and utilization	1 985
Networking activities (infrastructure)	2 671
TRAINING AND COURSES	
Training and courses	169
RESEARCH COMMUNITY	
SciLifeLab National Fellows	3 000
Strategic recruitments and SciLifeLab Fellows programs	0
SciLifeLab Prize and Keystone	750
Research conferences	2 343
Research networks	1 266
Funding to research	0
Research grants	7 700
Sum Operations	61 857

	2021	2022*
PLATFORMS		
Bioinformatics	24 050	24 550
Support, Infrastructure and Training	17 000	17 000
Compute and Storage	3 400	3 400
Biolmage Informatics	2 800	2 800
AIDA Data Hub (Candidate)	500	1 000
<i>Platform Director (10%)</i>	150	150
<i>Platform Operations Coordinator (20%)</i>	200	200
Genomics	48 850	48 850
National Genomics Infrastructure UU	22 600	22 600
National Genomics Infrastructure Sthlm	21 900	21 900
Ancient DNA	2 000	2 000
Microbial Single Cell Genomics	2 000	2 000
<i>Platform Director (10%)</i>	150	150
<i>Platform Operations Coordinator (20%)</i>	200	200
Clinical Genomics	14 450	14 450
Clinical Genomics Gothenburg	2 100	2 100
Clinical Genomics Lund	2 100	2 100
Clinical Genomics Stockholm	5 000	5 000
Clinical Genomics Uppsala	2 500	2 500
Clinical Genomics Linköping	800	800
Clinical Genomics Umeå	800	800
Clinical Genomics Örebro	800	800
<i>Platform Director (10%)</i>	150	150
<i>Platform Operations Coordinator (20%)</i>	200	200
Clinical Proteomics and Immunology	15 310	15 810
Autoimmunity Profiling	2 400	2 400
Plasma Profiling	2 560	2 560
Proximity Proteomics (merged)	2 500	2 500
Mass Cytometry	4 000	4 000
Proteogenomics	3 000	3 000
Glycoproteomics (Candidate)	500	1 000
<i>Platform Director (10%)</i>	150	150
<i>Platform Operations Coordinator (20%)</i>	200	200
Metabolomics	3 750	4 150
Swedish Metabolomics Centre	3 000	3 000
Exposomics (Candidate)	400	800
<i>Platform Director (10%)</i>	150	150
<i>Platform Operations Coordinator (20%)</i>	200	200
Single Cell and Spatial Biology	9 750	10 650
Eukaryotic Single Cell Genomics	5 000	5 000
Cell Profiling	2 500	2 500
In Situ Sequencing	1 000	1 000
National Resource for Mass Spectrometry Imaging (Candidate)	500	1 000
Advanced FISH Technologies (Candidate)	400	800
<i>Platform Director (10%)</i>	150	150
<i>Platform Operations Coordinator (20%)</i>	200	200
Cellular and Molecular Imaging	15 350	16 350

Advanced Light Microscopy	3 500	3 500
Biochemical Imaging Centre Umeå (BICU)/Umeå Core Facility for Electron Microscopy (UCEM) (Candidate)	500	1 000
Centre for Cellular Imaging (Candidate)	500	1 000
Cryo-EM	10 500	10 500
<i>Platform Director (10%)</i>	150	150
<i>Platform Operations Coordinator (20%)</i>	200	200
Chemical Biology and Genome Engineering	11 250	11 250
Chemical Biology Consortium Sweden	6 000	6 000
Chemical Proteomics	1 700	1 700
High Throuput Genome Engineering	3 200	3 200
<i>Platform Director (10%)</i>	150	150
<i>Platform Operations Coordinator (20%)</i>	200	200
Integrated Structural Biology	4 350	4 850
Swedish NMR Centre	3 500	3 500
Targeted and Structural Proteomics (Candidate)	500	1 000
<i>Platform Director (10%)</i>	150	150
<i>Platform Operations Coordinator (20%)</i>	200	200
Launch of Capabilities and National Network	1 400	1 400
Precision Medicine	1 400	1 400
Phase-out/down	1 600	2 180
Drug Discovery and Development	49 000	49 000
Data Centre	9 000	9 000
HOST UNIVERSITY INITIATIVES		
Pilot facilities and other initiatives	0	0
JOINT SCILIFELAB INITIATIVES		
Research Community Programs	0	0
Technology Development Projects	0	0
Infrastructure Expensive Instruments	9 223	12 223
Directors decision	1 000	1 000
Total costs	218 333	225 713

* *Tentative Platforms budget 2022*

			University specific allocation				
Facility	Funding 2020 (kSEK)	Funding 2021 (kSEK)	Lund	KTH	KI	SU	UU
ADME	5 424	5 117					5 117 231
Biochemical and Cellular Assays	5 444	5 697				5 696 998	
Biophysical Screening and Characterization	2 328	2 253					2 252 569
Human Antibody Therapeutics	7 618	7 121	1 500 001	5 620 894			
In Vitro and Systems Pharmacology*	3 214	2 682					2 682 048
Medicinal Chemistry-Hit2Lead	7 405	8 065				8 065 171	
Medicinal Chemistry-Lead Identification	3 585	3 507					3 507 310
Protein Expression and Characterization	4 550	4 772		4 771 886			
Target Product Profiling&Drug Safety Assessment	7 025	9 786		1 200 000	5 137 497		3 448 395
	46 593	49 000	1 500 001	11 592 780	5 137 497	13 762 169	17 007 553

*Phase down funding from Jan 2021 (80% of 2020 funding 18 months)

Appendix 4

Interim Platform Directors, Co-Platform Directors, and Platform Coordination Officers

Bioinformatics

PD: Bengt Persson, UU

Co-PD: Björn Nystedt, UU

PCO: Björn Nystedt, UU

Genomics

PD: Ulf Gyllensten, UU

PCO: Magnus Lundgren, UU

Clinical Genomics

PD: Richard Rosenquist Brandell, KI

Co-PD: Lucia Cavelier, UU

PCO: Eva Berglund, UU

Clinical Proteomics and Immunology

PD: Jochen Schwenk, KTH

PCO: Claudia Fredolini, KTH

Metabolomics

PD: Anders Nordström, UmU

Co-PD: Jonathan Martin, SU; Thomas Moritz, SLU

PCO: Annika Johansson, UmU

Single Cell and Spatial Biology

PD: Mats Nilsson, SU

PCO: Charlotte Stadler, KTH

Cellular and Molecular Imaging

PD: Marta Carroni, SU

PCO: Ana Agostinho, KTH

Integrated Structural Biology

PD: Göran Karlsson, GU

Co-PD: Johan Malmström, LU

PCO: Cecilia Persson, GU

Chemical Biology and Genome Engineering

PD: Anna-Lena Gustavsson, KI

Co-PD: Bernhard Schmierer, KI

PCO: Bernhard Schmierer, KI

Drug Discovery and Development

PD: Per Arvidsson, KI

Co-PD: Kristian Sandberg, UU

PCO: Rebecka Klintenberg, UU

Two-year action plan for SciLifeLab Campus Solna

Background

Despite the enormous success of SciLifeLab as a whole, the International Advisory Board (IAB) raised several concerns specifically related to the joint Stockholm research center, SciLifeLab Campus Solna. The IAB characterized Campus Solna as being an under-developed research environment lacking a supportive research infrastructure, and a well-defined leadership structure. The IAB report also highlighted several long-standing issues regarding the Fellows' situation, primarily at Campus Solna but to some extent at both nodes, which were "still not solved."

The IAB recommended immediate action was needed to address the following three points:

1. Renew the strong commitment to the synergistic dual mission of the SciLifeLab Campus Solna as an international center of research excellence and a national research infrastructure.
2. To provide the mandate and delegated authority to the SciLifeLab Campus Solna research director to run an internationally competitive center and support especially its excellent junior fellows adequately.
3. To truly integrate the complementary research strengths of the four host universities in a joint center and renew the commitment of the hosts to support SciLifeLab research with their Strategic Research Funds (SFO) funds.

Moving Forward

To address these concerns, the SciLifeLab board appointed a "Campus Solna Action Group," consisting of the Dir, co-Dir, and 4 IDs. The CS Action Group worked actively between June 2019-June 2020. As a first major step, the Campus Solna Director position was created and through an open call, Prof. Per Ljungdahl, SU, was appointed as the first CS Dir, with a starting date of May 1, 2020.

The CS Action Group has drafted this two-year action plan for the continued development of SciLifeLab Campus Solna. This Action Plan is a Campus Solna-focused practical plan, in parallel with the more strategic Road-Map 2020-2030 that outlines future initiatives for the whole SciLifeLab. The Action Plan is an internal process document and is intended to keep the work focused and maintain forward momentum. The overall goal of the Action Plan is to enhance and further develop Campus Solna as a vital component of the SciLifeLab. This

needs to be done with respect to the evolving aims and growing national impact of SciLifeLab and well-coordinated with the SciLifeLab-Uppsala node. Furthermore, actions should be taken to integrate and synergize with the KAW-funded Data Driven Life Science (DDLS) program.

The 2-year action plan (2021-2022) lists many goals and actions. It will be important to complement the document by setting priorities and time-frames for planning, decisions and implementation. The Campus Solna Committee is responsible for facilitating actions that specifically relate to CS. Importantly, there are several issues that require formal approval by the Vice Chancellors (Rectors) of the host universities. The Action Plan may need to be modified as time goes on, and full implementation may take longer than the 2-year time frame.

The Action Plan has 5 major goals with associated aims. Those should be decided upon by the CS Committee and then acknowledged by the SciLifeLab board, with a suggestion of presenting a progress report to the SciLifeLab board at the end of 2021, and a full report at the end of 2022. The CS Committee and the Management Group should coordinate the preparation of the report.

The Action Plan addresses the following goals:

1. Clarify the role of Campus Solna as a vital component of SciLifeLab
2. Improve governance of Campus Solna and its resources
3. Improve and enhance the academic environment
4. Establish processes to ensure proper level of support services, space allocations and rebuilding.
5. Optimize SciLifeLab Fellows program and support career development

GOALS

1. Clarify the role of Campus Solna as a vital component of SciLifeLab

The CS action group is cognizant of the importance to of an integrated Stockholm-Uppsala center for the “big” research mission, and also the emerging activities at the national level. However, Campus Solna is an important physical center for integrated experimental research that should be further developed, and with expectations to deliver accordingly.

Aim 1.1: Strengthen and improve interactions with host university leadership, faculties/schools and departments to enhance coordination and level of engagement

Action:

Propose activities and meetings for host university representatives and other relevant groups (with different purposes for the activities/meetings)

Aim 1.2: Develop consensus view that Campus Solna is a *bona fide* Stockholm Trio campus, vital to the interest of each university**Actions:**

- a. *Provide fact-based description of Campus Solna to define its impact at Regional and National levels*
- b. *Discuss with the Vice Chancellors how to best accomplish a truly integrated campus*
- c. *Find solutions to overcome barriers caused by the university-based “ownership” of certain areas. Examples include: leadership affiliations, all aspects of IT (e.g. e-mail domain, data storage, library access), personnel administration, safety issues, etc.*

Aim 1.3: Obtain confirmation of continued support by Stockholm Trio**Action:**

Discuss with the Vice Chancellors how this should be achieved and to ensure the long-term future of Campus Solna

Aim 1.4: Engage proactively and work to ensure that Campus Solna maintains a leading role in the DDLS-era**Actions:**

- a. *Space is currently limiting at Campus Solna, which negatively impacts the ability to recruit. Work to incorporate the Beta Building, or other alternatives, as part of Campus Solna*
- b. *Maintain and improve data management capabilities at Campus Solna*

2. Improve governance of Campus Solna and its resources

This requires active and coordinated decisions involving the Stockholm Trio host universities.

Aim 2.1: Update the 3-party agreement(s)**Action:**

Initiate the update by cooperative work between KTH admin and host university representatives. Important that the responsibility and mandate of CS Dir and of decision-making committees are spelled out.

Aim 2.2: Define a clear leadership structure at Campus Solna that dovetails with national interests

Actions:

- a. Consider to use the SciLifeLab Strategic Council (SC) as the most representative forum for an improved leadership structure, and to coordinate the Campus Solna-specific processes and decisions with the Uppsala node and with the national SciLifeLab initiatives, aiming to enhance synergy throughout the SciLifeLab organization.
- b. Increase the representation of research groups/PIs, Fellows and Infrastructure facilities in the decision bodies or as adjunct members.
- c. Define the level of administrative and site support that is needed for efficient running of Campus Solna, and to which degree this can be provided with existing staffing. Clarify how the costs should be shared and divided in a transparent way, and include them in coming budgets.
- d. Improve communication between Campus Solna and national leadership to facilitate synchronizing research initiatives/interests of the host universities, research groups working at CS and the SciLifeLab infrastructure facilities.

Aim 2.3: Improve and optimize the economic governance of Campus Solna to facilitate planning and decision making.

A comprehensive multi-year CS budget is necessary to facilitate an effective and transparent decision-making process in the long-term. This should also accurately reflect the intertwined local and national activities.

Actions:

- a. Develop a budget structure that comprehensively reflects the entirety of CS activities
- b. Develop a long-term multi-year budget to enhance planning capabilities for CS and for host universities
- c. Develop routines and processes, propose criteria/rules to decide on renovation and rebuilding project.

3. Improve and enhance the academic environment**Aim 3.1: Create a center of research excellence**

Actions:

Consider launching research programs (more specific than DDLS-areas but sufficiently broad to encourage collaborations between Campus Solna groups). Facilitate the development of strong research environments.

Aim 3.2: Create a transparent and sustainable system for turnover of faculty (PIs and their groups) at Campus Solna

Action:

Develop exit strategies with defined criteria/rules for termination of PI contracts, and develop mechanisms/processes for its implementation together with the host universities.

Aim 3.3: Improve the intellectual and scientific research environment at Campus Solna.

Actions:

- a. Mapping on-going research areas within CS.
- b. Creation of Research Clusters at CS, to strengthen research interactions and research/tech development.
- c. Investigate how seminars, work-shop programs and yearly events can be strengthened, financing models for those, and how these should be coordinated and announced.
- d. Create scientific meeting spots and initiate events, meetings and interactions among staff members (scientists, fellows, students, technicians, infra experts, IT, admin etc.)

Aim 3.4: Create a research environment that is synchronized and well-integrated with the national infrastructures.

Actions:

- a. Improve the interface between research projects and infrastructure facilities to increase the possibilities of technology development.
- b. Promote closer interactions between CS researchers and facilities by different activities.
- c. Reduce the thresholds for collaborations and promote a collegial give-and-take attitude.

Aim 3.5: Develop a system for local Campus Solna research infrastructure

Actions:

- a. Survey of needs for local research infrastructures (e.g. sequencing, flow cytometry, sample handling, dish washing, etc.) of importance to investigators at CS. The aim should be to better support the full spectrum of research at CS.
- b. Create a plan and a budget for launching CS local infrastructures (core facilities). These can be either funded jointly by the host universities, joint scientist input and/or linked with national infrastructure support
- c. Improve the sharing of equipment within CS

d. *Establish routines for recurrent revisions*

4. Establish processes to ensure proper support services, space allocations and rebuilding

Problems with space allocation, prioritization, re-building projects...

Aim 4.1: Improve processes and criteria/rules for prioritization and allocation of space within Campus Solna.

Action:

Improve routines and processes according to already agreed upon criteria/rules for prioritization, or propose new ones if necessary.

Aim 4.2: Create a common research infrastructures, e.g. Supply Centre, Dish washing and sterilization service, etc. at Campus Solna

Actions:

- a. *Investigate the needs of a Supply Center and propose what type of “material” it should provide, how it should be operated, and financing models.*
- b. *Investigate the needs of Core Facilities and propose what type of services a core facility support should provide, how it should be operated, and financing models.*
- c. *Establish routines for recurrent revisions*

5. Optimize SciLifeLab Fellows program and support career development

Referring to the IAB report, point 4.3f: The SciLifeLab Fellow’s program has been a fantastic success. However, Fellows have repeatedly brought up problems and issues regarding the suboptimal academic environment and local infrastructure at Campus Solna. Many of their concerns are related to aims addressed in Goals 3-4. The aims of Goal 5 are focused on issues specifically relating to the Fellows’ program.

Aim 5.1: Improve coordination of recruitment processes

Stockholm Trio universities have well-established rules and procedures for recruiting academic personnel and that govern career development and promotions. Better coordination and transparency to minimize differences in the career possibilities and trajectories of SciLifeLab Fellows at Campus Solna would be favorable. Early agreements exist but their implementation needs to reaffirmed and put in practice.

Actions:

- a. *Improve coordination of Fellow recruitment at Stockholm Trio and Uppsala Universities*
- b. *Prepare for recruiting KAW DDLS Fellows in 2021 and onwards. Conform to the KAW DDLS fellowship agreement and synchronize agreements to match those governing SciLifeLab fellows*

Aim 5.2: Improve the introduction and integration of new Fellows

Action:

Develop a “Fellows’ introduction and integration” document, and confirm that is agreed upon and implemented by all four host universities.

Aim 5.3: Mentoring programs and contact persons for Fellows.

Action:

Ensure that each university has a mentorship program for their Fellows. All Fellows located at Campus Solna should also have a senior CS colleague as mentor.

Aim 5.4: Clarify tenure track rules at each university and establish criteria for prolongation of contracts for continued localization at Campus Solna

Actions:

- a. *Ensure sure that each new Fellow receives clear written documentation of expectations and outline of rules governing career development that is specific for their university. The system for tenure, or lack there-of, at his/her university should be clearly described.*
- b. *The rules/criteria for prolongation of contract at Campus Solna vs the need to move-on, should be discussed and decided upon, and as part of the bigger process on criteria/rules for prioritization and allocation of space.*

Appendix 6

COVID-19 calls phase 2

External reviewers for calls 1 and 2

Magnus Evander, Prof, Dep. of Clinical Microbiology, UmU, Sweden

Ulrich Desselberger, Prof, Dep. of Medicine, University of Cambridge, UK

Florian Krammer, Prof. of Vaccinology, Dep. of Microbiology, ISMMS, USA

Pierre Morange, Prof, Aix-Marseille University and Laboratory of Hematology, France

Thomas Renné, Prof, Medical Specialist in Laboratory Medicine, UKE, Germany

Peter Sjö, PhD, Discovery Project Leader, Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi), Switzerland

Daniel Kuritzkes, Prof. of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, USA

Warish Ahmed, Senior Research Scientist, Environmental Contaminant Mitigation & Biotechnologies (ECMB), University of Melbourne, Australia

Adam Wheatley, Senior researcher, Dep. of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne, Australia

Nichole Schneiderhan-Marra, Dr, Head of Dep. Pharma and Biotech Biochemist NMI, Germany

Roberto Chiarle, Ass. Prof. Pathology, DF/HCC, Harvard Medical School, USA

Reviewers for call 3

Jan Holmgren, Prof, Dep. of Microbiology and Immunology, GU, Sweden (Chair of panel)

Lars Björck, Prof, Dep. of Clinical Sciences/Infection Medicine, LU, Sweden

Marianne Jertborn, Prof em, Institute of Biomedicine, GU, Sweden

Åke Örtqvist, Prof, Dep. of Medicine, Solna, Sweden

Appendix 7

Open SciLifeLab COVID-19 call: New KAW-supported COVID-19 research program on vaccine effects

Project	Main applicant	Affiliation	Suggested funding
Register-based large-scale national population study to monitor Covid-19 vaccination effectiveness and safety (RECOVAC)	Fredrik Nyberg	GU	7,5
The immunology of adverse events to SARS-CoV-2 vaccines	Petter Brodin	KI	7,5
The Stockholm 65PLUS cohort- A prospective longitudinal study of immune responses induced after Covid-19 vaccination	Anna-Lena Spetz	SU	5
Impact of immune suppressants on Sars-CoV2 vaccination responses	Fredrik Piehl	KI	3
SARS-CoV-2 infections in relation to vaccination among healthcare workers of the Stockholm Region	Joakim Dillner	KI	5
Immune responses to COVID-19 vaccination in unexposed, previously infected and immunosuppressed individuals	Anna Lundgren	GU	5
CoVASC- Covid Vaccination Antibody structural correlates	Johan Malmström	LU	5
Covid-19 vaccination in immunocompromised individuals: An interdisciplinary framework to gain mechanistic insight into durable immunity to SARS-CoV-2 infection	Soo Alema	KI	5
Efficacy and immunogenicity of a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine in highly immunocompromised recipients of CAR T cell therapy and allogeneic stem cell transplantation	Karin Loré	KI	5
High Resolution Analysis of Vaccine-Induced Responses in SARS-CoV-2 Experienced Individuals	Mattias Forsell	UmU	5
Total			53

SciLifeLab & Wallenberg National Program for Data-Driven Life Science (DDLs)

- Steering and organization

Background

On October 20, 2020, the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation (KAW) announced a SEK 3.1 billion 12-year funding initiative to support data-driven life science (DDLs) in Sweden (Donation letter KAW 2020.0239). SciLifeLab was named the host for the program, which will be carried out in collaboration with the Swedish research universities (KTH, KI, SU, UU, GU, LiU, UmU, Chalmers and SLU) and the Museum of natural history (NRM). For the Universities of Gothenburg, Lund, Linköping and Umeå the collaboration was suggested to be linked to the Wallenberg Centers for Molecular Medicine. For SciLifeLab, the DDLs program represents a realization of the strategic objectives regarding data-driven life science described in the [SciLifeLab Roadmap 2020-2030](#) that was approved by the SciLifeLab Board in February 2020.

The aim of the program is to foster the next generation of life scientists, enabling every biologist to better analyze and interpret data patterns and integrate their own data seamlessly with the global life science data streams, as well as creating an extremely strong computational and data science base. Central components of such a venture include education, training, recruiting new talent, sparking collaborations, and engagement in innovation activities.

The overall plan is to recruit 39 internationally pre-eminent researchers, establish a graduate school for 260 PhD students in academia and industry, and recruit 210 postdoctoral positions and create a community of scientists along with society and industrial collaborations. This will build a broad expertise throughout the country to ensure we meet the future need for researchers in data-driven life science, both in the academic world and in industry.

The initiative gives priority to four areas - data-driven research in:

- Cell and molecular biology
- Evolution and biodiversity
- Precision medicine and diagnostics
- Epidemiology and infection biology

At the SciLifeLab Board meeting on October 26, 2020, the decision was taken to approve that SciLifeLab will take on the responsibility for coordinating the Data-driven Life Science program and the associated Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation funding.

This document contains a description of the organization and steering of the DDLs program as well as how it connects to the SciLifeLab organization and the participating stakeholders.

Organization and steering

SciLifeLab is regulated by a special ordinance (2013:118) and the SciLifeLab framework is set by steering documents describing the four-party agreement between the host universities (KTH, KI, SU and UU), rules of procedure, and delegations within the centre (<https://www.scilifelab.se/about-us/management/steering-documents>). The SciLifeLab board is the decision-making body and the operations are led by the SciLifeLab Director.

SciLifeLab is currently financed by national infrastructure funding and by strategic research area (SFO) funding to the host universities. The SciLifeLab Board carries the overall responsibility for national coordination and infrastructure funding, while SFO funding to universities for their SciLifeLab collaboration is governed by the host university SciLifeLab Committees, but the collaboration is overseen by the SciLifeLab board. These funding streams of SciLifeLab therefore have their distinct origins, governance, and purpose.

The DDLS program adds a third dimension to the national SciLifeLab activities (Fig. 1). The DDLS is regulated by the KAW donation letter (KAW 2020.0239) and according to the Foundation Act, SciLifeLab board members are personally responsible for the use of donated funds for the specific purpose specified in the KAW donation letter. Co-funding to cover administrative overheads (beyond 18%) will be the responsibility of the recipient host institutions. Therefore, the DDLS program also has a distinct origin and governance of the funding, along with a unique purpose. However, it is important for SciLifeLab and for DDLS to seek synergies between the three programs.

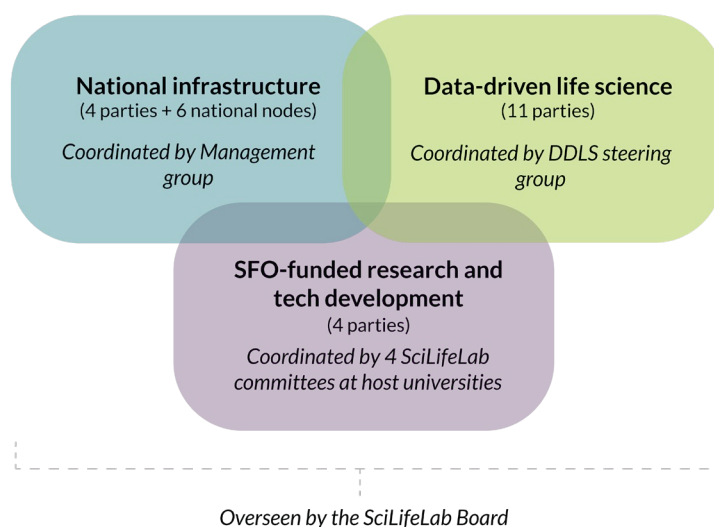


Figure 1: DDLS program connected to SciLifeLab organization

The SciLifeLab Board is the decision-making body for the DDLS program and the operations are managed by the Program Director in collaboration with the DDLS steering group members. A DDLS national reference group with representatives from all 11 parties will act to support and advise on strategic issues, also to ensure close links to the operations and leadership at the collaborating organizations (Fig. 2).

The DDLS main operations include Recruitments, Research school and Data infrastructure, whose operations are planned and coordinated by the DDLS steering group to ensure effectiveness and synergy effects through the program. DDLS will set up working groups to plan and operate such activities and the steering group may also start other operations and working groups as needs arise.

The program is supported by SciLifeLab Operations Office, which provides coordination and administrative support, as well as by the SciLifeLab Data Centre, which is responsible for coordination of data infrastructure and support.

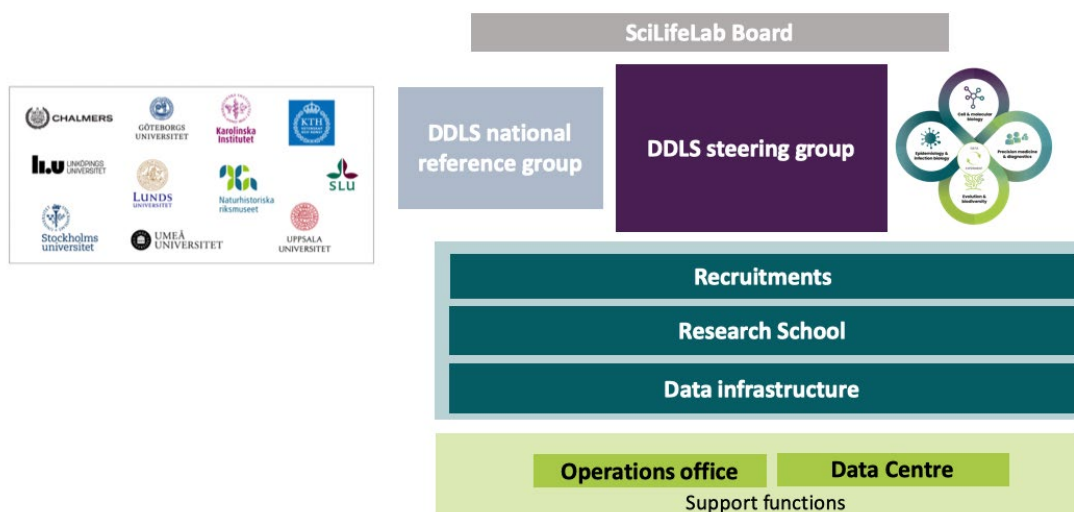


Figure 2: The DDLS governance, operations and support functions

DDLS steering group

The function of the DDLS steering group is to play an active role in operating the DDLS program both in preparing and executing decisions by the SciLifeLab Board.

The Steering group is responsible for working with the director to: 1) manage the program under the conditions defined in the donation letter from the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation as well as from decisions taken by the SciLifeLab Board, 2) develop DDLS program strategy and plans for the board to approve, 3) monitor the progress of the program, including the launch of advisory boards and evaluations, 4) launch and steer working groups, 5) interact with the reference group to execute national activities, such as PI recruitments and joint activities, 5) create a budget for the board to approve. See more detailed description below.

The Program Director is acting as the Chair for the DDLS steering group, and has a mandate period of three years. Program Director's role is separate from that of the SciLifeLab Director.

The DDLS steering group members are expected to take an active role in establishing, managing and maintaining DDLS as a truly national program at the highest international and scientific level. The term of office for the steering group members is three years. The assignment is estimated to take up on average 20% (one day per week) in the beginning, while over the years this effort is likely to be less intensive.

Members of the DDLS steering group are not there to represent the interests of their own host organizations but to work with a national mission. The overall role of the DDLS Steering group is to be instrumental in planning and coordinating the DDLS program and to guide the program to reach the goals set in the KAW donation letter.

Conflicts of interest will be handled according to traditional academic ways by recusing conflicted members from a specific call, meeting or decision. The DDLS steering group is not a decision body (SciLifeLab board is), and hence the DDLS steering group member is not directly engaged in taking decisions.

Responsibility and mandates of the steering group (more detailed)

- Manage the program including operational planning, execute and follow-up on activities as well as to evaluate activities run within the program.
- Manage the funds from the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation in Data-driven Life Science according to the conditions defined in the donation letter.
- Prepare the overall budget for each phase and annual budgets for decisions by the SciLifeLab board according to the conditions defined in the donation letter from the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation.
- Appoint members and define the tasks for the working groups for recruitments, data support, research school and other tasks required.
- Work with the DDLS national reference group and all stakeholders to define the profile of each of the DDLS Fellows positions as well as coordinate recruitment processes across the country.
- Ensure that recruitments of DDLS fellows are carried out according to the special conditions for funding.
- Suggest to the SciLifeLab board on funding allocation to data support, databases and other special funding allocations.
- Suggest to the SciLifeLab board on calls and funding allocations to the research school, postdoc program, WASP and industrial collaborations.
- Oversee the allocated funding to WABI as defined in the donation letter from the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation.
- Allocate funding to support functions, such as coordination and management (financial and programs) and ensure there are adequate resources for managing the program in a professional and responsible manner.

- Perform program analysis and report achievements to SciLifeLab Board, advisory boards, funders and other stakeholders.
- Prepare reports and applications in data-driven life science to the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation upon request.

DDLS national reference group

The task of the DDLS national reference group is to support and advice the DDLS steering group regarding strategic issues for the program. Also, to serve as a link between the program and the leadership of the 11 parties (KTH, KI, SU, UU, GU, LiU, UmU, Chalmers, SLU and NRM) involved.

This is a formal representational body with at least one representative from each party representing the interests of their own host organization. The role of a DDLS national reference group member is similar to the so-called integration directors within the national SciLifeLab organization. The representative should preferably be part of the unit at the organization handling SciLifeLab related questions if such a unit exists. The reference group is responsible for information exchange between the DDLS steering group and the participating part, especially regarding strategic development of the DDLS program, coordinated recruitments, DDLS research initiatives and data related issues.

DDLS international expert group

SciLifeLab has an international advisory board (IAB), which gives advise to the SciLifeLab board on strategic issues and actions, which will include DDLS. For the DDLS program to evolve and become a frontline research program, there is also a need to get detailed insights from international experts within data driven life science. The SciLifeLab board may therefore set up an DDLS international expert group to give advice on DDLS program specific strategies. The steering group will suggest members of the international expert group to be nominated by the SciLifeLab board.

Coordination and administration of the DDLS program

SciLifeLab Operations Office is responsible for the overall coordination of the program. It supports the SciLifeLab board and the DDLS steering group with DDLS program matters concerning handling of decisions, budget, economic- and operational reporting, communications, events, external networking, program evaluations, recruitments and research school.

Data support

SciLifeLab Data Centre is supporting the DDLS program regarding data related issues.

SciLifeLab & Wallenberg National Program for Data-Driven Life Science (DDLS)

- Recruitment of new DDLS fellows in phase 1 (2021-2026) and conditions for funding

Background

Data-driven life science (DDLS) is a 3.1 billion 12-year project supported by the KAW foundation. The host for the program is SciLifeLab, which will work together with the Swedish research universities and NRM. As part of this program, there is a plan to recruit 39 internationally pre-eminent young group leaders in the following four areas:

- Cell and molecular biology
- Evolution and biodiversity
- Precision medicine and diagnostics
- Epidemiology and infection biology

Recruitment of DDLS Fellows

This document regulates the specific conditions for funding for the 20 recruitment packages that will be funded during the first phase of the program (2021-2026). Distribution of recruitment packages between universities were pre-defined in the KAW donation letter and each package has a budget of 17 MSEK. One package contains a salary for 5 years as DDLS Fellow “biträdande lektor”, two PhD positions and two postdoc positions and also running costs. SciLifeLab will together with the collaborating universities advertise the positions internationally and ensure that applicants of the highest possible quality and relevance for the DDLS program are selected for the positions.

As the recruitment of new DDLS fellows is a central task of the whole DDLS, it is important to get the program started as soon as possible. First candidates should be ready to start early 2022 and ideally all first-round candidates should start their fellowship by summer 2022. This would mean that all announcements

should be ready by the end of this spring. To enable this tight time line, it is crucial that universities follow the time line set for the process, see table 1.

Table 1. Time line for DDLS Fellow recruitment process

Beginning of February	Detailed instructions incl. specific conditions for funding sent to universities to initiate recruitments
Feb 11, 2021	Information meeting about DDLS Fellow recruitment process Invited: University representatives, DDLS contact persons, DDLS steering group
May 3, 2021	Deadline for submission of University suggestions for the profiles of the candidates for acceptance by the SciLifeLab board. Send suggestions to ddls@scilifelab.se
May 19, 2021	SciLifeLab Board meeting – approval of profiles before advertisement
June, 2021	SciLifeLab coordinated international announcement
Aug, 2021	Deadline for applications
Fall 2021	Evaluation and selections according to SOP at University, approval of a SciLifeLab-nominated representative (as stated below)
	Submission of Universities' top candidates to SciLifeLab board for approval (send to ddls@scilifelab.se)
Fall 2021	SciLifeLab Board meeting – approval of candidate (s)
Jan 1, 2022	First DDLS Fellow accept offer
March 1, 2022	First DDLS Fellow start
June 30, 2022	All first-phase 20 DDLS Fellows recruited

Conditions for funding: DDLS fellow recruitments in phase 1 (2021-2026)

- Universities need to approve the conditions in the KAW donation letter (KAW 2020.0239), including the overhead that is typical to KAW funding. SciLifeLab will not compensate for any overheads, the universities will need to co-fund this.
- Recruitments should take place in accordance with Higher Education Ordinance (Högskoleförordningen) chapter 4, §4a, Biträdande lektor position (named as DDLS Fellow positions).

- Recruitment packages are funded for a maximum of 5 years with a fixed amount of 17 MSEK. This sum is not adjusted for the actual salaries that universities may offer. If there is a need for 6-year positions before tenure evaluation, the last year is for the university to fund. Long-term commitment of salaries of tenured group leaders is also the responsibility of the hosting university/department.
- The SciLifeLab board will decide national priorities for the overall subject area and profiles of the Fellow positions. This will set the stage for universities to define their own specific profiles for the calls of new DDLS Fellow positions. SciLifeLab board will approve all position descriptions before advertisement. It is also important to describe the local research environment of each DDLS fellow.
- All positions need to also conform with the KAW donation letter and need to match with the four subject areas defined.
- Position announcements need to include a reference to the KAW funding and the overall SciLifeLab-coordinated national DDLS program.
- SciLifeLab will coordinate announcements at a national level. International announcements will be done jointly for all DDLS Fellow positions at all universities (e.g. in Science). In addition, universities are free to run their own advertisements, but these must link to the national advertisements.
- Timing is important to achieve synergy and to brand DDLS as a joint national program. First common announcement round is planned for June-August 2021, which means that the national and local priorities need be integrated during the spring of 2021.
- Universities and SciLifeLab will need to work together to ensure that the review of the candidates is done openly and in line with the national DDLS program objectives and according to the KAW donation letter. SciLifeLab will nominate one external member to be included in the university recruitment committees at universities to ensure this.
- Before universities provide final offers, SciLifeLab Board should approve the candidate. A short report of the selection process and the profile of top candidate(s) should be provided for this purpose.