

FIN3R Meeting Minutes

August 26th, 2025, Zoom, 11.00-12.30

Participants: Eero Lehtonen, Jenni Hakkarainen, Marianna Norring, Mikko Airavaara, Satu Kuure, Bian Mphande, Johanna Englund, Tomasso Serchi, Hanna-Marja Voipio, Vootele Voikar, Sarka Lehtonen, Hajnalka Nadai, Reetta Hintala, Dario Greco, Sara Sladakovic

Agenda:

1. Meeting Minutes Approval (May): Meeting Minutes were accepted with no objections.

2. Past and Future Activities:

Replacement: No new updates after the summer break

Reduction:

- Satu Kuure and Pirjo Laakkonen travelled to Brussels to discuss the use of animals in research with the parliament members. There were three meetings which were useful, as the MPs did not have much awareness about the usage of animals in research, even though there is a lot of discussion about discontinuing it.
- Mikko Airavaara attended the European Clinical Pharmacology Meeting in Helsinki, gathering 600 participants and a good scientific program. Overall, Europe is performing well in regards to animal research, but it is significantly lacking in innovation due to the difficult funding situation.

Refinement:

- Members of the refinement team attended and presented at the FELASA meeting in June in Athens. The program was focused on reducing the severity in research and practical workshops.

Upcoming events:

- Experimental Design Workshop in Helsinki in two weeks. Original plan was to accept 20 participants, but in agreement with the tutors 24 out of 28 applicants were accepted to attend. Participants come from Helsinki, Tampere, Oulu and Kuopio.
- Cost Action IMPROVE is hosting a workshop about the 3R Center Networking in Italy, and Vootele Voikar will attend online (Johanna Englund might join as well).

3. Financial issues: About 10 000 euros is left in the budget and it will be used for the FIN3R Symposium, Experimental Design Workshop and Welfare Body Meeting in Helsinki. Budget for 2026 is confirmed.

4. TOKES Update: No news, as there was no meeting during the summer. More information will be available at the next board meeting.

5. Annual Symposium: The program of the Symposium is almost done, and it is available on the website and the social media. Each of the R-directors will give a short presentation, covering the overview and the recommendations for the future. Registrations are open, and the first deadline is by the end of September. FIN3R board meeting will be held on October 28th in Turku in person. Advertising should be as active as possible, sharing the information in Provet.

6. Call for the Directors: No applications have been submitted yet, and everyone is invited to share the call within their networks or apply for another term on board.

7. Other issues:

- **Website improvements:** The current version of the website has shortcomings that might not be able to fix. The website designer has suggested making the new website, as the implementing the changes to the current one cannot be

guaranteed, even after implementing the new features. The costs would be the same. It is left for discussion if already available templates could be used, and if the website should be integrated into the Tampere University website, as it is not possible to do it at Helsinki University.

- **Sponsorship request for the Body-on-Chip Annual Meeting:** Johanna Englund would like to attend and represent replacement, and it would be nice to choose the sponsorship option to give a presentation at the event. The final decision will be made by discussing in the email.
- **Next meeting:** Coming up in November, however, and additional meeting will be scheduled for around two weeks before the Symposium. It will serve to discuss the application for the new directors and finalize the Symposium preparations.

Meeting was adjourned at 11.58. Next meeting's time is to be confirmed shortly.