



Minutes of the IOCB Board Meeting No. 8/2020 on October 14, 2020

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

Online: Tomáš Obšil, Radim Nencka

Guests: Zdeněk Hostomský, Martin Dračínský (leader of the NMR Group), representatives of the Board of Users: Hana Macíčková Cahová, Ivo Starý, Milan Vrábel

Secretary: Irena Valterová

The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved.

1. *Research Service Group (RSG) Evaluation.* P. Řezáčová opened this topic by summarizing the evaluation process. The meeting of the IOCB Board, representatives of the Board of users, the director, and leaders of the research-service groups took place on September 21, 2020. M. Dračínský was back then not able to participate, therefore, he provided the results of the NMR Group at the present meeting and answered questions.

With all parts of the evaluation completed, the IOCB Board discussed the major results of the evaluation and will formulate written recommendations to the director and RSG leaders. The material will be discussed among Board members and approved per rollam or at the next Board meeting.

2. *COVID 2019.* Testing of the employees is done by Elfogene, which is a certified company. The Board recommends that the Communications Team publishes rules for the employees how to behave if someone feels ill or has been in contact with a positively tested person. P. Šácha agreed to communicate this with the Communications Team.
3. *Call for Junior Group Leader in organic chemistry.* The interviews took place in September. Dr. Durga Hari was recommended as the only one to be offered the position by the IAB. The Director went into negotiations, but Dr. Hari asked for some time to decide. Dr. Matthew Horwitz was promoted by M. Hocek as a second candidate to apply for an ERC grant, but he refused that option. In case the call cannot be successfully completed, a new one should be announced as soon as possible.
4. *Most Significant IOCB Papers.* The new deadline for completing the selection is end of October. The papers will be ranked by IAB and external members of the IOCB Board and informally also by the group leaders.

5. *IOCB Financial Strategy*. The director informed about the meeting of the IOCB Supervisory Board (September 23), where an amended Agreement between IOCB and IOCB Tech was approved. The amended agreement covers an increase of the reward for IOCB Tech from current 10 % to 25 %. On October 13, the "Property Commission" (Majetková komise) of the CAS approved this agreement in an accelerated proceeding.
6. *Strategic collaboration between MIT and IOCB*. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) is interested to establish a Global Seed Fund, in analogy to the already existing MIT-Germany Seed Fund with other countries (<https://misti.mit.edu/faculty-funds>). The MISTI Global Seed Funds grant program promotes and supports early-stage collaborations between MIT researchers and their counterparts around the globe. The Foreign Dept. of the CAS supports this idea and recommends IOCB to work together with IOCB Tech toward establishing the MIT-Czech Republic Seed Fund.
7. *Physical capacity limits at IOCB*. The increasing number of employees resulted in full physical capacity of almost all IOCB labs. The director and the Board discussed potential solutions and recommendations for an optimal size of the institute concerning the number of employees. The Board stresses that safety regulations must be obeyed in the labs. Labs must not be overcrowded since this results in potential risks; safety must be at the first place in decision making.
8. *Safety at IOCB*. The Board requests again i) a workshop or at least on-line training of employees on lab safety, ii) hiring an English-speaking person to the safety department, who will assist group leaders in guaranteeing safety in their labs; iii) providing a written manual of waste management at IOCB. Radim Nencka asked Michal Hocek to give a seminar on safety at IOCB. M. Hocek promised to do it soon.

Next meeting of the IOCB Board will take place on Friday November 20 at 9 AM.

October 26, 2020