

The national board of Science for Life Laboratory

Minutes from Board Meeting no. 78, May 21, 2025

Present board members

Ylva Engström (SU, chair), Anna Arnqvist Björklund (UmU), Martin Bergö (KI), Mats Larhed (UU), Jonas Larsson (LU), Mikael Lindström (KTH, §1-§6a), Carina Mallard (GU), Lena Mäler (SU), Christoph Varenhorst (Astra Zeneca)

Other participants

Andreas Muranyi Scheutz (GMS, Region Stockholm, §7-§16), Gunilla Westergren-Thorsson (LU), Jan Ellenberg (Director), Mia Phillipson (Co-Director), Annika J. Jensen (Infrastructure Director), Jenny Alfredsson (OO, Head of operations), Sandra Falck (OO, Vice head of operations) Olli Kallioniemi (DDLs Director, §6- §6a), Ulf Ribacke (UU, PLP Capability Lead, §3) Alice Sollazzo (OO, §3), Disa Larsson Hammarlöf (OO, §11-§12), Anna Lidin (OO, §1-§6a), Heidi Törmänen Persson (OO, §1-§6a), Erika Erksam (OO, §6-§6a), Titti Ekegren (OO, secretary), Åsa Westeson (OO, secretary)

1. Meeting formalities

Ylva Engström welcomed the participants and opened the meeting.

Note: One decision item was added to the agenda: *§4a Prolongation of Platform Director (PD) and Platform Coordination Officer (PCO) mandates.*

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab board appointed Martin Bergö to approve the minutes of the meeting, in addition to the chair.

The SciLifeLab Board approved the minutes from meeting no 77, April 2, 2025.

The SciLifeLab Board approved the agenda.

2. Financial update

Jenny Alfredsson informed that the tender process for a Grant Management System has been completed. A presentation was also given on the process and preparation of the DDLs Phase 3 application and budget, to be submitted to KAW by 1 November 2025. Furthermore, the funding streams to SciLifeLab and the handling of the accumulated surplus were also presented and discussed.

3. PLP – Budget, Scientific Advisory Board, Calls for technology development

HS-2025-1286, HS-2025-1287

Ulf Ribacke and Alice Sollazzo provided an overview of the SciLifeLab strategic area Pandemic Laboratory Preparedness (PLP) and presented the suggested budget for 2025 (§3 Appendix A) and the composition of the PLP Scientific Advisory Board (§3 Appendix B).

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the PLP budget for 2025 according to §3 Appendix A.

The SciLifeLab Board approved the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) for PLP 2025-2028 according to §3 Appendix B.

The SciLifeLab Board approved the launch of the call “National open call for pandemic preparedness projects” during 2025.

4. Infrastructure update

Annika Jenmalm Jensen gave an update about the infrastructure and the progress of the Integrated Data Services, approved by the board at meeting no. 76. At the present meeting the board was asked to conditionally approve a proposed distribution of funds from 1 July until 31 December 2025, see §5.

Annika also presented plans for platform-strengthening initiatives, the 2025 Expensive Instrument Call, and the next round of technology development projects (TPD), both which will be part of the 2026 budget.

The board wants to see the plan and call process before taking a decision about new budget allocation for the TDP call.

4a. Prolongation of Platform Director (PD) and Platform Coordination Officer (PCO) mandates

At the board meeting no 75 (December 2024) the assignments for platform directors and platform coordination officers were prolonged until 2025-04-02, awaiting final governmental decisions on expected increased SciLifeLab funding and potentially linked conditions. At this meeting, the Board was asked to further prolong the assignments as the funding decisions for 2025-2028 still are pending.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the extension of appointments for current Platform Directors, Platform Co-directors and Platform Coordination Officers until September 30, 2025.

5. SciLifeLab Budget

VC-2024-0086

Jenny Alfredsson presented the ongoing work with preparing the 2025 budget. The spring amendment budget “vårändringsbudget” 2025 has not yet been decided by the Government and the additional 90 MSEK announced in the Research and Innovation Bill, included in the spring amendment budget, is therefore not yet available. After approval from the Government, scheduled for June 11, 2025, the letter of appropriation will be sent to KTH and the extra funding released and a conditional decision was therefore put forward.

Conditional decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the SciLifeLab budget for 2025 according to §5 Appendix A, conditional on the funds becoming available in the letter of appropriation to KTH.

6. Update from DDLS Director

Olli Kallioniemi updated on the recent development and actions within the DDLS program.

One extra topic was raised related to a sensitive matter with a DDLS Fellow that might want to leave the current position at one of the DDLS partners to continue the DDLS fellowship at another DDLS partner. KAW has given preliminary consent to this transfer but needs to receive a formal application from the DDLS fellow to decide. Given this issue is formally approved by KAW, the SciLifeLab board needs to decide on the transfer.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board delegated to the Chair of the board to take any necessary decisions for transfer of the DDLS funding designated to this DDLS fellow.

6a. Research Data Community Projects (RDCP): Call for Expression of Interest

VC-2024-0088

Olli Kallioniemi presented the outline of the call for Expression of Interest within the Research Data Community Projects. Twelve applications were received and four of them were suggested for funding (§6a Appendix C). Based on the reviewers’ feedback, the four top-ranked applications will be asked to revise their project proposals accordingly.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab board approved to fund the four prioritized proposals according to §6a Appendix C, with 1 MSEK each under the condition that the applicants revise their proposals based on reviewer feedback and submit the required supporting documents.

The SciLifeLab board approved to delegate to the Chair of the SciLifeLab board to approve the final, amended proposals.

7. Information from director, incl. Quarterly update

Jan Ellenberg gave an update on the ongoing work related to the strategic areas identified as focus areas for SciLifeLab. An update was also provided on the actions and news from all SciLifeLab sites during the first quarter of 2025.

8. SciLifeLab New organization & meeting structure

VC-2024-0079

Jan Ellenberg summarized the process leading to the suggested new organization of the national management and meeting structure.

The new Strategic Management Group will replace the Management Group and the Strategic Council, which will be concluded. The current "*Rules of Procedure*", Arbetsordning för Nationellt centrum för livsvetenskaplig forskning (dnr: V-2022-0562, 2022-11-01) needs to be revised to reflect the new organization and meeting structure.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the new organization of the national management, and the composition of the Strategic Management Group. The changes will take effect from 1 June 2025. The section 4.1 "Direktörens ledningsråd" in the "SciLifeLab Arbetsordning" will be updated accordingly and decided on at a future board meeting.

9. Operations Office leadership

Jenny Alfredsson and Sandra Falck left the room for this item due to conflict of interest.

Jan Ellenberg presented the role of the Operations Office and emphasized the importance of continued professional support in line with a growing organization.

Jenny Alfredsson, currently Head of Operations, will be resigning as of August 11, 2025, and Sandra Falck – currently Vice Head of Operations – was suggested to be assigned as Head of Operations from August 11.

The board strongly supports that Sandra Falck is assigned as Head of Operations, and delegates to the Chair of the board to take the formal decisions, after discussion with the University Director at KTH.

A recruitment process to replace Jenny Alfredsson's position at SciLifeLab, Uppsala University has been initiated. This person is expected to become the new Vice Head of Operations. Discussions are ongoing to assign an acting Vice Head of Operations in the interim period.

10. AlphaCell presentation

Jan Ellenberg provided a presentation on the new project AlphaCell and the composition of its Scientific Advisory Group.

Representatives from KAW will be invited to the SciLifeLab board meeting in September, to present their vision for the project.

11. Annual SciLifeLab Group Leader call 2025

HS-2025-0353

Disa Larsson Hammarlöf gave an update on the work with upcoming second call for SciLifeLab Group Leader applications and summarized how the insights and learnings from the first call have been used to improve the process. The second SciLifeLab Group Leader call will be launched in June and the SciLifeLab board decisions on nominations will be made at the board meeting in December.

12. Updates on SciLifeLab MSCA-COFUND postdoc program PULSE

VC-2024-0062

Disa Larsson Hammarlöf and Mia Phillipson reported on coordination, communication activities, training, evaluation process and timeline ahead, concerning the SciLifeLab MSCA-COFUND postdoc program PULSE, that started autumn 2024.

13. Translation to healthcare

Mia Phillipson updated on the work on strengthening the translation to healthcare, which is a strategic priority for SciLifeLab. Dialogues with key stakeholders across academia, healthcare and policy makers, as well as the formation of a strategic working group within SciLifeLab are on-going.

14. Data services & Interaction with E-infrastructure

Jan Ellenberg reported on the initiative to develop an AI and Data Strategy for SciLifeLab. A major first step has been to plan the integrated data service for SciLifeLab's infrastructure. A roadmap is being prepared to drive the implementation.

15. Upcoming calls; SFO:s and Excellence clusters for groundbreaking technology

Jan Ellenberg summarized the upcoming national SFO calls and the calls for Excellence clusters for groundbreaking technology, which were part of the Government's Research Bill, and that are both of interest to SciLifeLab as a partner to the universities. Discussions with the SciLifeLab founding universities to exchange views on the potential to respond jointly to the calls are ongoing.

16. Other items

Ylva Engström presented the suggested dates for SciLifeLab board meetings in 2026:

- Wednesday February 11, 8.30-12 (Zoom)
- Wednesday April 15, 10-12 (Zoom)
- Tuesday June 2, 10-17 + dinner

- Tuesday September 22, kl 8.30-12 (Zoom)
- Wednesday October 21, 10-12 (Zoom)
- Wednesday November 18, 10-17 + mingle or dinner

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the suggested dates for board meetings 2026, except for the April meeting, for which a doodle will be sent out to find the best option.

Ylva Engström concluded the board meeting by thanking Jenny, who will be leaving SciLifeLab in August. Ylva stressed that Jenny has been instrumental for the organization of many support and organizational functions for a long time, and for forming and structuring the work and organization of the SciLifeLab operations office.

Closure of the meeting

Ylva Engström thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

Upcoming meetings

- Wednesday September 17th, 8.30-12.00, (Zoom)
- Wednesday October 15th, 10.00-12.00, (Zoom)
- Wednesday November 19th, 10.00-17.00, (on-site Solna)
- Wednesday December 17th, 10.00-12.00, (Zoom)

Åsa Westeson, secretary

Titti Ekegren, secretary

Minutes approved by:

Ylva Engström, chair

Martin Bergö

SciLifeLab Total budget PLP 2025

2025

PANDEMIC LABORATORY PREPAREDNESS (PLP)	
Scientific Lead- Dr. Ulf Ribacke, 50%	800
Scientific-Lead- Prof. Staffan Svärd, 25%	500
Coordination, Dr. Alice Sollazzo , 50%	600
Call for technology development and pandemic preparedness at SciLifeLab infrastructure	8 000
Coordinator at SciLifeLab infrastructure	2 000
National open calls for pandemic preparedness projects	12 000
Data Centre, Pathogens portal	2 500
BSL3 network and facilities	3 600
Enviromental surveillance of water	2 000
Collaboration with SciLifeLab capabilities	1 000
Other research efforts, activities and meetings	610
Annual PLP Network Meeting, August 2025	645
Sum costs	34 255
PLP funding	32 579
Sum remaining PLP budget UU	142
Sum remaining KTH	1 534
Remaining	0

Scientific advisory board for SciLifeLab Strategic Area Pandemic Laboratory Preparedness (PLP-SAB) 2025 -2028

Namn	Efternamn	Affiliation	Expertise
Jan	Albert	Karolinska Institutet/ Karoliska University Hospital	Infectious Diseases/Virology/Infection Control
Niklas	Arnberg	Umeå University/ Virus- och Pandemifonden	Virology/Clinical Microbiology/Host Cell Interactions
Dan	Andersson	Uppsala University/ Uppsala Antibiotic Center	Microbiology/Medical Bacteriology/Antimicrobial Resistance
Sara	Byfors	The Public Health Agency of Sweden	Microbiology/Infection Control/Public Health Policy and Regulation
Matti	Sällberg	Karolinska Institutet	Vaccinology/Virology/Immunotherapy
Ann	Lindberg	Swedish Medical Products Agency (Läkemedelsverket)	Veterinary Epidemiology/Population Medicine/Antimicrobial Resistance
Jens	Mattsson	Swedish Defence Research Agency, FOI	Microbiology/Parasitology/Crisis Management/Biological Warfare
Annika	Jenmalm Jensen	Karolinska Institutet SciLifeLab	Drug discovery/Pharma biotech/Cutting-edge technologies
Mia	Phillipsson	Uppsala University SciLifeLab	Physiology/Drug Development/Immunology/Microbiology
Johan	Rung	Uppsala University/ SciLifeLab	Bioinformatics/Genomics/Transcriptomics/Big Data/Data services and Data systems

SciLifeLab Budget 2025 (kSEK)

	2024	2025	Extra July 1–Dec 31, 2025*	Tentative 2026**
INFRASTRUCTURE				
Genomics	57 958	57 958	1 521	61 000
Ancient DNA	3 105	3 105	948	5 000
National Genomics Infrastructure (NGI)	52 303	43 303	348	44 000
NGI; Single Cell National Network	1 000			
Platform Director	150	150		150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200		200
Strategic Platform budget	1 200	1 200	225	1 650
NGI; IDS 10 MSEK existing funds		10 000		10 000
Clinical Genomics	16 345	18 345	557	18 784
Clinical Genomics Gothenburg	2 174	2 174	163	2 500
Clinical Genomics Linköping	828	828		828
Clinical Genomics Lund	2 174	2 174	163	2 500
Clinical Genomics Stockholm	5 175	5 175		4 500
Clinical Genomics Umeå	828	828		828
Clinical Genomics Uppsala	2 588	2 588	106	2 800
Clinical Genomics Örebro	828	828		828
Platform Director	150	150		150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200		200
Strategic Platform budget	1 400	1 400	125	1 650
IDS, new funds		2 000		2 000
Proteomics	16 223	18 223	3 889	26 000
Affinity Proteomics	6 210	6 210	2 144	13 500
Autoimmunity and Serology Profiling	3 002	3 002		
Global Proteomics and Proteogenomics	3 623	3 623	439	4 500
Glycoproteomics and MS Proteomics	2 588	2 588	456	3 500
Clinical Mass Spectrometry Facility Lund (new Unit from 2025-07-01)			500	1 000
Platform Director	150	150		150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200		200
Strategic Platform budget	450	450	350	1 150
IDS, new funds		2 000		2 000

Metabolomics and Exposomics	7 846	9 846	1 077	12 000
Chalmers Mass Spectrometry Infrastructure	2 174	2 174	413	3 000
Exposomics	2 588	2 588	258	3 000
Swedish Metabolomics Centre	2 484	2 484	206	3 000
Platform Director	150	150		150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200		200
Strategic Platform budget	250	250	200	650
IDS, new funds		2 000		2 000
Spatial Biology	12 101	14 101	2 200	18 500
In Situ Sequencing	3 105	3 105	698	4 500
Spatial Mass Spectrometry	2 588	2 588	456	3 500
Spatial Proteomics	4 658	4 658	421	5 500
Platform Director	150	150		150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200		200
Strategic Platform budget	1 400	1 400	625	2 650
IDS, new funds		2 000		2 000
Cellular and Molecular Imaging	20 531	22 531	3 185	28 900
Cryo-EM	11 903	11 903	1 549	15 000
Integrated Microscopy Technologies	6 728	6 728	886	8 500
NanoSIMS (new Unit from 2025-07-01)			750	1 500
Platform Director	150	150		150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200		200
Strategic Platform budget	1 550	1 550		1 550
IDS, new funds		2 000		2 000
Integrated Structural Biology	7 949	9 949	1 026	12 000
Structural Proteomics	2 588	2 588	456	3 500
Swedish NMR Centre	4 761	4 761	370	5 500
Platform Director	150	150		150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200		200
Strategic Platform budget	250	250	200	650
IDS, new funds		2 000		2 000
Chemical Biology and Genome Engineering	12 910	14 910	2 545	20 000
Chemical Biology Consortium Sweden	6 210	6 210	1 395	9 000
Chemical Proteomics	2 588	2 588	456	3 500
CRISPR Functional Genomics	3 312	3 312	594	4 500
Platform Director	150	150		150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200		200
Strategic Platform budget	450	450	100	650
IDS, new funds		2 000		2 000
Bioinformatics	29 760	35 000	0	35 000
<i>To be distributed to units AIDA, BIIF, SCoRE, SIT</i>		21 000		21 000
AIDA Data Hub	2 070			
BioImage Informatics	3 726			
Support, Infrastructure and Training/Support for Computational Resources	21 114			
Strategic Platform budget	2 500			
IDS 8,76 MSEK existing funds		8 760		14 000
IDS, new funds		5 240		
Sum	181 623	200 863	16 000	232 184

* Conditional on funds becoming available in the letter of appropriation to KTH

** Tentative board decision in November 2025

	2024	2025	2025*
INFRASTRUCTURE			
Infrastructure	181 623	200 863	16 000
National site Gothenburg	1 000	1 000	
National site Lund	1 000	1 000	
National site Umeå	1 000	1 000	
National site Linköping	1 000	1 000	
Drug Discovery and Development (incl new modality)	59 224	58 784	
OligoNova	4 000	4 000	
SCILIFELAB INITIATIVES			
Precision Medicine Capability inkl. TEF	5 650	725	
Planetary Biology Capability	3 150	650	2 950
Infrastructure Expensive Instruments	22 595	13 429	
Training hub	2 863	2 650	
Data Centre	10 800	9 000	
IDS, new funds		5 000	
NATIONAL OPERATING COSTS			
National Operating Costs	63 644	68 844	
Total costs	357 548	367 945	
Funding NAT	287 252	297 171	
Funding LÄK	59 061	61 086	
Surplus initiative NAT	8 000	9 688	
Surplus initiative LÄK	1 800		
Sum	-1 435	0	

RDCP 2025- proposals suggested for funding

Proposal	Proposal title	DDL Research Area	Name of Coordinating PI	Affiliation of coordinating PI	Names, affiliations of Co-PIs
RDCP2025:017	Microscopy Foundation Model & AI-Ready Data Hub for Smart Microscopy	Data-Driven Cell and molecular biology	Wei Ouyang	KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Hjalmar Brismar, KTH Gisele Miranda, KTH Juliette Griffie, SU
RDCP2025:015	MOSAIC: Multi-Omics Spatial Archive and Interactive Collection	Data-Driven Cell and molecular biology Data-Driven Precision Medicine and Diagnostics	Carolina Wählby	Dept. Information Technology & SciLifeLab, UU	Mats Nilsson, SU Joakim Lundeberg, KTH, Charlotte Stadler, KTH, Per Andrén, UU,
RDCP2025:010	CRITICAL MICROBES – Comprehensive Research on Infectious Complications Across the Lifespan – MICROBiology Epidemiology in Sweden	Data-Driven Epidemiology & Biology of infection	Anne-Marie Fors Connolly	Umeå University	Dr. Sara Kalucza, Umeå University: Dr. Helena Nyström, Umeå University: Dr. Tianyan Song, Umeå University: Prof. Niklas Arnberg, Umeå University:
RDCP2025:008	Swedish Metabarcoding Network (SMN)	Data-Driven Evolution and biodiversity	Tobias Andermann	Uppsala University	Anders Andersson, KTH, Maria Kahlert, SLU, Fredrik Ronquist, NRM, Anna Székely, SLU,

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