

MultiPark board meeting

2022-02-09, 13:00-14:43, online meeting minutes

Present Board members:

Angela Cenci Nilsson (Chairperson)

Oskar Hansson

Roger Olsson

Kajsa M Paulsson

Madeleine Durbeej-Hjalt

Jesper Petersson (13:53-)

Matilde Negrini

Marta Ramos (13:40-)

Absent Board members:

David Gisselsson Nord

Arne Lindgren

Others present:

Diana Jerman (meeting secretary)

- §1. Welcome address by Angela Cenci Nilsson**
Angela Cenci Nilsson welcomed our 3 new Board members, and gave a brief presentation of MultiPark.
- §2. Designation of minute reviewer (*justeringsperson*)**
Kajsa Paulsson was assigned, together with the chairperson, to approve the minutes.
- §3. Approval of the agenda**
The Board approved the agenda.
- §4. Declaration of conflict of interest**
No conflict of interest.
- §5. Approval of the minutes from the previous board meeting on 2021-12-01**
The Board approved the minutes from the previous board meeting on 2021-12-01.
- §6. Approval of delegated decisions**
The Board approved the delegated decisions that are summarised in enclosure 2.
- §7. Presentation of MultiPark's organisational structures and suggestions for changes emerged from the PI member retreat on**

January 21st

-Dismantling the 7 translational working groups

-Establishing a more dynamic structure consisting of special interest groups and task force groups

Angela Cenci Nilsson presented the current organisational structure of MultiPark, and then presented the suggestions for changes put forward by the senior researchers attending the PI-retreat on 21 January 2022.

§8. Discussion on how these suggestions can be implemented and how the steering group and the steering document should be revised thereafter

Several board members had questions regarding the formation of special interest groups based on the argument that any group of researchers can self-assemble spontaneously, whereas PI groups appointed by a SRA should have specific functions and roles. However, after thorough discussion, consensus was reached to accommodate the suggestions for changes that were expressed by the senior researchers attending the PI retreat on January 21.

Therefore, the following **decisions** were taken:

1. Special interest groups will be implemented.

It was decided to appoint these groups via a “bottom-up” approach. A survey will be sent to the senior members asking them to indicate whether they are interested in coordinating the formation of a special interest group. The groups will be self-organised, will consist of a minimum 4 senior members but will have to be open to all senior members who wish to join them, and they will have to state which specific goals of the MultiPark strategic plan they aim to work towards.

2. “Task-force groups” will provide a complementary structure and will be appointed by a “top-down” approach.

These groups are appointed when there is a need to develop certain key areas that are not yet well-attended within MultiPark. Task-force groups will be formed by persons with specific competences, for example to establish a technical approach, and they will also conduct educational activities related to these. The number of these task-force groups will be limited, and their mandate should be for a 2-year period.

3. Have a call for seed-funding for new projects. Maximum 2 grants of maximum 500 000 SEK per application/per year.

4. The steering group will be appointed by the coordinators, and consist of a mixture of previous and new steering group members that represent the different areas of MultiPark. Additional members will be invited on occasions when specific matters are to be discussed (e.g. education, innovation, infrastructures).

It was decided to implement the above initiatives for a limited period, and then evaluate the outcome.

The passages in the steering document that are related to the working groups and the steering group should be amended accordingly.

§9. Budget 2021 follow-up

Angela Cenci Nilsson presented the outcome of the 2021 budget. There was a surplus of approx. 5,8 Million that was carried over to the 2022 budget. It was noticed that certain items that had been budgeted among the experimental infrastructures had not been used, most likely due to insufficient information about them. The Board suggested to appoint a coordinating person (even if part-time) to collect and distribute information, and take part in the evaluation of MultiPark-supported infrastructures.

Angela Cenci Nilsson presented the updated 2022 budget. There is a surplus of approx. 3,2 Million SEK in unallocated funds. After consulting with the EMV department, MultiPark can use maximum 2 Million for seed-funding or strategic initiatives. The remaining 1,2 Million should be kept as a buffer to cover retroactive salary costs, and unexpected costs.

A suggestion for strategic initiatives will be presented at the next Board meeting.

§10. Other

Stefan Jovinge informed that Region Skåne has approved to provide major financial support for the building of an Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMP) Centre, where the Stem-PD trial will be a flagship project. The Chairperson expressed warm congratulations to Stefan Jovinge and pointed out that MultiPark-supported investigators (i.e. the Cell Therapy Working Group) have been a major driving force for the development of this key infrastructure

Roger Olsson mentioned the ongoing process for the formation of profile areas at Lund University, and asked about the stance of MultiPark in this regard. The Chairperson explained that different investigators within MultiPark are creating profile areas with stakeholders external to MultiPark. Since the coordinators were not asked for advice on this matter, they cannot take responsibility for possible negative consequences that this process may have on the MultiPark network in the long-run.



Angela Cenci Nilsson



Kajsa Paulsson



Diana Jerman (meeting secretary)