

DDLS Steering group meeting no. 28, 2023

Date: *November 14, 2023*

Time: *13.00 - 16.00*

Meeting room: *Earth, conference unit, entrance level, Tomtebodavägen 23A*

Zoom: <https://uu-se.zoom.us/j/63605883341>

Attending members:

Matts Karlsson (Linköping University)

Tuuli Lappalainen (KTH, Royal Institute of technology)

Erik Lindahl (Stockholm University)

Janne Lehtiö (Karolinska Institutet, §5–7)

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)

Margit Mahlapuu (chair, DDLS research area expert group in Cell and molecular biology)

Jenny Alfredsson (Head of Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Heidi Törmänen Persson (DDLS collaboration manager, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Titti Ekegren (DDLS coordinator, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Ulrika Wallenquist (DDLS coordinator, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Elvan Helander (DDLS controller, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Mojgan Seraji (Collaboration manager, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Johan Inganni (Communications officer, Operations Office SciLifeLab)

Björn Nystedt (Head of unit Bioinformatics Long-term Support, WABI)

Jessica Lindvall (Joint Head of Facility Support and Infrastructure NBIS)

Johan Rung (Head of SciLifeLab Data Centre)

Members not attending:

Oliver Billker (Umeå University, MIMS director)

Erik Kristiansson (Chalmers/ Göteborg University)

Niklas Blomberg (ELIXIR director)

Fredrik Ronquist (NRM, Swedish Museum of Natural History)

Next meeting: December 6, 2023

Agenda 2023-11-14

All documents including presentations from the meeting can be found on NextCloud:
<https://nextcloud.dc.scilifelab.se/s/pGz3KrFtL8JCYds>

1	<p>Meeting formalities</p> <p><i>Matts Karlsson was chosen to attend the minutes.</i></p> <p><i>The DDLS Steering group approved the previous minutes.</i></p>	<p><i>Presenter: Olli Kallioniemi</i></p> <p>Appendix: 1. Previous minutes, 231004</p>
2	<p>Directors update <i>(see presentation, "November 14_DDLS_Steering group slides" page 4-19 for details)</i></p> <p><u><i>The SciLifeLab board meeting, Nov 8 approved the following DDLS matters:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ <i>Recruitment Model for DDLS PhD Students</i> ✓ <i>Call for Academic PhD Projects</i> ✓ <i>Call for Industrial PhD Projects</i> ✓ <i>DDLS Phase I adjustment of budget</i> ✓ <i>DDLS Phase II budget and application to KAW</i> <p><u><i>Questions from the Board re: industrial PhDs:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>What is the definition of industrial DDLS PhD students</i> - <i>Are they to be employed by the industry?</i> - <i>Local recruitment or take part in the interantl call?</i> - <i>Payment of the extra costs?</i> - <i>Other conditions (open science?)</i> <p><i>The DDLS steering group discussed the industrial PhD positions and some highlights from the discussions were:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>4 years might be a long time for many SME's to commit to a PhD student</i> • <i>It is important that the PhD is employed by the industry</i> • <i>Hard to keep the academic perspective in industrial projects</i> • <i>We need a clear definition of an industrial PhD and be very clear about the criteria's when announcing the positions</i> • <i>Could we have academically employed PhD's closely linked to industry/SME's?</i> • <i>In the first call for industrial PhD's we will aim for 100% industrial employment. The model can always be rearranged if we do not get enough applicants or encounter other issues.</i> 	<p><i>Presenter: Olli Kallioniemi</i></p>

DDLS Steering group

	<p><u>Upcoming meetings and events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DDLS National Reference group meeting AND Launch of Call for DDLS PhD projects – Nov 22, 13:00 – 15:00 • SciLifeLab & DDLS fellows retreat, August 28-29, 2024 <p>DDLS Annual conference 2024 The planned dates are November, 13-14th after the DDLS SG on-site meeting on Nov 12 in Stockholm. Please mark your calendars! We should start to discuss the theme of the conference and nominate a Scientific Committee. One suggested theme is Data handling?</p>	
3	<p>Update from RA</p> <p><u>Cell & molecular biology RA:</u> Meetings have been held with the DSN at GU/Chalmers and the CMB RA experts' group. Discussions will include a community survey and process for project prioritization. The CMB RA experts' group will be mentors for the DDLS fellows in the RA and their PhD students. Many DDLS fellows want more teaching opportunities. The SciLifeLab training Hub can help the fellows to organize courses and trainings on a national level.</p>	<p>Presenter: RA-leads</p>
4	<p>Strategic cross-disciplinary projects (see presentation, "November 14_DDLS_Steering group slides" page 21-24 for details)</p> <p>Creation of WASP-DDLS joint NEST environments is a strategic way to address specific needs in the community. WASP already have NESTs but not in life science. A limited number of people in WASP are eligible to apply for NESTs and are ready and available to collaborate with life scientists. In contrast, the life science community is huge, hence there is an imbalance. Also, many computational scientists on the DDLS side already have all the data scientist and computational expertise by themselves, and often they do not belong to WASP universities. Hence, for a number of reasons, the WASP-DDLS joint calls do not work for many of the most advanced computational experts in life science. Maybe not limit collaborations to only include WASP?</p> <p>In the budget based on the idea of a joint collaboration (and financing) with WASP, the suggested funding for each NEST would be 4 MSEK/yr/project or 2MSEK/yr/program. If more than two participating Universities apply, the money will be sliced quite thin. It is important that this won't become funding for just 4 individual PI's but assure that the money is used to create a network with community activities. Infrastructures should also be invited to the community building</p> <p>The DDLS SG suggests to do this in a 2-step process. Firstly, a launch of a community building program call and secondly go for the grand challenge NEST call based on the topics received in the community building call and the collaborations formed therein.</p>	<p>Presenter: Jenny Alfredsson</p>

5	<p>RSMG vice members</p> <p><i>The DDLS SG is positive to the general idea of vice members backing up the representatives in the research school management group.</i></p> <p>ACTION: <i>the DDLS SG approve the suggested vice members presented</i></p>	<p><i>Presenter: Ulrika Wallenquist</i></p>
6	<p>Visions for the future of the DDLS program</p> <p><i>This meeting focused on discussion about how to manage and converge the interests of Data Science Nodes (DSNs), research areas and Universities.</i></p> <p><i>There is a need for clarity of the concept of the DSNs, which are not just simple support functions. The national infra platforms and Data Centre will be connected to all DSNs. The goals and definition of the DSNs need to be defined and evaluated by the DDLS SG and RA expert groups. A process for project prioritization needs to be formalized.</i></p> <p><i>We will need to create a new detailed plan for the concept of the DSNs across all research areas. Then each of the DSNs in collaborations with their RA expert group should prepare a 1-year actions plan as well as 3 year plans and provide these to the DDLS SG for evaluation.</i></p> <p>ACTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>General plan for all the Data Science Nodes. To be prepared by Johan Rung. Use the documents developed originally during the call for DSNs as a base.</i> ➤ <i>The 1 yr./ 3 yr. action plan for PMD-DSN will be presented by Janne Lehtiö at the DDLS SG meeting on January 24, 2024. Include also the WABI part.</i> ➤ <i>The 1 yr./ 3 yr. action plan for CMB-DSN will be presented by Margit Mahlapuu at the DDLS SG meeting on March 11, 2024</i> ➤ <i>Other DSNs will develop their plans accordingly, building on the experience of the PMD DSN at KI, which is more advanced already, as well as its coordination with DC, WABI, host univs, RA experts and other local and national stakeholders.</i> 	<p><i>Presenter: Olli Kallioniemi</i></p>
7	<p>Other issues</p> <p><i>No further issues. The chairman thanked all participants for a nice meeting!</i></p>	<p><i>Presenter: Olli Kallioniemi</i></p>

Olli Kallioniemi, chair of the meeting

Matts Karlsson, Attending minutes