
The national board of Science for Life Laboratory

Minutes from board meeting no 38, 25 September 2019 (Solna)

Present members

Carl-Henrik Heldin (chair), Fredrik Elinder (LiU), Anders Karlhede (SU), Göran Landberg (GU), Lotta Ljungqvist (industry representative), Stellan Sandler (UU), Katrine Riklund (UmU), Mathias Uhlén (KTH)

Other participants

Olli Kallioniemi (Director)(not present for part of § 8), Siv Andersson (Co-Director), Annika Jenmalm Jensen (Infrastructure Director)(not present § 10), Anders Gustafsson (KI), Gunilla Westergren-Thorsson (chair NSC)(§§ 5-12), Ylva Engström (SU)(§ 3b), Peter Nilsson (KTH)(§ 4), Jenny Alfredsson (Acting Head of operations), Anna Höglund Rehn (secretary)

Appendix

- A. Criteria for SciLifeLab facilities

1. Meeting formalities

Carl-Henrik Heldin opened the meeting.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab board approved the minutes from meetings no 36 and no 37.

The SciLifeLab board appointed Göran Landberg to approve the minutes of the present meeting, in addition to the chair.

2. Update from the Director

Olli Kallioniemi presented the quarterly update from SciLifeLab.

3. Response to the International Advisory Board report VC-2019-0008

The written report from the chair of the International Advisory Board (IAB) was discussed at the SciLifeLab board meeting on May 29, 2019. The board then decided to ask the Management Group (MG) to formulate a response to be discussed and finalized at the next board meeting. The board had earlier already decided to set up a committee/action group (host universities' Integration Directors, SciLifeLab Director and SciLifeLab Co-Director) to look into the specific recommendations regarding Campus Solna and the SciLifeLab Fellows.

3a. Rectors comments to the IAB report

The rectors of the host universities have sent in their comments on the IAB report.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab board noted the information to the minutes.

3b. Report from action group

Ylva Engström, Integration Director Stockholm University, presented the report from the Campus Solna action group, which was followed by discussions.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab board found the idea of a position as “föreståndare” for Campus Solna interesting and decided to ask the action group to come up with a description/definition of the tasks, responsibilities and mandate for such a position, in relation to the present organization of SciLifeLab. A report, including a time line and funding, is expected at the next board meeting.

3c. Response to the IAB

Olli Kallioniemi presented the preliminary response to the IAB, which has not yet been formally approved by the Management Group or any other party. Discussions followed.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab board decided that, after the discussed adjustments have been made, the response should be sent out to the board members for approval before sending it to the IAB.

4. Definition of SciLifeLab group leader

VC-2019-0033

A definition of SciLifeLab group leader is necessary for profiling of the SciLifeLab community. The proposed definition has been prepared by the SciLifeLab Management Group (MG) in discussion with comments provided by all host university SciLifeLab Committees.

Peter Nilsson, Scientific Director KTH, presented the proposed definition. Discussions followed.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab board decided to return the proposition to MG for adjustments, and bring it back to the next meeting for decision. In particular, the motivation for the need of a SciLifeLab group leader definition needs to be clarified.

5. International evaluation of the SciLifeLab infrastructure

VC-2019-0034

5a. Result of the national survey and next steps

VC-2019-0035

As part of the planning process for the SciLifeLab infrastructure from 2021 and beyond, two parallel surveys, directed broadly to the life science research community in Sweden, were open for suggestions between May 16 and June 20, 2019. In total, 73 suggestions on Technologies and 60 suggestions on Facilities were submitted.

Annika Jenmalm Jensen presented the results of the surveys. The Management group, MG, will select the expression of interests that will be part of the international evaluation and will notify the applicants.

5b. Infrastructure boundaries and national distribution

In the light of the next SciLifeLab evaluation and the new proposals received, it is necessary to define the SciLifeLab infrastructure boundaries and criteria.

Annika Jenmalm Jensen presented considerations that MG together with the platform planning groups have applied when evaluating suggestions for new facilities:

1. Fulfill criteria for a SciLifeLab facility (appendix A).
2. Clear synergies with existing SciLifeLab infrastructure.
3. Proposals that lack national uniqueness would be more suited to remain as a local core facility.
4. Some platforms and/or facilities gain efficiency and national spread by forming either a “hub and nodes” model or a network model.

Apart from MG, the host universities’ SciLifeLab committees and the National SciLifeLab committee have evaluated the material from the national survey.

Decisions:

The board approved the presented strategy.

5c. Process for the evaluation of SciLifeLab infrastructure in April 2020

Annika Jenmalm Jensen gave an update regarding the process on how the international evaluation of infrastructure will be conducted in 2020.

Potential names of persons that could be invited as reviewers were discussed.

6. Roadmap 2020-2030 and reflections from the Hearing September 20 VC-2019-0027

Many of the goals originally envisioned for SciLifeLab have now been met and the SciLifeLab model for promoting life science is having a broad impact on both basic and applied research in Sweden. The roadmap proposes an ambitious new vision for the second decade of SciLifeLab, with an aim to renew the commitment from stakeholders in the life science sector to the future scope and impact of SciLifeLab.

Olli Kallioniemi gave an update on the process for creating the final Roadmap 2020-2030.

7. SciLifeLab contribution to the research bill VC-2019-0036

It has been suggested that SciLifeLab should prepare bullet points of its main points to be included in the “inspel” texts of all the host universities and possibly non-host universities as well.

Olli Kallioniemi presented the bullet points. Discussions followed.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved at large the bullet point version of the SciLifeLab suggestions for the research bill and decided that the long version should be sent out to the board members for comments. The document needs to be filed before the end of October to the Ministry of Education.

8. SciLifeLab steering documents VC-2019-0037

SciLifeLab steering documents should be revised regularly, and the SciLifeLab Arbetsordning annually.

Jenny Alfredsson informed about the proposed changes in the SciLifeLab Arbetsordning. Discussions followed.

Carl-Henrik Heldin informed about an irregularity between the regulation for SciLifeLab (SFS2013:118) and the Arbetsordning regarding renewal of the appointment as Director. Olli Kallioniemi left the room during this part.

Decision:

After an adjustment, the SciLifeLab board approved the proposed changes in the SciLifeLab Arbetsordning. The document will be sent to the KTH board for final approval.

The question about the possibility to renew the appointment for the SciLifeLab Director will be discussed at the next board meeting.

9. National SciLifeLab Committee (NSC) mandate in the future

VC-2019-0038

The National SciLifeLab Committee is an advisory group to the Director. Members have been appointed until December 31, 2019.

Siv Andersson gave an update regarding a proposed process for appointing members to the NSC from January 1, 2020.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved the proposed process for appointing the NSC members. Decision will be taken at the next board meeting.

10. Infrastructure Director

Dnr VC-2019-0039

The next international evaluation regarding SciLifeLab infrastructure will take place in 2020, with a site visit in April and board decision on the infrastructure funding for 2021-2024 in November. This period will increase the work load of the Infrastructure Director, who is currently assigned only 50% in this role.

Annika Jenmalm Jensen left the room during this point.

Olli Kallioniemi informed about the proposition.

Decision:

The board decided to expand the percentage of effort for the Infrastructure Director to 100% during the period from October 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

11. Board meetings 2020

Decision:

The SciLifeLab board approved suggested dates for meetings 2020:

- *Thursday February 6, 10.00-15.00 in Solna*
- *Monday May 25, 11.00-17.00 in Uppsala (dinner afterwards)*
- *Wednesday September 23, 10.00-15.00 in Solna*
- *Tuesday November 10, 10.00-15.00 in Solna.*

12. Other issues

There were no other issues.

Upcoming meetings

- November 11, 2019 at 10.00-15.00 in Stockholm (Earth, Gamma 2)

Anna Höglund Rehn, secretary

Minutes approved by:

Carl-Henrik Heldin

Göran Landberg

SciLifeLab Board meeting no 38
September 25, 2019

Appendix A:

Criteria for SciLifeLab facilities

A SciLifeLab facility should ideally fulfil most of below criteria:

- **Facilitate** world-leading research in molecular life sciences.
- **Enable** research that otherwise would not be possible in Sweden.
- Provide high-quality services to **academic researchers, industry, healthcare and other organizations in Sweden.**
- Serve **multiple research groups** in high-quality research projects **across the nation.**
- **Function in** a high-quality research environment supporting continuous development of the facility services
- Provide **internationally competitive** services.
- Have a **long-term plan** for instrumentation renewal, technology development, data management and sharing, scientific domains and user communities being served, as well as for a sustainable and versatile funding base.
- Provide complementary and **synergistic opportunities** within and across SciLifeLab platforms.
- Participate in **national coordination** of similar facilities at other universities in Sweden (when applicable)
- Promote **translational implementation** of research findings into healthcare, industry and society (when applicable)