
Minutes of the IOCB Board Meeting No. 3/2020 on April 22, 2020

Present: Ullrich Jahn, Pavel Jungwirth, Pavlína Maloy Řezáčová, Radek Pohl, Radim Nencka, Pavel Šácha, Petr Svoboda, Tomáš Obšil, Petr Slavíček

Guest: Zdeněk Hostomský, Martin Fusek

Secretary: Irena Valterová

The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved.

1. *Update IOCB Applied research.* M. Fusek presented current activities of IOCB Tech. In 2019, 4 Czech patents and 23 international patents were filed. 15 promising projects are currently running at IOCB, which are managed by consulting with IOCB Tech. IOCB Tech supported Czech research connected to COVID 19 in the field of diagnostics with 7 million CZK (Charles University, Institute of Molecular Genetics). M. Fusek also informed on i&i Prague, on its activities and projects. He also introduced the financial balance of both companies. P. Slavíček informed about the meeting of i&i Investment Board where he is a member.
2. *IOCB retreat in Valeč.* The Board discussed several options – a) cancellation of the retreat, b) postponing to an autumn date or c) postponing by one year. Option c) has been selected as the best one (voting: 8 members voted for c), 1 member abstained). The next IOCB retreat will take place in Valeč in May/June 2021 based on availability of the resort.
3. *COVID Situation at IOCB.* A COVID Team has been established, IOCB employees get all current information on News and the website. All necessary safety measures were taken (face masks, disinfection). The director leaves decisions on group leaders whom to enable working from home. Within J. Konvalinka's group, a COVID-19 research team (P. Šácha, R. Kryštůfek, and F. Sedlák) developed RNA isolation kits for scaling-up COVID-19 diagnostics. The kit is based on magnetic beads from Radek Zbořil lab at RCPTM Olomouc. The IOCB team can produce 5-10 thousand isolations a week. Beside the isolation kits, research is in progress developing tests on antibodies (ELISA) in cooperation with several other groups and scientific institutions.
4. *Research Service Group evaluation.* The director has all material from group leaders in hand, he will send it to the Board members for evaluation the scientific part of the groups.

5. *IOCB Most significant publications.* Group leaders submitted their most significant papers published in 2019 to the director's office. The publications will be sent to IAB for evaluation. Group leaders who are interested can get the papers for reading and give their opinion/rating as advisory body to the director.
6. *Postdoctoral Support application.* Jitka Neburková applied for the CAS postdoctoral support. The Board obtained all material ahead of time and unanimously supports her application.
7. *2nd joint IOCB-JHIPC meeting.* 1st joint meeting took place in 2018, the Board discussed the options to continuing of these meetings. Expression of interest should be collected after announcement at the next Group Leaders meeting to find the best possible framework. The Board suggests L. Rulíšek to organize it.
8. *Safety at IOCB - update.* The Board is concerned about lab safety. Mr. Pošta, responsible for safety at IOCB, suggested e-learning on safety topics (he suggested a company that arranges it). B. Fričová offered to organize first-aid courses at IOCB. The Board however calls for practical fire exercises, for specific advice in the labs, and for waste management manual to be available to all IOCB groups. The Board also reminds that M. Hocek was willing to help with safety education of students and postdocs.
9. *IOCB at the Horizon.* The director informed on the preparation of the site for Cryo-EM. Building a bunker in the courtyard is in preparation. The Board members are asked to think of researchers who would be experienced enough to handle the instrument.

The date of the next meeting will be set on doodle.

April 26, 2020