

Board, Centre for Molecular Medicine Norway (NCMM)

Oslo, August 2022

Minutes from Board Meeting 24 august 2022

Time: Wednesday 24 August 2022, 12:00-14:00

Place: Zoom

Executive officer: Ingrid Kjelsvik

	Present	Absent
Professor Jens Petter Berg (UiO/OUS), Chair	X	
Professor Arne Klungland (UiO), member	X	
Professor Hilde Nilsen (UiO), member	X	
Professor Bente Halvorsen (HSØ), member		X
Director Research & Innovation Øystein Krüger (HSØ), member	X	
Professor Ola Myklebost (UiB), national member	X	
Professor Magne Børset (NTNU), national deputy member		X
Dr. Torunn Berge (HSØ), deputy member		X
Professor Arnaldo Frigessi, deputy member		X
Professor Janna Saarela (NCMM), Director	X	

 Agenda (O = information item, D = discussion item B = decision item)

Case 23-22B Approval of minutes from last Board meeting

Draft minutes from the Board meeting on 15 June were available.

Decision: The minutes were approved.**Case 24-22B Recruitment of Assistant Director – update**

NCMM presented the call text to the Board and discussed a preferred time line for the recruitment process. With three computational research groups currently at NCMM, the centre would benefit from hiring an Associate Director / senior PI with computational biology expertise. This would help strengthen NCMM's strategy and give further opportunities for both national and international collaboration.

Decision: The Board requested the call text to be updated with the addition of a more explicitly stated requirement of qualifications in computational biology. The call text will be amended and sent for approval on circulation shortly.

Case 25-22B Upcoming Group Leader evaluation. Exempt information cf. §13**Offentlighetsloven (Personnel case)**

Group leader ***** joined NCMM 1 October 2018 and is approaching the fourth year in their first 5-year period. Criteria for the assessment for renewal in function as group leader at NCMM have previously been prepared as well as a procedure for the renewal process that was last dealt with by the Board in June 2019 (Case 23-19B). The procedure includes individual external evaluation of 4-6 experts in the field, followed by an assessment of the evaluations and the group's progress by the SAB. The next SAB visit is scheduled for 28

February – 1 March 2023. The NCMM Director will after this process promote a recommendation to the Board. In the beginning of May, ***** was invited to apply for renewal of their function as a group leader by 1 November 2022. They were also given the opportunity to suggest scientific experts for the evaluation process. The Director presented the list of suggested experts in the meeting.

Decision: The Board approved the list of experts for the Director to select from for the evaluation committee.

Case 26-22O Strategy discussion on continuation of NCMM beyond 2024

NCMM currently is in its third 5-year funding period and receives core funding annually from UiO, RCN and HSØ until the end of 2024. The RCN has communicated that they will not be able to fund NCMM beyond 2024. NCMM had a meeting with the rectorate at UiO in April to discuss the future of the Centre as well as the renewal of the Nordic EMBL Partnership agreement (2023-2032). UiO has expressed willingness to continue supporting NCMM. The rectorate has emphasized a need for an evaluation of NCMM before making a decision. NCMM is discussing with UiO on how the evaluation could take place this fall. Given the short timeline, it would need to be a mini-evaluation rather than a fully comprehensive one as was done in 2018. The Board suggested that it would be useful if the evaluation would focus on the original purpose of the Centre, and that perhaps the previous SAB members could be invited for the evaluation committee. Meanwhile, HSØ is positive about strengthening its collaboration with NCMM and therefore continuing its support.

Decision: The Board took note of the briefing.

Case 27-22O Miscellaneous

- 1) The Director informed that research activity at NCMM has been affected by recent technical difficulties with ventilation and electricity in the Oslo Science Park building. NCMM is now supported by UiO in solving these problems.

Decision: The Board took note of the briefing.

- 2) NCMM has recruited two new group leaders that start in 2022. The Board would like to have the new group leaders present their research plans in the board meetings this fall.

Decision: New group leaders, ***** and *****, will be invited to present their research in the next two Board meetings.

Sincerely,

Jens Petter Berg
Chair NCMM Board

Janna Saarela
NCMM Director