

DDLS Steering group meeting no. 16, 2022

Date: August 31, 2022

Time: 13:00 – 16:00

Zoom: <https://uu-se.zoom.us/j/67569909384>

Attending members:

Oliver Billker (Umeå University, MIMS director)

Niklas Blomberg (ELIXIR director)

Erik Kristiansson (Chalmers/ Göteborg University)

Tuuli Lappalainen (KTH, Royal Institute of technology)

Janne Lehtiö (Karolinska Institutet)

Erik Lindahl (Stockholm University)

Gunilla Westergren-Thorsson (Lund University/WCMM, National SciLifeLab Committee chair)

Carolina Wählby (Uppsala University)

Other participants:

Olli Kallioniemi (Director SciLifeLab, Director of the DDLS research program), Chair of the meeting

Siv Andersson (KAW representative)

Jenny Alfredsson (Acting Head of Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Johan Rung (Head of SciLifeLab Data Centre)

Heidi Törmänen Persson (DDLS coordinator, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Titti Ekegren (DDLS coordinator, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Ulrika Wallenquist (DDLS coordinator, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Mojgan Seraji (DDLS coordinator, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Elvan Helander (DDLS controller, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Björn Nystedt (Head of facility for the Bioinformatics Long-term Support, WABI)

Johan Inganni (DDLS Communications officer, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Members not attending:

Matts Karlsson (Linköping University)

Fredrik Ronquist (NRM, Swedish Museum of Natural History)

Agenda 2022-08-31

All documents including presentations from the meeting can be found on NextCloud:

<https://nextcloud.dckube.scilifelab.se/s/K68btyLBMrdBceR>

1	<p>Meeting formalities</p> <p><i>Oliver Billker was chosen to attend the minutes.</i></p> <p><i>The DDLS Steering group approved the previous minutes.</i></p> <p>Update from the Director <i>(see presentation “Aug 31_Steering group slides”, page 5 - 15 for details)</i></p> <p><u>Some highlights:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>There is a lot of happening around Precision medicine nationally now and this year’s Almedalen week had many sessions with Precision medicine, including several with SciLifeLab involvement including data sharing.</i> • <i>All four applications to the European Health Data Space call that had SciLifeLab/DDLS involvement were successful and hence Sweden and SciLifeLab are now part of EHDS Genomics, EHDS Cancer Imaging, EDIH and ETF Health (experimental testing facility for AI)</i> <p><u>Upcoming meetings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>DDLS Steering group meetings</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>September 28</i> • <i>October 25</i> • <i>November 16</i> On-site in Solna in connection to the DDLS annual conference • <i>December 14</i> • <i>National reference group meetings</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>September 5</i> • <i>November 21</i> • <i>DDLS fellow’s kick-off (virtual event)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>September 5 at 9–11</i> <p><i>13 DDLS fellows are now on board and even though some of them haven’t officially started their positions yet, they are taking active part in the community. A suggestion was made to have one DDLS Fellow presentation as a standing item on the agenda for the up-coming DDLS SG meetings.</i></p>	<p><i>Presenter: Olli Kallioniemi</i></p> <p>Appendix: <i>1. Previous minutes, 220706</i></p>
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2	<p>Update from DDLS support team (see presentation “Aug 31_Steering group slides”, page 17 - 24 for details)</p> <p><u>DDLS event and networking activities</u> DDLS research area symposia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evolution and biodiversity, Sept 8-9, Göteborg • Precision medicine and diagnostics, Dec 12, KI Stockholm • Cell and molecular biology • Epidemiology and biology of infection <p>DDLS WASP-DDLS kick-off meeting, (PIs & PostDocs from the 1st call) Oct 4, at 12-16</p> <p>DDLS Fellows networking meeting, November 15 or 16 at the DDLS annual conference</p> <p>DDLS – Industry Dialogue, November 30 SAVE THE DATE!</p> <p><u>DDLS Annual conference</u> The program is being planned by the scientific committee. Suggestions for key note speakers are welcome. DDLS Fellows will present and there will be poster sessions. The focus of the conference will be kept general to include all Fellows regardless of research area.</p> <p>The deadline for assignment as DDLS research school director is September 19 – please spread the information.</p>	<p>Presenter: Heidi T. Persson</p>
3	<p>DDLS strategy document</p> <p>The strategy document has been revised, A new section “what is data-driven science?” have been added to define what data-driven research is. The strategic objectives have been reduced to five:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attract and foster scientific excellence in data-driven life science 2. Provide data service and bioinformatics support to enable open science and FAIR data management. 3. Bridge the gap between the life science and data science communities 4. Create partnerships and impact on society at large 5. Engage in policy actions to enable data-driven research <p><u>Comments from the Steering group:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why are the rationales for the strategic objectives at the end of the document? • There is a mismatch between strategic objectives and problem statements • We should highlight <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a multitude of actions 	<p>Presenter: Olli Kallioniemi</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>impact on society</i> ○ <i>orchestration of international visibility, use SciLifeLab as a national focal point to make Sweden more visible</i> <p><i>Feedback on the strategy wanted from SG latest by Friday, September 2nd.</i></p> <p>Next steps of strategy development</p> <p>September Collect input from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>DDLS national reference group (incl. coordinators and admin contacts)</i> • <i>DDLS Fellows</i> • <i>DDLS Data Science Node hosts</i> • <i>WASP and WASP-HS Directors and coordinators</i> • <i>SciLifeLab Board</i> <p>DDLS NRG meeting, Sept 5 <i>Discussion and collection of input.</i></p> <p>SciLifeLab Board, Sept 21 <i>Discussion and collection of input.</i></p> <p>October - November <i>Deadline for stakeholder written input</i></p> <p>Approval by SciLifeLab Board, Nov 8th?</p> <p><i>The DDLS Steering group agrees to send the strategy-V2 draft to stakeholders and Board for comments.</i></p>	
4	<p>Discussion about models for DDLS PhD recruitment <i>(see presentation “Aug 31_Steering group slides”, page 31 - 40 for details)</i></p> <p><i>Two models for PhD recruitment was previously presented</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Model 1: Announcement for joint projects (call for projects)</i> ➤ <i>Model 2: Open call for PhD students</i> <p><u>Comments from SG:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Model 2 with open calls may be difficult due to the regulations of PhD recruitments in Sweden</i> - <i>Model 1 is challenging but will provide more impact for the DDLS program.</i> - <i>A hybrid model is also possible: SG will select projects and PI’s and after that we prepare a general call for students who will then be selected locally, but will have an opportunity to work with the selected PIs and their projects.</i> - <i>In other words, good projects are selected first and then PI’s are involved in the selection of the students. The PI-student relation is also important and therefore DDLS should not directly assign students to PI’s.</i> - <i>good students want to influence their projects so a dialogue between</i> 	<p><i>Presenter: Mojgan Seraji</i></p>

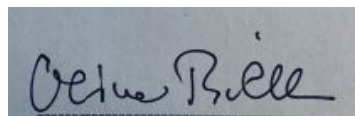
	<p><i>students and PI's is also crucial</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - create a fast track for PI's who already are part of the DDLS community? - Another idea is to group eligible projects into areas and then let students choose areas of interest. Project PI's can then call interested students to interviews - Several sites, such as the Nordic EMBL also use a rotation system with 2 or 3 placements before final position - WASP does regular PhD student announcements to projects approved by WASP. - In the forthcoming DDLS SG meetings, the steering group will define the model applied, define guidelines and the review processes of projects and students. <p><i>We will need to formulate a procedure for DDLS, Olli will be the point of contact to help prepare this.</i></p>	
5	<p>Data Centre new organisation</p> <p><i>A model for the new Data Centre (DC) organisation was presented and discussed. DC's organization today, where roles and responsibilities for leaders and staff in particular are poorly defined. At the same time, many assignments from the board to DC are documented in various board protocols since the start of DC in 2016. The new DC organisation aims to consolidate and clarify responsibilities and assignments, and to create a legal framework for IT and data for SciLifeLab as a whole through new steering documents, all in line with recommendations from the host university KTH's legal counsel. This will include clarification regarding the responsibility and mandate for the Head of DC.</i></p> <p><i>Since the Bioinformatics Platform, NBIS, also will provide services for bioinformatics and research data, the preparation of new DC steering documents should consider the NBIS activities to avoid overlap.</i></p> <p><i>An IT coordinator will be employed at DC in September who will work to ensure that operational work is well coordinated with RA:s and capabilities. DSN coordinators and DC representatives will also regularly meet with RA:s and capabilities.</i></p> <p><i>The work on a new DC organisation will be presented to the SciLifeLab board on September 21, with specific decisions to be discussed in the Nov meeting, after consultation with DDLS SG.</i></p>	<p><i>Presenter: Johan Rung</i></p>
6	<p>Update about the 2022 revised budget (see presentation "Aug 31_Steering group slides", page 51 - 55 for details)</p> <p><i>Developments contributing to the need to revise the data support budget are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Recruitments were delayed partly because of the extended process to select Data Science Nodes</i> 	<p><i>Presenters: Elvan Helander / Johan Rung</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Hardware investment processes were difficult to coordinate between the involved universities and because of the national VR decisions on SNIC/NAIS and its reorganization.</i> <p><i>Future plans for data support include; 1) initiate recruitments of DSN personnel towards the end of year 2022 2) participate in the planning of the special needs in life science for Berzelius and 3) undertake further investments in storage in phase 2 and 4) start work on Trusted Research Environments (TREs) and metadata systems.</i></p> <p><u><i>Working groups for budget preparation</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Recruitments (Titti Ekegren)</i> • <i>Data support and databases (Johan Rung)</i> • <i>Interactions with WASP (Ulrika Wallenquist)</i> • <i>Advanced bioinformatics support (WABI) including Cryo-EM (Björn Nystedt)</i> • <i>Program coordination, networking and research school (Heidi T Persson)</i> <p><i>Bolded areas will be revised in the 2022 budget.</i></p>	
7	<p>Preparation for budget 2023 (see presentation “Aug 31_Steering group slides”, page 63 - 66 for details)</p> <p><i>Presentation and discussion about the activities outlined in budget 2023. One comment was that this budget is very focused of research school funding and maybe more should be allocated to broader training initiatives that will then also serve the research school students.</i></p>	<p><i>Presenter: Elvan Helander</i></p>
8	<p>Update on DDLS fellow recruitment, phase 1, 1,5 and plans for 2.</p> <p><i>The first phase of the DDLS Fellow recruitments should be evaluated and a questionnaire is suggested to be sent to the partners to identify potential issues to be improved in the future. The second phase of DDLS Fellows recruitments needs to be initiated soon and the process presented to the National Refence group looks as following:</i></p> <p>Suggested timeline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Evaluation of recruitment phase 1 (Sept - Oct 2022)</i> • <i>Preparing a process document and update general texts (Oct-Dec 2022)</i> • <i>Partners prepare profiles for fellows (Jan – May 2023)</i> • <i>Approval of profiles (May 2023)</i> • <i>Coordinated International announcement of positions (June – Sept 2023)</i> • <i>Evaluation and selections according to SOPs at each partner organization supported by the DDLS Steering group representative (Sept - April 2023)</i> 	<p><i>Presenters: Olli Kallioniemi / recruitment WG</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of candidates by the SciLifeLab board (Sept - April 2023) • First DDLS fellows will accept offers (April 2024 onwards) <p>Note, the phase 2 funding of the program starts April 2024</p> <p><i>Post-meeting note: the three members of the current DDLS recruitments WG have been asked if they want to continue to be the DDLS recruitment contacts in phase 2. They have all accepted to continue this assignment.</i></p>	
9	<p>Update from RA-leads</p> <p><u>Precision Medicine & diagnostics RA:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a mini-symposium will be held at KI on Dec 12 - the RA will go on a roadshow together with GMS and SciLifeLab PM capability to universities across Sweden. <p><u>Cell & molecular biology RA:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - planning for a mini-symposium, date is yet to be decided - establishing contacts with the DSN in CMB (Chalmers) <p><u>Evolution & biodiversity RA:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mini-symposium in Gothenburg and online, Sept 8-9, a lunch-to-lunch hybrid meeting from Thursday to Friday <p><u>Epidemiology & biology of infection RA:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - December 6-7, 7-8 or 8-9 are the options for a lunch-to-lunch mini symposium in Gothenburg. The aim is a mainly attendance in person, in order to bring the fellows together, hear about their science plus 2 inspiring keynotes. Reach out to the broader community and inform about the future opportunities that DDLS will bring. 	Presenters: RA-leads
10	<p>Other issues</p> <p>No further issues. The chairman thanked all participants for a nice meeting!</p>	Presenter: Olli Kallioniemi



Olli Kallioniemi, chair of the meeting



Oliver Billker, Attending minutes