

## **DDLS Steering group meeting no. 40, 2025**

**Date:** April 24, 2025

**Time:** 13.00 - 16.00

**Zoom:** <https://uu-se.zoom.us/j/62941482663?from=addon>

### **Attending members:**

*Oliver Billker (Umeå University, MIMS director)*

*Erik Kristiansson (Chalmers/ Göteborg University)*

*Tuuli Lappalainen (KTH, Royal Institute of technology, §1 - §4, §7 - §13))*

*Janne Lehtiö (Karolinska Institutet)*

*Sara Hallin (SLU, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences)*

### **Other participants:**

*Olli Kallioniemi (Director of the DDLS research program, (§5 partly), Chair of the meeting*

*Jan Ellenberg (Director SciLifeLab)*

*Margit Mahlapuu (chair, DDLS research area expert group in Cell and molecular biology, §1 - §7)*

*Olof Emanuelsson (DDLS Research school director, §6 - §9)*

*Peetra Magnusson (DDLS Research School director, §6 - §13)*

*Jenny Alfredsson (Head of Operations Office SciLifeLab)*

*Johan Rung (Head of SciLifeLab Data Centre)*

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

*Titti Ekegren (DDLS coordinator, Operations Office SciLifeLab)*

*Ulrika Wallenquist (DDLS coordinator, 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)*

*Wojtek Potrzebowski (Data Science Coordinator, SciLifeLab Data Centre)*

*Erika Erksam (Event coordinator, Operations Office SciLifeLab, §1 - §4)*

### **Members not attending:**

*Matts Karlsson (Linköping University)*

*Erik Lindahl (Stockholm University)*

*Carolina Wählby (Uppsala University)*

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

## Agenda 2025-04-25

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

<https://nextcloud.dc.scilifelab.se/s/fcTj8HfNotwSbxb>

1	<p><b>Meeting formalities</b></p> <p><i>Erik Kristiansson was chosen to attend the minutes.</i></p> <p><i>The DDLS Steering group <b>approved</b> the previous minutes.</i></p>	<p><i>Presenter:</i> <i>Olli Kallioniemi</i></p> <p><b>Appendix:</b> <b>1. Previous minutes, 25-03-13</b></p>
2	<p><b>Director's update</b> (See presentation "April 24_DDLS SG", page 3 - 21 for details)</p> <p><i>Welcome Jan Ellenberg, new DDLS director from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.</i></p> <p><i>The NEST projects proposed for funding were approved by the SciLifeLab board at the meeting held on April 2. Project participants have been informed.</i></p> <p><i>The issues raised by the DDLS fellows, which were previously discussed, have now been compiled into an action summary that will be shared with the DDLS National Reference Group and the DDLS fellows.</i></p> <p><i>A list of "Minimal Requirements" for departments and universities hosting DDLS fellows has also been prepared and will be communicated to the relevant departments ahead of the next recruitment round.</i></p> <p><u>Assignments:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The DDLS Recruitment Working Group has been expanded to include Sara Hallin and Tuuli Lappalainen. Primarily to support the ongoing re-recruitment of DDLS fellows from Phase 2, but also for valuable input on recruitment 3.0</i></li> <li><i>Lukas Käll has agreed to lead the DDLS Postdoc Program. He will be responsible for planning and coordinating the first round of recruitment and will report to the DDLS Steering Group/Director and the DDLS Research School Management Group. He is appointed to this role for the duration of Phase 2.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>At the next DDLS National Reference Group meeting on May 8, 2025, the main agenda items will include updates on the DDLS Fellow Recruitment 3.0 and the plans for the DDLS Postdoc Program.</i></p>	<p><i>Presenter:</i> <i>Olli Kallioniemi</i></p>

3	<p><b>DDLS Annual conference</b> (See presentation “April 24_DDLS SG”, page 23 - 25 for details)</p> <p><i>Presentation of the planned agenda for the DDLS annual conference, lunch to lunch on the 12-13<sup>th</sup> of November at UKK in Uppsala. Pre-conference activities are planned before lunch on the 12<sup>th</sup> and sessions with training and hands-on workshops after lunch on the 13<sup>th</sup>.</i></p> <p><i>Practical aspects of the program were discussed and some comments raised:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Schedule presentations from all 6 remaining DDLS fellows from phase 1 that haven't presented yet</i></li> <li>• <i>Start day 2 with a keynote speaker, then divide into parallel sessions</i></li> <li>• <i>Arrange a panel talk to introduce our newest fellows</i></li> <li>• <i>Bring the RDCP-presentation into plenum</i></li> <li>• <i>Connection to supercomputer and NAISS could be a subject for a plenary key-note talk</i></li> </ul>	<p><i>Presenter:</i> <i>Erika Erkstam</i></p>
4	<p><b>DDLS visual identity</b></p> <p><i>The DDLS visual guidelines are finalized and published on the SciLifeLab community web site. Read more: <a href="#">Visual identity - SciLifeLab</a></i></p> <p><i>Templates, such as:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Start page &amp; Acknowledgement template (PPT)</i></li> <li>• <i>Banners</i></li> <li>• <i>Research area specific backgrounds</i></li> <li>• <i>General DDLS Background</i></li> <li>• <i>Example poster / print</i></li> <li>• <i>Example name badges</i></li> <li>• <i>Knut and Alice Wallenberg logos</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Can be downloaded from the site.</i></p>	<p><i>Presenter:</i> <i>Johan Inganni</i></p>
5	<p><b>Expression of interest call for Research Data Community Projects (RDCP)</b> (See presentation “April 24_DDLS SG”, page 27 - 37 for details)</p> <p><i>An update on the call and evaluation process was presented.</i></p> <p><i>Due to conflicts of interest, the following members of the Steering Group left the meeting during discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Olli Kallioniemi</i></li> <li>• <i>Tuuli Lappalainen</i></li> <li>• <i>Sara Hallin</i></li> <li>• <i>Janne Lehtiö</i></li> </ul>	<p><i>Presenters:</i> <i>Olli Kallioniemi,</i> <i>Heidi T. Persson</i></p>

	<p><i>Proposals from the research areas of Precision Medicine &amp; Diagnostics, Epidemiology &amp; Biology of Infection, and Cell &amp; Molecular Biology have been evaluated and prioritized by the reviewers. Applications from the Evolution and Biodiversity research area are still under review.</i></p> <p><i>Heidi T. Persson lead the discussion of the top-ranked proposals.</i></p> <p><b>Action:</b> <i>The DDLS Steering Group agrees to submit one prioritized proposal per research area to the SciLifeLab Board for decision. The top-ranked proposal within the Evolution and Biodiversity research area will be submitted for decision once the external review is complete.</i></p>	
6	<p><b>Update from DDLS Program Office</b> (See presentation “April 24_DDLS SG”, page 38 - 45 for details)</p> <p><i>An outline of the Phase 3 application, including the working group and proposed next steps, was presented. Any strategic changes will be discussed with the DDLS Steering Group.</i></p> <p><i>The survey sent to DDLS partners is still open, and several partners are currently preparing their responses.</i></p> <p><u>Please note</u> that It will be possible to attend the next DDLS SG meeting (June 10) in person at Campus Solna. After the meeting, the SG is invited to a Thank You Reception for Olli, followed by dinner.</p>	<p><i>Presenter:</i> <i>Heidi T. Persson</i></p>
7	<p><b>Presentation from RA leads</b> (See presentation “April 24_DDLS SG”, page 6 - 78 for details)</p> <p><i>Update from RA-leads focused on the issues:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1. Composition/new members of RA expert groups</i></li> <li><i>2. What kind of activities would you plan for if you got extra funding in phase 3 for your RA?</i></li> <li><i>3. How can your RA be engaged in the postdoc program?</i></li> </ol> <p><i>The Cell and Molecular Biology (CMB) Research Area is looking to add 1–2 new members to its RA expert group. While the group is free to select new members independently, the CMB RA is also open to coordinating a joint call for new members in collaboration with other RA expert groups. Similarly, the Epidemiology and Biology of Infection RA supports the idea of rotating members within its RA expert group and is in favor of a joint call.</i></p> <p><i>More information from each RA can be found in the presentation material.</i></p>	<p><i>Presenters:</i> <i>RA-leads</i></p>

8	<p><b>Update from Research school</b> (See presentation “April 24_DDLS SG”, page 79 - 90 for details)</p> <p><i>The DDLS Research school (RS) Annual Meeting and kick-off for the RS at Djurönäset was well attended and highly appreciated. Three full days for the PhD- students to meet, network and also attend the first course of the RS.</i></p> <p><i>A PhD student Council is being formed. This council will act as a contact node between the RSMG and the students, contribute to the RS development and suggest and/or arrange social activities during the annual meetings</i></p> <p><i>The DDLS PhD Project call 2024 is ongoing and now in the phase of advertising for PhD-students. Ideally new PhD-students start no later than October 2025.</i></p> <p><i>The need for an admission lead for the DDLS PhD Project call 2025 was discussed. This is an intensive role for a few months each year and needs to be agreed upon in good time before the next call.</i></p> <p><i>A DDLS Research School Curriculum Working Group (RCW) has been set up to take overall responsibility for the RS curriculum</i></p> <p><i>Next DDLS RS Annual meeting for PhD-students and supervisors will be on 17-20 March 2026.</i></p>	<p><i>Presenters: Research School Directors</i></p>
9	<p><b>How to proceed with the postdoc program</b></p> <p><i>Lukas Käll has accepted the position as DDLS Research School Director for Postdoc Program. As newly appointed Lukas will be invited to the upcoming NRG-meeting, May 8 and to the next DDLS SG meeting to present his vision for the program.</i></p> <p><u><i>Comments from the DDLS Steering Group:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>While mobility should be encouraged, categorically excluding all applicants from the same department may not always be the best approach for nurturing talent. E.g. Some may have just undertaken mobility and are in their first year in a new place.</i></li> <li><i>Identifying high-quality Principal Investigators (PIs) may be a limiting factor in the recruitment process.</i></li> <li><i>Projects should not be too narrowly defined; instead, flexibility should be allowed so that the postdoc and PI can collaboratively shape the project.</i></li> <li><i>Allowing short-term prior work with the PI could be seen as beneficial, as it can lead to stronger and more well-aligned project proposals.</i></li> <li><i>The program must remain agile in order to respond effectively to the rapidly evolving job market, such as the situation in the US.</i></li> </ul>	<p><i>Presenter: Olli Kallioniemi</i></p>

10	<b>Data Science Nodes</b>  <i>AI and data science are key strategic areas within SciLifeLab, including the work of the Data Science Nodes. To ensure alignment, the Data Science Nodes need to coordinate and collaborate with other data-focused facilities across the organization through clear strategies and projects. Therefore, the scope and activities of the Data Science Nodes will require further discussion and planning before formal instructions can be defined.</i>	Presenters: <i>Jan Ellenberg,  Johan Rung</i>
11	<b>Update from Data Centre</b>  <i>This item was postponed until next meeting</i>	Presenter: <i>Johan Rung</i>
12	<b>DDLS Fellow recruitment 3.0</b>  <i>The DDLS Recruitment Working Group, together with the SciLifeLab Director and the DDLS Director, will convene after this Steering Group meeting to discuss the matter. The materials for the DDLS Fellow Recruitment 3.0 will be presented at the NRG meeting on May 8.</i>	Presenter: <i>Olli Kallioniemi</i>
13	<b>Other issues</b>  <i>No further issues.  The chairman thanked all participants for a nice meeting!</i>	Presenter: <i>Olli Kallioniemi</i>

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Olli Kallioniemi, chair of the meeting



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Erik Kristiansson, Attending minutes

*Next meeting: June 10, August 27, October 2, November 11, December 15, 2025*

# Signature page

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