

## The national board of Science for Life Laboratory

## Minutes from Board Meeting no. 81, November 19, 2025

Campus Solna

#### **Present board members**

Ylva Engström (SU, chair), Anna Arnqvist Björklund (UMU), Martin Bergö (KI), Mats Larhed (UU, by Zoom §6-§11), Jonas Larsson (LU), Mikael Lindström (KTH), Carina Mallard (GU, §1-§7), Lena Mäler (SU)

#### **Absent**

Christoph Varenhorst (Astra Zeneca)

#### Other participants

Andreas Muranyi Scheutz (GMS, Region Stockholm), Gunilla Westergren-Thorsson (LU), Jan Ellenberg (Director), Mia Phillipson (Co-Director), Annika J. Jensen (Infrastructure Director), Sandra Falck (OO, Head of operations), Anna Lidin (OO, §1-5), Disa Larsson Hammarlöf (OO, §6a) Peetra Magnusson (DDLS Research School director, §6), Olof Emanuelsson (DDLS Research School director, §6), Lukas Käll (DDLS Research School director, §6), Heidi Törmänen Persson (OO, §6), Anna Frejd (OO §9) Göran Sandberg (KAW, by Zoom §10) Titti Ekegren (OO), Åsa Westeson (OO, secretary)

### Meeting formalities

Ylva Engström welcomed the participants and opened the meeting.

#### Decisions:

The SciLifeLab board appointed Mikael Lindström to approve the minutes of the meeting, in addition to the chair.

The SciLifeLab Board approved the minutes from meeting no 80, October 15, 2025.

The SciLifeLab Board approved the agenda.

## 2. Update from Director

Jan Ellenberg reported on the ongoing work within the organization, emphasizing the growing data centric operations and ongoing recruitment of data scientists as well as AI specialists. A Quarterly update focusing on highlights from Q3 2025 followed.



## 3. Finance and budget

### 3a. SciLifeLab budget 2026

DNR: HS-2025-2422

Sandra Falck presented the yearly financial cycle, the overall budget framework and the different funding streams to SciLifeLab.

The national SciLifeLab budget includes the total budget for the NAT and LÄK (earmarked funding for Drug Discovery and Development) funding streams. The national SciLifeLab budget consists of three parts; infrastructure, SciLifeLab initiatives, National operating costs.

#### Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the SciLifeLab budget for 2026, according to §3a Appendix A.

# 3b. Distribution of LÄK funding to Drug Discovery and Development 2026

DNR: HS-2025-2422

Sandra Falck presented the distribution of LÄK funding to the units of the Drug Discovery and Development platform for 2026. The funding is a part of the SciLifeLab budget decided in §3a.

#### Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the suggested distribution of LÄK funding to Drug Discovery and Development units 2026, according to table 1 below.

Table 1. Distribution of LÄK funding to DDD 2026

Drug Discovery and							LÄK funding
Development	GU	KI	KTH	LU	SU	UU	to units 2026
ADMEoT						3 256 196	3 256 196
Biochemical and Cellular							
Assays					7 024 762		7 024 762
<b>Biophysical Screening</b>							
and Characterization						4 465 791	4 465 791
Display & Selection							
Technologies				6 154 784			6 154 784
Medicinal Chemistry-							
Hit2Lead					8 661 434		8 661 434
Medicinal Chemistry-							
Lead Identification						6 816 845	6 816 845
Therapeutic Protein							
Engineering			11 433 828				11 433 828
Target Product Profiling &							
Drug Safety Assessment			510 000				510 000
Target Product Profiling &							
Drug Safety Assessment		4 933 033					4 933 033
Target Product Profiling &							
Drug Safety Assessment					0		0
Target Product Profiling &							
Drug Safety Assessment						6 339 815	6 339 815
OligoNova Biology	156 512						156 512
Total funding to be							
distributed	156 512	4 933 033	11 943 828	6 154 784	15 686 196	20 878 647	59 753 000



## 3c. Pandemic Laboratory Preparedness (PLP) budget 2026

DNR: HS-2025-2422

Sandra Falck summarized the 2026 budget for Pandemic Laboratory Preparedness, as presented at the previous Board meeting by PLP lead Ulf Ribacke.

#### Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the PLP budget for 2026, according to table 2 below.

Table 2. PLP budget 2026

PANDEMIC LABORATORY PREPAREDNESS (PLP)	2025	2026
Scientific Lead Dr. Ulf Ribacke (50%) 40%	800	640
Scientific Lead Prof. Staffan Svärd (25%) 40%	500	800
Coordination Dr. Alice Sollazzo (50%) 50%	600	600
Call for technology development and pandemic preparedness at SciLifeLab infrastructure 8 MSEK per year		16 000
Coordinator at SciLifeLab infrastructure	2 000	2 000
National open calls for pandemic preparedness projects	12 570	12 570
Data Centre, Pathogens portal	2 500	2 500
BSL3 network and facilities	3 600	3 350
Environmental surveillance of water	2 000	2 000
Collaboration with SciLifeLab capabilities	0	700
Other research efforts, activities and meetings (antibiotikaresistensmöte UU)	100	250
Annual PLP Network Meeting	645	566
Sum costs	25 315	41 976
PLP funding	32 579	33 178
Sum remaining at UU	0	0
Sum remaining at KTH	1 534	8 798
Remaining	8 798	0

# 3d. Reallocation of remaining DDLS phase 1 funds under collaboration with WASP

DNR: HS-2025-2792

The purpose of the collaboration between DDLS and WASP is to foster multidisciplinary research and bridge the gap between the life science and data science communities. To ensure efficient utilization of the remaining resources from Phase 1, the proposal is to reallocate the unused balance (≈ 2.75 MSEK) from the 2021 to the 2022 WASP-DDLS joint call.

#### Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the reallocation of 2,748,530 SEK in remaining Phase 1 funds (§3d Appendix A) from the WASP-DDLS 2021 joint call to the WASP-DDLS 2022 joint call, to ensure full utilization of available resources and maintain balance between Phase 1 and Phase 2 allocations.



## 4. Areas of strategic importance

#### 4a. Translation to healthcare

Jan Ellenberg gave an overview of the strategic area Translation to healthcare and shared the vision statement:

"The vision is to establish joint SciLifeLab/Hospital units at Sweden's university hospitals to enable continuous and fast translation of cutting-edge molecular profiling and imaging with AI-powered data analysis to Sweden's healthcare system."

Currently activities are focused on the funded pre-projects within the VR and Vinnova Excellence cluster calls:

Short presentations of the work within the Vinnova funded "Breakthrough Technologies in Molecular Life Science to Power Precision Medicine and the Future of Healthcare in Sweden" project and the VR funded "Integrated X-ray and biomedical imaging for the future of pathology (IXBI)" were provided.

Discussion followed.

## 4b. Planetary Biology update

Mia Phillipson presented an update from the strategic area Planetary Biology and described briefly the achievements during the first three years and current activities as well as plans for 2026.

#### 5. Infrastructure

## 5a. Infrastructure update

Annika Jenmalm Jensen provided an update on the ongoing technology development call, that closed November 18. Purpose, scope, funding and target group were presented. The review will take place during December and January, and allocation decision is planned to be taken by the Board at meeting no 82, February 11, 2026.

## 6. Research Community update

## 6a. SciLifeLab Group Leader nominations

DNR: HS-2025-0353

Disa Larsson Hammarlöf presented the SciLifeLab Group Leader call 2025 and went through the evaluation of the applications. Statistics on gender and affiliation was provided concerning the 95 nominations received from 13 universities and other organizations.

#### Decision

The SciLifeLab Board approved the 71 SciLifeLab Group Leader nominations from the 2025 call, according to Table 3.



Table 3. SciLifeLab Group Leaders 2025 – suggested for approval

Nomination	Affiliation
Afshin Ahmadian	KTH
Alexandra Teleki	UU
Andrew Ewing	GU
Anna Lindstrand	KI
Antonio H Ribeiro	UU
Arvind Kumar	KTH
Åsa Torinsson Naluai	GU
Benjamin Murrell	KI
Carina Bunse	GU
Carina Schlebusch	UU
Charlotta Ljungman	GU
Christelle Prinz	LU
Claudio Mirabello	LIU
Colm Nestor	LIU
Cristina Al-Khalili	KTH
Szigyarto	
Dan S. Larhammar	UU
Edouard F Pesquet	SU
Eduardo Villablanca	KI
Elin Videvall	UU
Elisa Pin	KTH
Erik Sonnhammer	SU
Erika Comasco	UU
Felipe Cava	UmU
Florian A Rosenberger	KI

Nomination	Affiliation
Florian David	Chalmers
Fredrik Höök	Chalmers
Fredrik Swartling	UU
Gergely Katona	GU
Gisela GC Helenius	ÖRU
Gonçalo Castelo-	KI
Branco	
Göran Jönsson	LU
Greta Hultqvist	UU
Gunilla B. Karlsson	KI
Hedestam	
Hanna Tegel	KTH
Hongji Yan	UU
Jan Komorowski	UU
Jerker Widengren	KTH
Johan Jakobsson	LU
Johanna Ungerstedt	LIU
Jörg Hanrieder	GU
Ka-Wei Tang	GU
Linda Bojmar	LIU
Malin Lindstedt	LU
Maria Asplund	Chalmers
Marta Bally	UmU
Martin Hallbeck	LIU
Martin Högbom	SU
	1

Nomination	Affiliation
Mate Erdelyi	UU
Mika Gustafsson	LIU
Mikael Altun	KI
My Hedhammar	KTH
Nanna Holmgaard List	KTH
Nhu T.N. Phan	GU
Nils Norlin	LU
Olga Vinnere	UU
Pettersson	
Oliver Billker	UmU
Oommen Varghese	UU
Pål Stenmark	SU
Panagiotis Baliakas	UU
Paula Sofia Mölling	ÖRU
Per-Åke Nygren	KTH
Pontus Gourdon	LU
Rocío Mercado	Chalmers
Sandra Lindstedt	LU
Sebastiaan Meijer	KTH
Sun Nyunt Wai	UmU
Sven Nelander	UU
Thoas Fioretos	LU
Thomas E Winkler	KTH
Wouter van der	KTH
Wijngaart	
Ylva Ivarsson	UU

## 6b. DDLS Research School presentation, PhD program

DDLS Research School directors Peetra Magnusson and Olof Emanuelsson gave an overview of the DDLS PhD program. The first PhD students started in 2024, and a second open calls for PhD projects both within academia and within industry has been carried out during 2025. The Research School organizes activities such as courses, networking and an annual meeting for the PhD students.

## 6c. DDLS Research School presentation, Postdoc program

DNR: HS-2025-2826

Lukas Käll presented the DDLS postdoc program, to be rolled out during phase 3 of DDLS, including postdocs from academia and industry. The process of setting up the program has been ongoing during 2025, a call is intended to be launched early 2026 and the plan is that the postdocs should start their positions by the end of 2026.



The decision to approve the model for the call was postponed until Board meeting no 82, December 17, 2025, to give all involved universities the possibility to give more thorough feedback on the call text.

## 7. Assignments

### 7a. Vice head of operations

DNR: HS-2025-2754

The SciLifeLab Operations Office is lead jointly by a Head and a Vice Head of Operations and these roles are tasks assigned by the SciLifeLab Board. The Four party agreement (Fyrpartsavtal 11.2) states that the operational support shall be led by a Head and a vice Head, one of whom shall be employed by the KTH Royal Institute of Technology and the other by Uppsala University.

Sandra Falck, KTH, was assigned Head of Operations at SciLifeLab Operations Office from 11 August 2025 until 31 December 2028 by the Chair of the Board on behalf of the SciLifeLab Board, as mandated according to §9 at Board meeting no 78.

Maria Thuveson has been recruited as new Director of the Office for SciLifeLab in Uppsala starting February 16, 2025. The position for Director of the Office for SciLifeLab in Uppsala will include the national assignment as SciLifeLab Vice Head of Operations.

#### Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved to assign Maria Thuveson as Vice Head of Operations from 16 February 2026 until 31 December 2028. The assignment can be extended and renewed.

#### 7b. Head and vice head of Data Centre

DNR: HS-2025-2755

In pace with SciLifeLab's transformation towards data-driven life science, Data Centre (DC) has – since it was started in 2016 – grown in task, funding and organizational complexity.

Currently the steering documents for SciLifeLab do not refer to DC at all and they should be updated once the scope and tasks of DC are clearly defined and organizationally anchored.

Until this is effective and allows for longer assignments, the current assignments for Head and Vice Head of Data Centre can be renewed according to existing instructions from the SciLifeLab Board, while at the same time continuing the preparation of steering documents specific to DC.

#### Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved to assign Johan Rung as Head of Data Centre and Hanna Kultima as Vice Head of Data Centre from 1 January 2026 until 31 December 2027.



## 7c. Leads and coordinator for the strategic area Planetary Biology

DNR: HS-2025-2758

Leads for SciLifeLab's strategic areas are assigned yearly by the Board. One of the current leads for Planetary Biology, Stefan Bertilsson, has left SLU and SciLifeLab for other duties, and work has been initiated to find his replacement.

#### Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved to assign Olga Vinnere Pettersson (UU) as scientific lead 75%, and Anabella Aguilera (LU) as coordinator 50% for the Planetary Biology strategic area, during the period 1 January until 31 December 2026. Jacob Höglund & Nathaniel Street were approved as co-leads, serving as a reference support for Olga and the new scientific lead to be recruited.

# 7d. Co-lead and coordinator for the strategic area Pandemic Laboratory Preparedness

DNR: HS-2025-2759

Leads for SciLifeLab's strategic areas are assigned yearly by the Board. The current leads and coordinator for Pandemic Laboratory Preparedness have successfully led the work during 2025 and are suggested to continue the work in 2026.

#### Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the extension of the assignments of Prof. Staffan Svärd and Dr. Ulf Ribacke (UU) as Scientific Leads, and of Dr. Alice Sollazzo as Coordinator for the SciLifeLab Pandemic Laboratory Preparedness Strategic Area, for a two-year period starting 1 January 2026, with efforts of 40% each for the Scientific Leads and 50% for the Coordinator.

## 8. SciLifeLab Rules of Procedure (Arbetsordning)

DNR: HS-2025-2760

Jan Ellenberg as new director of SciLifeLab was assigned the mission by the SciLifeLab Board to oversee the governance and operations of the organization, and to develop a proposal for a revised national management structure (Board meeting no. 74). The new organization was approved by the Board at meeting no. 78 and came into effect June 1st, 2025. The Board decision included an action to update section 4.1 "Direktörens ledningsråd" (the Director's management group) in the SciLifeLab Arbetsordning (Rules of Procedure) according to the new structure.

Following this decision, section 4. in the Rules of Procedure (Arbetsordning) for SciLifeLab has been amended accordingly.

To guarantee full anchoring of the new wording within the organization, the decision was postponed until Board meeting no. 82, December 17, 2025. In accordance with the Rules of Procedures the suggested amendment shall be drawn up jointly by KI, KTH, SU and UU and the Board of SciLifeLab, in dialogue with the Rectors' Council. The text will thus be circulated to the Integration Directors prior to the Rectors' Council (Nov 27<sup>th</sup>). Final decision is taken by the KTH Board.



## 9. Annual Report

Anna Frejd briefly presented the process and timeline for the work on the SciLifeLab Annual Report 2025 to be enclosed to the KTH Annual Report to the government. The work is proceeding according to plan and will be presented as a decision item at the SciLifeLab Board meeting no. 83, February 11, 2026, and at the KTH Board meeting February 18, 2026.

## 10. KAW and Alpha Cell

Göran Sandberg, executive board member of the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation (KAW), described the foundation's view of SciLifeLab's development over the years and their long-standing support to SciLifeLab. For more than 25 years, KAW has been a major investor in life sciences in general, and the most recent significant contribution to SciLifeLab is the KAW Alpha Cell donation. Göran described the different parts of the Alpha Cell program, with separate donation letters towards a joint goal, and the long-term view by the foundation. The Alpha Cell donation to SciLifeLab is run by Jan Ellenberg as PI, but as a SciLifeLab strategic research program Board approval for the budget is required. Continued support, including potential new investments, is anticipated from 2029 onwards.

#### 11. Other items

#### The KAW senior international recruitment initiative

Jan informed that KAW has decided to invite the Foundation's strategic centers and programs to submit proposals for internationally leading researchers to be recruited to Sweden. For DDLS, WCMM centers, and SciLifeLab, nominations must be coordinated before submission to KAW. The nomination process is university-driven, while SciLifeLab coordinates and checks whether nominees align with the DDLS program and/or SciLifeLab.

Given the limited timeframe and confidentiality requirements, the SciLifeLab Director recommends that the SciLifeLab and DDLS Director, together with the respective co-Directors, review the nominees from the universities and asks that universities synchronize their proposals prior to submission to SciLifeLab/DDLS.

## Closure of the meeting

Ylva Engström thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

#### **Upcoming meetings**

- Wednesday December 17, 10.00-12.00 (Zoom)
- Wednesday February 11, 2026, 9.00-12.00 (Zoom)
- Wednesday April 15, 2026, 9.00-12.00 (Zoom)



	-
Åsa Westeson, secretary	
Minutes approved by:	
Ylva Engström, chair	Mikael Lindström

## SciLifeLab Budget 2026 (kSEK)

	2025	2026	
INFRASTRUCTURE in detail			
Genomics	59 479	61 000	
Ancient DNA	4 053	5 000	
National Genomics Infrastructure (NGI)	43 651	44 000	
Platform Director	150	150	
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200	
Strategic Platform budget	1 425	1 650	
NGI; IDS 10 MSEK existing funds	10 000	10 000	
Clinical Genomics	18 902	18 784	
Clinical Genomics Gothenburg	2 337	2 500	
Clinical Genomics Linköping	828	828	
Clinical Genomics Lund	2 337	2 500	
Clinical Genomics Stockholm	5 175	4 500	
Clinical Genomics Umeå	828	828	
Clinical Genomics Uppsala	2 694	2 800	
Clinical Genomics Örebro	828	828	
Platform Director	150	150	
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200	
Strategic Platform budget	1 525	1 650	
IDS, new funds	2 000	2 000	
Proteomics	22 112	26 000	
Affinity Proteomics	8 354	13 500	
Autoimmunity and Serology Profiling	3 002		
Global Proteomics and Proteogenomics	4 062	4 500	
Glycoproteomics and MS Proteomics	3 044	3 500	
Clinical Mass Spectrometry Facility Lund (new Unit from 2025-07-01)	500	1 000	
Platform Director	150	150	
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200	
Strategic Platform budget	800	1 150	
IDS, new funds	2 000	2 000	
Metabolomics and Exposomics	10 923	12 000	

Chalmers Mass Spectrometry Infrastructure  Exposomics Swedish Metabolomics Centre  Platform Director  Platform Coordination Officer  Strategic Platform budget  IDS, new funds	2 587 2 846 2 690 150 200 450 2 000 16 301	3 000 3 000 3 000 150 200 650
Swedish Metabolomics Centre Platform Director Platform Coordination Officer Strategic Platform budget	2 690 150 200 450 2 000	3 000 150 200
Platform Director Platform Coordination Officer Strategic Platform budget	150 200 450 2 000	150 200
Platform Coordination Officer Strategic Platform budget	200 450 2 000	200
Strategic Platform budget	450 2 000	
	2 000	650
IDS, new tungs		
	16 301	2 000
Spatial Biology		18 500
In Situ Sequencing	3 803	4 500
Spatial Mass Spectrometry	3 044	3 500
Spatial Proteomics	5 079	5 500
Platform Director	150	150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200
Strategic Platform budget	2 025	2 650
IDS, new funds	2 000	2 000
Cellular and Molecular Imaging	25 716	28 900
Cryo-EM	13 452	15 000
Integrated Microscopy Technologies	7 614	8 500
NanoSIMS (new Unit from 2025-07-01)	750	1 500
Platform Director	150	150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200
Strategic Platform budget	1 550	1 550
IDS, new funds	2 000	2 000
Integrated Structural Biology	10 975	12 000
Structural Proteomics	3 044	3 500
Swedish NMR Centre	5 131	5 500
Platform Director	150	150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200
Strategic Platform budget	450	650
IDS, new funds	2 000	2 000
Chemical Biology and Genome Engineering	17 455	20 000
Chemical Biology Consortium Sweden	7 605	9 000
Chemical Proteomics	3 044	3 500
CRISPR Functional Genomics	3 906	4 500
Platform Director	150	150
Platform Coordination Officer	200	200
Strategic Platform budget	550	650
IDS, new funds	2 000	2 000
Bioinformatics	35 000	35 000
To be distributed to units AIDA, BIIF, SCORE, SIT	21 000	21 000
AIDA Data Hub		
Biolmage Informatics		
Support, Infrastructure and Training/Support for Computational Resources		
Strategic Platform budget		
IDS 8,76 MSEK existing funds	8 760	14 000
IDS, new funds	5 240	
_ ·	,	
Sum	216 863	232 184

	2025	2026
INFRASTRUCTURE		
Infrastructure	216 863	232 184
Drug Discovery and Development (incl new modality)	58 784	59 753
OligoNova	4 000	2 000
SCILIFELAB INITIATIVES		
Precision Medicine Capability inkl. TEF	725	500
Planetary Biology Capability	3 600	3 600
Strategic Research Initiatives (e-infrastructure)	3 200	13 150
Strategic Research Initiatives (translation to healthcare and training)	0	5 000
TDP Platform centric	0	15 000
Infrastructure Expensive Instruments	13 429	14 790
Training hub	2 650	2 650
Data Centre	9 000	14 000
IDS, new funds	5 000	
NATIONAL OPERATING COSTS incl sites		
National Operating Costs	68 844	84 583
National site Gothenburg	1 000	2 000
National site Lund	1 000	2 000
National site Umeå	1 000	2 000
National site Linköping	1 000	2 000
Total costs	390 095	455 210
Funding NAT	387 171	394 295
Funding LÄK	61 086	62 210
Surplus initiative NAT		
Surplus initiative LÄK		
Sum (left of available funds for the year)	58 162	1 295

Project title	Partner	PI	Start-End date	Balance Left	Status
Deep learning for protein-protein interactions	SU	Arne Elofsson	2022-06-01/2024-05-31	40 789,0	Finished
Self-driving microscope for rare cell state identification and tracking in live cell imaging	КТН	Wei Ouyang	2024-01-01/2026-06-30	NA	Prolonged until 2026-06-30
Data integration via auto-encoders with biological constraints	LiU	Mika Gustafsson	2022-08-01/2024-07-31	295 493,8	Finished
Transforming Breast Cancer (TransformBC)	KI	Theodoros Foukakis	2022-03-28/2024-02-28	0,0	Finished
Novel AI methods for experimentally constrained protein structure prediction	UU	Sebastian Westenhoff	2023-02-01/2025-01-31	0,0	Finished
Visualization and de-identification of biobank data to propel precision medicine research	UmU	Beatrice Melin	2023-03-01/2024-02-28	0,0	Finished
Data-driven application to protein-protein interactions	SU	Alexey Amunts		84 840,0	Funding withdrawn. Plans left SU.
Al-Accelerated Oligonucleotide Drug Design	GU	Pär Matsson	2022-05-01/2024-04-30	214 795,0	Finished
Multiscale dynamics of biomolecules from cryo- EM	SU	Erik Lindahl	2023-09-01/2025-08-31	1 980 000,0	Funding withdrawn. No suitable candidate was found.
A Causal Map of the Cell	KTH	Tuuli Lappalainen	2022-03-01/2024-02-29	0,0	Finished
Massively parallel in vivo gene editing and Al modeling to decipher brain tumor invasion	UU	Sven Nelander	2022-04-01/2024-03-31	0,0	Finished
Understanding the human immune cell interaction network	KI	Petter Brodin	2022-03-01/2024-02-28	0,0	Finished
Learning pharmacometric model structures from data	UU	Mats O. Karlsson	2022-09-01/2024-08-31	0,0	Finished
Visual Analytics for Enhancing Quality and Trust in Genome-wide Expression Clustering and Annotation	КТН	Mathias Uhlen	2022-05-01/2024-04-30	132 613,0	Finished
HUDI: Huge Complex Diagnostic Imaging Data: Towards personalized models in the clinical workflow	LiU	Tino Ebbers	2023-02-01/2025-01-31	0,0	Finished

## Signature page

This document has been electronically signed using eduSign.



