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SciLifeLab PULSE

Minutes from National Steering Committee (NSC) meeting no 2, November 10, 2025

Present members

Mia Phillipson (UU, SciLifeLab PULSE Director, chair), Christos Samakovlis (SU), Elisabet Carlsohn (GU), Aristidis Moustakas (UU), Linda Sandblad (UmU), Håkan Billig (GU), Hjalmar Brismar (KTH), Josefine Sandström (LiU, replacing Fredrik Elinder), Magnus Johansson (ÖrU), Carsten Daub (KI), Markus Heidenblad (LU), Marjo Puumalainen (Sweden Bio), Jade Chaker (ÖrU)

Absent:

Fredrik Elinder (LiU)

Other participants

Kristian Sandberg (UU, Co-Director SciLifeLab Drug and Discovery Development platform and SciLifeLab PULSE Co-Director), Jessica Lindvall (SU, SciLifeLab PULSE Training Director), Disa Hammarlöf (KTH, SciLifeLab PULSE Program Manager), Maria Bäckström (UU, SciLifeLab PULSE Program Coordinator)

1. Meeting formalities

Mia Phillipson opened the meeting, and welcomed Jade Chaker as postdoc representative for SciLifeLab PULSE NSC. A short presentation of everyone followed. Josefine Sandström presented herself as NSC representative from LiU for this meeting instead of Fredrik Elinder. Mia also clarified that PULSE NSC will have the role of Scientific and Impact committee, assure national focus and that postdoc fellows are embedded in SciLifeLab and local environments. Josefine Sandström was suggested for approval of the minutes, for the NSC to decide.

Decision

The SciLifeLab PULSE National Steering Committee appointed Josefine Sandström to approve the minutes of the meeting in addition to the chair.

2. Information and update from the Program Management Group

Disa Hammarlöf updated the committee on:

- The first cohort of 21 recruited postdocs including some statistics of e.g. gender, track, and geographical spread. One of the 21 postdocs has postponed her start to October 1, 2026, due to maternity leave.

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- A welcome package with a lot of important and useful information for PIs and postdocs is available on Nextcloud.
- The online kick-off meeting on October 22, which gathered all SciLifeLab PULSE postdocs and some of the hosting PIs.
- Positive feedback from the SciLifeLab PULSE External Advisory Board on the Training strategy.
- SciLifeLab PULSE Training: Contains Personal Career Development Plans (PCDPs), support from local training representatives, supervision and mentor panels, Transferable Skills Training (TST), bi-monthly webinars, and annual scientific workshops.
- Communication strategy: Good reach with news/SoMe posts. A movie with interviews with four of the SciLifeLab PULSE postdocs is planned. Matchmaking portfolios will be updated after approval of the new partners, and after finalising the nomination process for new SciLifeLab Group Leaders.
- The second call opens on December 15, 2025, and closes on March 16, 2026. There are 27 positions available in this call (minimum 16 for the academic track and up to 11 for the entrepreneurial track). New SciLifeLab Group Leaders, approved by the SciLifeLab Board at the board meeting on November 19, 2025, can register as potential SciLifeLab PULSE postdoc hosts. Information webinars are scheduled for HRs on November 27, for PIs on December 16, and for candidates on December 18 (one in the morning and one in the afternoon).
- EU reporting for funding, and grant payments: All hosting universities have received grant payment for their recruited postdoc (postdocs) respectively. Mobility declarations for all postdocs have been submitted to EU except for one, starting in mid November, 2025. Reporting of call and evaluation process as well as call dissemination was submitted well in time before deadline October 31.

3. Evaluator panel approval

The listed nominated international expert evaluators, see Appendix 1, with expertise well aligned with the defined SciLifeLab PULSE research tracks and areas, were suggested to evaluate the applications in SciLifeLab PULSE, call 2, for the PULSE NSC to decide.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab PULSE National Steering Committee decided to approve the suggested list of international evaluators to evaluate the SciLifeLab PULSE postdoc applications in call 2.

4. Decisions regarding accession of new Parties – Implementing partners

Chalmers University of Technology (Chalmers) and Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) have submitted Letters of Support, see Appendix 2, to join the SciLifeLab PULSE program as Implementing partners. It is for the PULSE NSC to

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decide if these universities should be approved as Implementing partners for SciLifeLab PULSE.

Decision

The SciLifeLab PULSE National Steering Committee decides to approve the suggested accession of Implementing partners Chalmers and SLU.

5. Decisions regarding accession of new Parties – Associated partners

Anyolabs, Flerie (former Toleranzia), Peptisystems, Cyclic Therapeutics, Ribocure Pharmaceuticals, University of Turku, and Max Delbrück Center have via Letters of Support, see Appendix 3, expressed interest to join the SciLifeLab PULSE program as Associated partners. It is for the PULSE NSC to decide if these organisations should be approved as Associated partners for SciLifeLab PULSE.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab PULSE National Steering Committee decides to approve the suggested accession of these additional Associated partners.

6. Closure of the meeting

The next PULSE NSC meeting will take place on June 9, 2026, 10:00-12:00
Mia Phillipson thanked the participants and closed the meeting.



Maria Bäckström, secretary

Minutes approved by:

Mia Phillipson

Josefine Sandström

Signature page

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