



Minutes of the IOCB Board Meeting No. 3/2021 on February 25, 2021

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

Excused: Radek Pohl, Tomáš Obšil

Guests: Zdeněk Hostomský, Jana Pokorná, Martin Matoušek

Secretary: Irena Valterová

The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved.

1. *IOCB Real Estate Strategy*. M. Matoušek explained the real estate strategy of the institute. Buying real estate is one of the ways how to diversify the IOCB assets. According to the law, IOCB as a scientific-research institution is restricted in that the proportion of its commercial income cannot exceed 20% of its non-commercial income. Therefore, IOCB must develop a strategy for diversification of assets. M. Matoušek presented the idea of founding a new legal entity, a trust fund (based on art. 28, par. 4 of the Act on the Public Research Institute) that would enable to save money for the future and for sustainable development of the institute. The Board requests specific numbers and information on the intended trust fund.

At present, the real estate value of IOCB amounts to approximately 600 million CZK and the director plans to roughly triple these assets in the future. The Board supports the real estate development of the institute as well as providing excellent conditions such as accommodation to foreign employees and guests. At the same time, the Board requires transparent rules for renting accommodation facilities to employees and guests.

2. *IOCB Goals, Mission, and Organization 2021-2025*. All Board members, the director and M. Fusek sent their comments and modifications. The document was discussed, and it will be updated and prepared for approval at the next meeting.

3. *IOCB and the planned Virology Institute/Center*. Information on recent negotiations and development was given by Z. Hostomský. He has been given a leading position in negotiations the parties from other interested institutions (MU, CEITEC, JU) and the frame of a consortium has been created. IOCB will play a prominent role in being the steward and distributor of the research funds provided by EU-administered National Rescue Fund through the Ministry of Education. IOCB will coordinate these efforts and create a strategy for using the EU money.

It should be noted in this context that founding of the academic institution with the tentative name "A. Holý National Centre of Virology" is a parallel idea that will take much more time to prepare and realize.

4. *IOCB retreat in Valeč*. The retreat is cancelled for this year because of the COVID-19 situation. It will take place next year, 23.-26.5.2022 in Valeč.
5. *Ethical Issues, R. Zbořil case*. The Board is concerned that R. Zbořil gave contradictory statements to editors and to the local science community about their recently retracted paper from Nat. Commun.. Furthermore, he now publishes under IOCB affiliation together with people who participated in data mismanagement in their retracted papers. The Board will invite R. Zbořil to one of the next meetings and discuss the issue with him.
6. *IOCB Budget 2021*. The final version will be available on March 22. The next Board meeting takes place on March 29th, 9.00 in the Director's meeting room. Major point will be the budget approval.

February 26, 2021