

Board, Centre for Molecular Medicine Norway (NCMM)
Oslo, 26 August 2019

Notice of NCMM Board Meeting

Time: Monday 2 September, 12:45
Place: NCMM, Meeting room Nano (level D3)

Executive officer: Elisa Bjørgo

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

Case 32-19B Approval of minutes from last Board meeting

Draft minutes from the Board meeting on June 19 were available (Attachment 1).

Proposed

Decision: The minutes are approved.

Case 33-19B Call for new NCMM group leader – appointment of evaluation committee

NCMM is in the process of recruiting a new group leader in precision medicine. The call was published in the beginning of July (Attachment 2) and the application deadline is September 15.

NCMM follows EMBL's recommendations for selecting group leaders and asks the Board to appoint an international selection committee (see Attachment 3).

A time-line for the recruitment process has been prepared. The committee will have a telephone conference to discuss and rank candidates mid-October and the interviews will take place on November 13 or 18.

Proposed

Decision: The Board appoints the suggested international Evaluation Committee.

Case 34-19O Strategy discussion on continuation of NCMM – update

The Board already in the spring 2017 started a strategy discussion regarding the continuation of the Centre for a third 5-year period. The RCN in September 2018 confirmed that they will continue to fund NCMM for a third 5-year period as long as the two other current owners, UiO and HSØ, also commit to continue their funding. UiO in June 2019 confirmed their financial commitment for the period 2020-2024.

It is critical to secure continued funding beyond 2019 also from the health region sector, and end of June, UiO vice-rector Per Morten Sandset invited representatives from NCMM, HSØ, OUH and Ahus to a meeting. In addition, the NCMM Director in the beginning of July had a strategy meeting with Øystein Krüger and Hilde Nilsen. The NCMM Director will give an update in the meeting.

As a national Centre, NCMM in coordination with its current owners also wishes to explore the possibility of including all four Health Regions and all four universities with medical schools as owners of the Centre for the upcoming five-year period. The NCMM Director visited Bergen in the spring and has also had discussions with Tromsø. An update will be given in the meeting.

Proposed

Decision: The Board takes note of the briefing.

Case 35-19O Group leader evaluation – update

Group leader *** is in *** final year of *** first 5-year period at NCMM and submitted the dossier in June. Four scientific experts have confirmed to assess the work and send back reference letters by September 1.

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 November 2018 (Case 59-18B). 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 NCMM Director will after this process promote a recommendation to the Board.

Proposed

Decision: The Board takes note of the briefing.

Case 36-19B Evaluation of group leaders – updated procedure

In the June Board meeting (Case 23-19) the Board stated that for future evaluations, group leaders should be asked to name both potential experts as well as people they want excluded (and they should justify why they want these people excluded, e.g. competitive reasons or bias). Group leaders should not see the final list or be allowed to veto anyone else.

This has been specified in the Procedure for evaluation of renewal of group function periods and group leader appointments (Attachment 4).

Proposed

Decision: The revised procedure for evaluation of renewal of group function periods and group leader appointments is approved.

Case 37-19O SAB visit

The NCMM Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) has 6 members and since 2017 Richard Treisman, Research Director, Francis Crick Institute, London, is the chair.

The next SAB visit will take place on October 22-23 and a draft program has been prepared (Attachment 5). The NCMM Director and the SAB chair are in the process of planning the visit and the group leaders will be informed about what to prepare in their next group leader meeting.

Margaret Frame will rotate out of the NCMM SAB after this visit and must be replaced this fall.

Proposed

Decision: The Board takes note of the briefing.

Case 38-190 Health, Safety and Environment – regular updates

The Faculty of Medicine has requested that HSE matters should be included regularly at Board meetings. CAO Ingrid Kjelsvik will give a short update in the meeting.

In the June meeting, the Board requested an overview of all deviations connected to future HSE reports. Here an overview of deviations from the latest report is included (Attachment 6).

Proposed

Decision: The Board takes note of the briefing.

Case 39-190 NCMM administration - update

This fall NCMM will open three calls for administrative positions due to several employees rotating out due to retirement. CAO Ingrid Kjelsvik will give a short update in the meeting.

Proposed

Decision: The Board takes note of the briefing.

Case 40 Miscellaneous

Sincerely,

Jens Petter Berg
Chair NCMM Board

Janna Saarela
Director NCMM