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## Minutes of the IOCB Board Meeting No. 1/2021 on January 14, 2021

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

Online: Ullrich Jahn

Guests: Zdeněk Hostomský, Martin Fusek, Iva Pichová

Secretary: Irena Valterová

The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved.

1. *IOCB Goals and Organization 2021-2025.* The board discussed material per rollam and during the meeting. Thanks to all who sent their comments. The introduction part should be rewritten to emphasize achievements, HR Award application should be included, the administration and management should be described in more detail. Main goals should be emphasized – scientific results and their translation, education, and internationalization. At the February meeting, a draft of a new document should be presented and discussed to allow swift completion of the document.
2. *IOCB Tech Revenue.* Martin Fusek presented his plans for the economy (expected income and spending) of IOCB Tech in 2021. Part of the funds will be transferred to i&i Prague who signed a contract with European Investment Fund (EIF) to create a fund serving to European countries for founding spin-off companies. The Director emphasized that involvement in the EIF is viewed as a positive step, a great success and recognition of Czech science. The legal and financial aspects of this change were discussed and the question of control over the spending was raised. Petr Slavicek raised the question of control mechanisms for such large transfers.
3. *IOCB Bridging Support for Young Investigators (IOCB BridgeY).* I. Pichová presented the idea of creating new types of internal grants, a support for young scientists who applied for external grants, received good evaluations, but were not financed due to the lack of funds of the granting agency. The current bridging internal grants are meant for group leaders, while the new type of grant will be intended for young investigators from IOCB groups. The duration will be for 1 year. The decision about granting will be made by the director. The Board supports this type of grant support.
4. *Last Year of the Board Term.* The Board plans the following activities for the beginning 2021:
  - a) approval of the table of investment planned by group leaders (beginning of February)

- b) first version of the IOCB budget (end of February)
  - c) awards (nominations and approval wherever needed) in coordination with V. Palečková.
5. *New Virology Institute/Centre*. The director informed the Board about the intention of CAS to build a Virology Centre. The building will be financed from EU Recovery and Resilience Facility and coordination and active participation in its construction were offered to IOCB. Zdeněk Havlas, Jan Konvalinka, and Martin Fusek will be invited to the next IOCB Board meeting and will provide more detailed information.
  6. *Partners/spouses working at IOCB*. The Board sees important managerial decisions by superiors influencing careers of their spouses, life partners, or other family members as conflicts of interest. The Board recommends proceeding in such cases in one of the following ways: (i) delegating such decisions to an appropriate person (e.g., a deputy of the superior) or (ii) stating openly that the superior is aware of the conflict of interest but declares that it will not affect the professional judgement.
  7. *Translational Research Institute*. The discussion about the concept of the Translational Research institute continued. The IOCB Board in principle supports the idea and encourages the IOCB director to elaborate the concept of the Institute in more detail and provide the Board his vision of creation and functioning of the Institute.
  8. *IOCB Retreat Valeč 2021*. IOCB retreat, which was canceled in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic, is planned to take place August 30-September 2, 2021 in hotel Valeč. This point will be reconsidered at the next meeting
  9. *COVID Initiative CAS*. The Board appreciates public activities of IOCB scientists aimed at explaining importance, impact and possible side effect of COVID-19 vaccines to the public.
  10. *Miscellaneous*. IOCB purchased an apartment house in Thunovská 16, Prague, which will be used for accommodation of IOCB employees and visiting scientists. The IOCB management informed the IOCB Supervisory Board and the Property Commission of the CAS about the purchase. According to the law, the IOCB Board approves the budget of IOCB and, therefore, the Board appreciates being informed beforehand in more detail about intended purchases of real estate in the future. Petr Svoboda asked for the estimate of the running costs of the hotel? Petr Slavíček raised the questions whether an analysis occurred before the purchase of the hotel?

The next meeting of the IOCB Board will take place on February 12th, 2021.

January 16, 2021