Brain and Mind
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2016 from 2 – 3 pm
Room 245A NSC

Present: Mel Goodale, Jessica Grahn, Stefan Köhler, Daniel Ansari, Brian Corneil, Lorina Naci (Postdoc), Emily Nichols (Grad), and Florence Lourdes

Regrets: Adrian Owen, Charles Weijer (Rotman), Patrick Callaghan and Jody Culham (on sabbatical)

1. Motion to accept Minutes from last meeting were seconded and approved.

2. Director Remarks:

   - Light Rapid Transit – no equipment concerns received from BMI core members in writing. Opportunities to attend City of London town halls.
   - Upcoming BMI Town Hall on April 13, 2016 – all invited to forward agenda items and presentation requests.
   - Motion to approve Terms of Reference for BMI membership (Core and Associate). Motion seconded and approved.
   - Exchange programs (see BMI website for “Making Connections” under News & Events)
     - Monash University visiting April 4 -9, 2016. Drs. Kim Cornish and James Bourne requested to meet with BMI researchers. This visit will hopefully result in a signed exchange agreement.
     - Firming up plans for Donders Research Symposium to be held on Wed., June 1st. Up to 8 BMI PIs attending. A collaborative grant application will be one possible outcome.
     - HBM joint meeting on July 1st – moving forward with meeting. Have received commitments to attend from several BMI researchers – will have a good representation. Opportunity for future collaborations.
   - Search Committee – appointments determined by Central, but recommend BMI have a selection of representatives to present to Central for consideration. Good response to emailed “invitation to nominate”. Search committee will review drafted job posting for junior faculty positions and approve final copy to submit to HR.
   - Postdoctoral Fellowships – posted results on the BMI website to include bio summaries soon.
   - International Graduate Student Scholarships – applications due February 29th and results for the first round to be released by March 15th.
   - Steering Committee – original appointments now reaching three-year mark. Appointments are 3 years, renewable and should be staggered. Recommend emailing BMI core members an open invitation to nominate new members to positions that will not be renewed. Some appointments will be for 2 years, and others for 3 years.
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3. CFREF Update
   - Partnering with McGill University, to submit complementing applications. Letters of support from both universities will be included. The application from Western University will be undergoing several revisions before the March 29th deadline.

4. Financial Update
   - No updates since last meeting.

5. Postdoctoral Update
   - Mentorship program – to launch on May 1st to coincide with Postdoc Day
   - Postdoc presentation on mentorship program scheduled for BMI Town Hall on April 13th. More information also available on SGPS website.

6. Graduate Students Update
   - Request for graduate student representation in WIRB meetings – possibility should more meetings be scheduled.

7. Other Business
   - BMI Visitor Cards – each lab should purchase own visitor cards and would be responsible for the use of the cards. An email on how to order more cards to be distributed soon.
   - High school visits – contact BMI lab members to see who may be available to coordinate tours. Alternatively, recommend Brain Bee, Medical Hall of Fame program, or “Let’s Talk Science” program.
   - Recommend posting BMI outreach activities on BMI website to recognize events and volunteer participation.
   - Next Meeting March 23rd at 2 pm in NSC 245A.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 pm.