Brain and Mind
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 3, 2014
NSC Room 245C
11:15 a.m. -12:15 a.m.
Jody Culham, Jessica Grahn, Stefan Köhler, Adrian Owen, Mel Goodale
Postdoctoral Rep: Annika Linke, Graduate Rep: Dan Cameron
Guest: Patrick Callaghan
Regrets: Brian Corneil

1. Correction to minutes from last meeting – Regarding BMI Community Coffee Break
   - Certain individuals will commit to cover the cost of the BMI Coffee Breaks for now and once it is more established we will find another way to fund these breaks.

2. Remarks from the Director
   - Postdoc’s applying for Cluster who arrive in January of 2015
     - If apply within 6-month period of arriving at Western, will still be considered as a new applicant
     - Another round will be posted after Feb 1, 2015

   - Collaborations with the University of Geneva
     - Patrik Vuilleumier’s visit went very well, he was impressed with the BMI
     - Western University has signed a formal agreement with the University of Geneva allowing for collaborations and joint degrees
     - Discussed beginning the exchanged of Postdocs and Grad students during the summer months
     - The hosting university will cover the cost of accommodations for guest and the sending Institute will cover the cost of the airfare
     - Need to find faculty members who have colleagues over at the University of Geneva to begin the exchange process

   - Prof. David Purcell – Associate Member
     - After reviewing his CV, the committee was pleased to welcome Prof. Purcell as an Associate Member of the BMI

   - New Building – Design Team for Western Interdisciplinary Research Building
     - Design team now in place at university level and next step is to select the architect
     - following that we will need a BMI & Rotman committee

   - Junior Appointment
     - Some retirements happening in the Department of Science. There is some support in the Dean’s office for making at least some of them Computational Neuroscience positions. We may be able to leverage financial support for such positions with Cluster funds.
• Safety Inspection of the BMI
  - Passed the Safety Inspection held on Friday, November 28th, 2014

• Storage for the Institute
  - Rm 110 will assist with this once it is complete
  - Selected hallway space in the core testing area (2nd floor) has been identified for storage/filing cabinets. 3 units to be secured to the wall before they can be used.

3. New Governance

• Will need to find out from VP office, if there will be a preference for an outside or inside person? Will there opportunities for self-nominating and nominations?
• An ad hoc Committee should be formed to assess needs of the Institute and qualities and qualifications required of the potential candidate. Jessica Grahn (Chair) and Stefan Kohler have begun this process.

4. Application to be and Institute

• Needs to be submitted by end of January 2015
• Patrick Callaghan has a model that can be used and is willing to provide feedback along the way to ensure on the right track
• Need assistance in the form of writers and helpers to organize all the information

5. Baby Calendar

• “BMI Baby Calendar”
• Suggestion to have people make a minimum donation of $10 towards the coffee breaks and their thank you gift would be a calendar.

6. Other business

• Postdoctoral Issues
  - Postdocs will organize the Internal Speaker Series; it was proposed that we have two talks a month, after the coffee break: perhaps the Friday coffee break
  - Suggestion to start in January

• Graduate Student Issues
  - Grad students would like to work with the Postdocs to re-shape the Internal Speakers Series

• Junior Faculty Positions
  - Gone to HR for approval

• Recruitment of BMI PI
  - Offer going out December 4th, 2014