

FIN3R Center Board Meeting

Zoom, February 21st 2023, 11.00 – 12.00

Participants:

Eero Lehtonen, Chair of the board, Chair of the meeting

Dario Greco, Coordinator of the FIN3R Center

Tommaso Serchi, Coordinator's Advisor

Johanna Englund, Replacement Director

Vootele Voikar, Refinement Director

Jenni Hakkarainen, Replacement Advisor

Sarka Lehtonen, Replacement Advisor

Virve Sihvola, Replacement Advisor

Johanna Åhlgren, Refinement Advisor

Brian Mphande, Refinement Advisor

Rami Kuhanen, Refinement Advisor

Satu Kuure, Reduction Advisor

Reetta Hinttala, Reduction Advisor

Francisco Lopez Picon, Reduction Advisor

Sara Sladakovic, Communication Officer

Purpose of the meeting:

Meeting was held to introduce new directors and their advisors to other R groups, discuss each groups' plans, look back on the activities already conducted since the new board has been elected. This was an opportunity for the groups to discuss, give feedback, suggestions and make common plans. In addition, some of the question and issues from the previous board have been addressed as well, setting new rules, and exchanging knowledge on different issues.

Agenda:

1. Introduction of the new board members: directors and their advisory groups have shortly presented themselves, professional background and interests, how they are connected with the 3R principles, and what is their vision and goal as members of the organization.
2. Report of already conducted activities: two of the present directors have presented what their own group has done so far, plans and goals until the end of the year 2023. Replacement groups has suggested a workshop in the upcoming months on the topic of Noval 3D Cultures. The

exact time and place are to be announced. As well, Replacement Director (along with some of the other members of the board) will be present at the Annual meeting of Matrix biology and Cell biology societies on March 31st, in Helsinki. Refinement group has presented an idea of having an international speaker for a lecture in March. Again, exact time and place are to be announced. In the name of the third director, Reduction advisory group members have given a short summary of their discussion so far, presenting a way on how to include into the final event of the year, the 3R Symposium, a course on 3R principles for PhD students. Common agreement is that the general topic of the Symposium should cover activities and topics of each R. The Symposium will take place in December, and the exact dates and place will be announced shortly.

3. Financial reporting: the Coordinator of FIN3R has pointed out some of the issues regarding the financial activities from the last year, that should be prevented in the future. The conclusion is that every director prepares plan and budget for the activities within one year, that is then discussed. When asking for additional activities to be funded, directors must be aware that the budget regulations might not allow it. However, due to the funding constraints, all the refunds and reimbursements should be done until the end of the year, as the final report must be presented to TOKES in the end of December. For help in this regard, Anna Vallius (anna.vallius@tuni.fi) is a contact person. To make it easier in cases when individuals are asking for the refunds of any costs, directors should have a list of people that are eligible to receive it. Finally, due to the funding agreement, FIN3R Center cannot pay prizes from its budget. The advisor made inquiries if it is possible for private companies to provide grants, co-finance some of the events, pay prizes etc., and this is yet to be confirmed by the next meeting.
4. Social Media and Communications: Communication Officer has presented what has been done so far to ensure and increase the visibility of the FIN3R Center in the online sphere as well. Board has discussed options for improving the visibility, advancing the presence in social media and strategy how to do it. Board members agreed to provide input and help when creating the content, but as well as to provide information of different activities and events FIN3R is organizing, participating in, or directors and advisors are included in and could be relevant for the work of the group.
5. Regular meetings: the Board has agreed to meet bi-monthly to share updates of the conducted activities, and to discuss the future events. The exact times will be decided in agreement with the Chair of the Board as soon as possible.

Closing of the meeting:

Meeting was dismissed after an hour, scheduling a new meeting to occur in two months' time.