

VC-2024-0062

SciLifeLab PULSE

Minutes from National Steering Committee (NSC) meeting no 3, June 9, 2026

Present members of the NSC

Mia Phillipson (UU, SciLifeLab PULSE Director, chair), Elisabet Carlsohn (GU), Aristidis Moustakas (UU), Linda Sandblad (UmU), Håkan Billig (DDD representative, GU), Fredrik Elinder (LiU), Magnus Johansson (ÖrU), Carsten Daub (KI), Peter Nilsson (KTH), Sophie Hellstrand (LU), Jade Chaker (ÖrU, PULSE postdoc representative)

Absent:

Markus Heidenblad (LU, member of the NSC) replaced by Sophie Hellstrand (LU, SciLifeLab site coordinator) at this meeting.
Christos Samakovlis (SU, member of the NSC)
Marjo Puumalainen (Sweden Bio, member of the NSC)

Other participants

Kristian Sandberg (UU, Co-Director SciLifeLab PULSE, entrepreneurial track), Disa Hammarlöf (KTH, SciLifeLab PULSE Program Manager), Maria Bäckström (UU, SciLifeLab PULSE Coordinator), Carina Gustafsson (KTH, SciLifeLab PULSE financial controller), Per Ljungdahl (UU, Co-Director SciLifeLab PULSE, academic track)

1. Meeting formalities

Mia Phillipson welcomed all members and opened the meeting. Peter Nilsson was presented as the new NSC member for KTH.

Decision:

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

2. Information and update from the Program Management Group

Management and coordination, key outreach and activities during 2026, communication strategy, outcome of the second call including statistics, executed and upcoming training activities, update from MSCA visit by Vanessa Debiais-Sainton on June 5, requested feedback from SciLifeLab PULSE EAB, and upcoming EU reporting was presented. Request for additional local training representatives was announced, to be nominated by August 24. The importance of the MSCA visit for

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SciLifeLab in general was pointed out by Mia Phillipson.

3. Update from postdoc Cohort 1

1. Salary: General lack of transparency when it comes to salary, even within the same department. *The reply was that all PIs are well informed of the minimum level of salary, and that the salary is individual.*
2. Annual meeting: Various disciplines made postdocs miscalculate when preparing their scientific presentations to the right level. Suggestion for an “a la carte”, more interdisciplinary program, for future meetings, and to engage postdocs in planning for the Annual meeting.
3. Transferable skills webinars: More follow-up on exercises requested by the postdocs, that would also support outcome of the training events. Clearer instructions for exercises requested, as well as more feedback before publication of blog posts.

4. Decision on selection of the second cohort of PULSE postdocs

Decision:

A majority (>2/3) of the SciLifeLab PULSE National Steering Committee approved the 27 candidates listed in Appendix 1, table 1, that have passed the entire evaluation process, as SciLifeLab PULSE postdocs. The NSC also approved the ranked reserve list of 7 candidates in Appendix 1, table 1, to be used in case needed due to e.g. rejections from approved candidates.

5. Decision regarding accession of accession of new parties – Associated partners.

Decision:

A majority (>2/3) of the SciLifeLab PULSE National Steering Committee decides to approve the suggested accession of new Associated partners Utrecht University, Navinci, Leiden University and University of Copenhagen. Prerequisite; Associated Letter of Commitment.

6. Additional input from the committee

1. Initial information to postdocs that the topics within the program are very broad.
2. Possible future application for a program with a research infrastructure angle.

7. Closure of the meeting

Other items:

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1. Date for next NSC meeting: November 5, 2026, 13:00-14:00

The chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting.



Maria Bäckström, secretary

Minutes approved by:



Mia Phillipson

Aristidis Moustakas