The national board of Science for Life Laboratory

Minutes from board meeting no 58, September 21, 2022

Present members

Ylva Engström (SU)(chair), Henrik Cederquist (SU), Lena Eliasson (LU, absent 10.00-12.45), Anders Gustafsson (KI), Mats Larhed (UU), Carina Mallard (GU), Katrine Riklund (UmU), Annika Stensson Trigell (KTH), Christoph Varenhorst (AstraZeneca, until 13.00)

Other participants

Olli Kallioniemi (Director), Mia Phillipson (Co-Director), Jenny Alfredsson (Acting Head of Operations/OO), Sandra Falck (Acting vice Head of Operations/OO, from 10.30), Eva Berglund (UU, § 13), Johan Gerdin (§ 9), Disa Hammarlöf (§ 15), Lars Johansson (OO), Åsa Johansson (UU, § 13), Janne Lehtiö (KI, § 13), Anna Lidin (OO, § 1-7), Jessica Lindvall (§ 14), Heidi T Persson (OO, §§ 12), Johan Rung (Data Centre, § 11, 12e), Andreas Muranyi Scheutz (GMS, absent 9.45-12.45), Staffan Svärd (UU, § 17), Gunilla Westergren-Thorsson (chair NSC), Anna Höglund Rehn (OO, secretary)

1. Meeting formalities

Ylva Engström welcomed all members and opened the meeting.

Decisions:
The SciLifeLab board appointed Anders Gustafsson to approve the minutes of the meeting in addition to the chair.

The SciLifeLab board approved the minutes from meeting no. 57 with the following notes under paragraph 5b DDLS Data Area Nodes and WABI:

> *Lena Eliasson did not take part in the decision to approve Umeå University as a Data Science Node for the DDDLS Research Area Epidemiology and biology of infection.*

> *Lena Eliasson did not take part in the decision to approve Karolinska Institute tentatively as a Data Science Node for the DDLS Research Area Precision Medicine and diagnostics.*

Item 11 and 12b was handled after item 9. Item 14 was handled after item 18. Item 16 will be presented in the next meeting. Two other items were discussed (the director's term of service and compensation for the chair of the board), item 19.

2. Update from the Director

Olli Kallioniemi presented the quarterly update from SciLifeLab.

3.   Financial update

Jenny Alfredsson presented a brief financial overview of the different sources of funding to SciLifeLab. The overview included a preliminary forecast for the year 2022, in light of the agreed budget for 2022, and the estimated year-end national surplus at KTH and Uppsala University.

4.   Preliminary SciLifeLab Infrastructure budget 2023 – platforms and operations
VC-2022-0044

The SciLifeLab national budget is divided into two parts: *platforms and operations*, and these define what is planned for each year. The funding to the platforms is transferred to recipients according to budget each month, whereas the operations part reflects on-going operations, i.e. all the other activities and initiatives SciLifeLab planned for the year.

Jenny Alfredsson informed about the preliminary budget for 2023, based on the 2+2 year infrastructure plan already approved for 2021-2024 and presented the main directions of the operations part.

5.   Mapping of costs at SciLifeLab
VC-2022-0030

Recently, the issue of large differences in costs for SciLifeLab activities at different universities, at different locations and SciLifeLab sites, and for different functions (e.g. infrastructure vs. research), has been brought to date in various discussions. Rental and overhead costs and other fees at Campus Solna as well as the services that are provided are especially important at the moment, both for the national infrastructure platforms, but also for the scientists from different universities. The overall cost of rental space and building operations is also on the rise, providing further challenges for everybody.

At the meeting on 31 May 2022 the board decided to set up a working group, with an initial focus to map the costs of Campus Solna scientists and infrastructure in comparison to those at SciLifeLab Uppsala.

Jenny Alfredsson gave an update about the plans and progress of this mapping project.

6.   Infrastructure update

Lars Johansson presented an update about:

- SciLifeLab Midterm checkup of the infrastructure
- Expensive instrument call 2022
- VR call 2022 Grant for Accessibility to Infrastructure

7. Platform Co-Director appointment
VC-2021-0034

At the meeting no 51 on 19 May, 2021, the SciLifeLab board approved Platform Directors and Platform Co-Directors' appointments for 2021–2024. Elisabet Carlsohn, Gothenburg University, has decided to step down from her position as Co-Director for the Clinical Proteomics and Immunology platform. Claudia Fredolini, KTH, is suggested by the Platform Management group to be appointed as new Platform Co-Director.

Lars Johansson presented the suggestion.

Decision:
The SciLifeLab Board approved Claudia Fredolini, KTH, as Platform Co-Director for the Clinical Proteomics and Immunology platform until 31 December 2024.

8. National SciLifeLab Committee (NSC) in the past and in the future
VC-2019-0038

The mandate period for all members in the National SciLifeLab Committee (NSC) ends 31 December 2022.

Gunilla Westergren-Thorsson, NSC chair, gave an update on the work and visions of the NSC and gave some reflections on the future.

Olli Kallioniemi informed about ideas for the future role of NSC.

9. SciLifeLab steering documents
V-2022-0560, V-2022-0561, V-2022-0562

The SciLifeLab steering documents (fyrpartsöverenskommelse, trepartsöverenskommelse, arbetsordning), approved 2017, have been revised and rewritten. The suggested new documents have been sent to the four host universities, the chair of SciLifeLab board, the SciLifeLab management group and the Campus Solna Committee for comments.

Annika Stensson-Trigell informed about the working process and the suggested new steering documents.

Decision:
The SciLifeLab board approved the 'Arbetsordning för Nationellt centrum för livsvetenskaplig forskning (SciLifeLab)' to be sent to the KTH university board for final approval.

The SciLifeLab board supported the 4-part agreement and 3-part agreement to be sent to the vice-chancellors for signature.

Work will continue to write complementary steering documents, regulating other parts of the national organization, sites and activities at SciLifeLab.

10. Assignments at SciLifeLab for key positions
VC-2022-0049

Most of SciLifeLab nominations to key roles are handled as assignments, i.e. giving specific mandates to people to act in key roles (and matching funding to their employing departments). These assignments are usually done either as a board or a director's decision. These assignments are based on the expectation that the person nominated is already employed in a compatible position at a Swedish university.

Olli Kallioniemi gave a background to the item and discussion followed about a policy regarding assignments to central key roles in the Operations Office and the Data Centre.

11. SciLifeLab Data Centre (DC) update and new organization
VC-2022-0048

The SciLifeLab Data Centre (DC) has grown in scope, funding and organizational complexity since its start in 2016, following new assignments from the board in pace with SciLifeLab's transformation towards data-driven life science. Its rapid growth now requires an improved organizational capacity, well-defined roles and responsibilities for its leaders and staff, and improved support to operate and lead national activities within its assignments.

Johan Rung informed about the background and ideas about a steering document for the future organization lf SciLifeLab Data Centre.

12. SciLifeLab and Wallenberg National Program for Data-Driven Life Science, DDLS

12a. Director's status update

Olli Kallioniemi gave an update regarding the DDLS program under item 2.

12b. DDLS budget 2022 – update and revision
VC-2021-0050

The DDLS program is regulated by the KAW donation letter (KAW 2020.0239), and the SciLifeLab Board needs to approve the DDLS budget each year. The budget process requires interaction between the DDLS steering group, the budget working groups and the DDLS Operations Office.

At the Board meeting no. 49 on 3 Feb 2021, a tentative three-year budget for the entire phase 1 of the DDLS program (2021-2023) was shown and agreed upon, and subsequently approved by KAW. The detailed budget for 2022 was approved by the

Board on 11 November 2021 and by KAW on 13 December 2021.

Following approval of the 2022 DDLS budget there have been some substantial changes to several of the operational areas. In order to distribute the total KAW funding left in accordance with the time-line of these changes, as well as to follow up the program funding correctly, there is a need to revise the 2022 budget. This revision of the 2022 DDLS budget has been discussed and communicated with KAW.

Jenny Alfredsson informed about the revised budget.

Decision:
The SciLifeLab board approved the SciLifeLab DDLS revised 2022 budget according to appendix 1.

12c. Preliminary DDLS budget (activities) 2023
VC-2022-0045

The final budgeting period for Phase 1 is 15 calendar months, from 1 January 2023 until 31 March 2024. The DDLS budget for 2023 is at this stage a plan of activities for each operational area and were presented and discussed at the DDLS Steering group on 31 August.

Jenny Alfredsson informed about the preliminary DDLS budget 2023.

12d. DDLS strategy
VC-2021-0038

As stated in the document DDLS steering and organization, the DDLS steering group should develop a DDLS program strategy to be approved by the SciLifeLab Board.

The strategy sets out the direction of the DDLS program and describes what DDLS wants to achieve in the coming 12 years and why. It describes the program's motivation, specific aims, an overall strategy, and the priorities of the data support and those of the four research areas (Cellular and Molecular Biology, Evolution and Biodiversity, Epidemiology and Biology of infection, as well as Precision Medicine and Diagnostics).

The SciLifeLab board approved on 19 May 2021 a first version of the DDLS 10-year strategy for publication and active sharing to the national research community. It was also stated that the strategy should be updated in the following year based on comments received and the feedback from the SciLifeLab international advisory board (IAB).

The DDLS strategy was postponed until the next board meeting.

12e. DDLS Data Science Node KI
VC-2021-0057

The DDLS donation letter from The Knut and Alice Wallenberg foundation (KAW), specified support to bioinformatics and data through earmarked funding to WABI, which is organized by NBIS, and for data support and databases package, organized by the SciLifeLab Data Centre (DC).

At the meeting on 31 May, 2022, the board approved the universities that will host the four Data Science Nodes. Karolinska Institute was tentatively approved as a Data Science Node for the DDLS Research Area Precision medicine and diagnostics. KI was asked to work together with SciLifeLab Data Centre and WABI to revise their plan and present a new plan for approval. The updated plan should be presented to the DDLS steering group for approval and sent to the board for confirmation at the next board meeting.

The updated plan will be presented to the DDLS steering group at its next meeting on 28 September, 2022.

Johan Rung informed about the proposal.

Decision:
The SciLifeLab Board delegated to the chair of the Board to approve the final revised plan from Karolinska Institute on the Data Science Node of Precision medicine and diagnostics following approval by the DDLS steering group.

13. Strategy for Precision Medicine Capability
VC-

Precision medicine (PM) capability was launched at SciLifeLab in the spring of 2021 and the team of Scientific leads were assigned by the SciLifeLab board.

Janne Lehtiö gave an update on the developments in precision medicine at SciLifeLab and the strategy for the Precision Medicine capability in relation to other national efforts in this area.

14. SciLifeLab training
VC-

One mission of SciLifeLab is to contribute to knowledge transfer. SciLifeLab is already involved in a large number of training activities and practical seminars linked to its research infrastructure.

In 2021 the SciLifeLab Management group decided to conduct an inventory and evaluation of the current courses and training at SciLifeLab to get an overview of the existing training resources and services, as well as to identify if there are any gaps in advanced life science training in Sweden today. This survey serves as a base for the continued work with developing an advanced training center for SciLifeLab.

Jessica Lindvall described her vision to create a SciLifeLab Training Hub.

15. National SciLifeLab MSCA COFUND postdoc program
VC-2022-0047

SciLifeLab has the ambition to lead a national SciLifeLab postdoc program, together with the universities of Sweden, to train future research leaders in life science research. The aim of the program is to strengthen the research network in Sweden by increasing the recruitment of international, highly qualified postdoc candidates in life science research to Sweden. The goal is for SciLifeLab to submit a co-funding application in February 2023 through the MSCA COFUND for a total amount of 73 MSEK. This grant will co-finance a program of 48 postdocs in total admitted in two rounds.

Disa Hammarlöf informed about the proposal.

Decision:
The SciLifeLab board supported that SciLifeLab submits an application through MSCA COFUND for co-funding for a SciLifeLab coordinated national postdoc program in life science.

16. Drug Discovery and Development (DDD) advisory board presentation and strategy
VC-2022-

The DDD presentation was postponed until the next board meeting.

17. Pandemic Laboratory Preparedness budget 2023
VC-2022-0045

The Pandemic Laboratory Preparedness (PLP) effort within SciLifeLab has 30.729 MSEK available for 2023 via governmental funding. The main goal under 2023 is to integrate the national network into the SciLifeLab Infrastructure, to evaluate the first rounds of work packages and to integrate the capabilities.

Staffan Svärd informed about the suggested budget for 2023.

Decision:
The SciLifeLab board approved the PLP budget for 2023 and the initial plans presented for the upcoming calls (appendix 2).

18.   Board meetings 2023

<u>Decision</u>:
The SciLifeLab board approved the suggested dates for meetings 2023.

Thursday 2 February, 8.30-12.00, ZOOM

Wednesday 24 May, 11.00-17.00, in Uppsala (dinner afterwards)

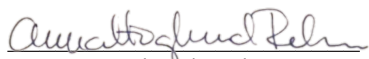*Tuesday 26 September, 8.30-12.00, ZOOM*

Wednesday 8 November, 10.00-15.00, in Solna

19.   Other issues

The board discussed briefly two other topics i) the term of the director, which will end in June 30, 2024 and ii) the principles of compensation for the chair of the board (in the absence of Ylva Engström).

Upcoming meetings

- Tuesday November 8, 10.00-17.00 in Solna
- Thursday February 2, 8.30-12.00 Zoom
- Wednesday May 24, 11.00-17.00 in Uppsala
- Tuesday September 26, 8.30-12.00 Zoom
- Wednesday November 8, 10.00-15.00 in Solna

Anna Höglund Rehn, secretary

Minutes approved by:

_____   _____
Ylva Engström   Anders Gustafsson

SciLifeLab DDLS Phase 1 budget

Phase 1 period: 2021-01-01 / 2024-03-31

MSEK

		Phase 1 total budget	2021 actual costs	2022 budget (approved Nov 2021)	2022 revised budgets	Balance left
		KAW Funding	KAW Funding	KAW Funding	KAW Funding	KAW Funding
*1	Data support and databases	140,00	1,40	65,93	21,70	116,90
2	Advanced bioinformatics support (WABI) including Cryo-EM	20,00	0,00	10,00	4,64	15,36
3	Interactions with WASP	50,00	0,03	14,39	7,70	42,27
4	Program coordination, networking and research school	30,00	6,03	10,36	10,98	12,99
*5	Recruitments	340,00	0,00	28,44	28,44	311,56
	Total	580,00	7,46	129,13	73,47	499,07

*Notes: Recruitments 2022 budget is not revised

SciLifeLab Total budget PLP 2023

2023

PANDEMIC LABORATORY PREPAREDNESS (PLP)	
Scientific Lead- Prof. Staffan Svärd, 50%	1 000
Coordination, Dr. Alice , 50%	600
Data Center, Big data support	2 000
Re LOI 1, Start Jan 1st 2023	18 000
Re CLIn Micro, Start May 1st 2023	8 000
Reimbursement reviewers Clin Micro evaluation and continuation	40
PLP Meeting, August 2023	500
Other activities, conferences, travel, increased salaries	589
Total costs	**30 729**
Funding	30 729
Sum	0

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