



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES IT COMMITTEE

Unconfirmed Minutes of the Meeting held on the 19 December 2017

Present:

Abbi Abbioui (Pharmacology)	Graham Ladds (Pharmacology)
Jenny Barna (SBS/UIS)	Elizabeth MacRae (Zoology)
Paul Bays (Psychology)	Gos Micklem (co-opted)
Phil Brereton (pathology0)	Aylwyn Scally (Genetics)
Alistair Downie (Gurdon Institute)	Christof Schwiening (PDN)
Richard Fieldsend (Psych/Plant Sci),	Eric Timmers (Biochemistry)
Mark Holmes (Chair, Vet Medicine)	
Henrik Jönsson (Sainsbury Laboratory)	

In attendance: Judith Drinkwater (Minutes)

The Chair welcomed Eric Timmers as a new member of the committee, and Gos Micklem, who had joined the committee as a co-opted member.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Ian Clark, Richard Farndale, Marko Hyvonen, Andy Judd, Graham Ladds, Wentao Song

2. Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were received.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 28 September 2017

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising that were not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

5. Governance of Research Computing

The Chair reminded the committee that some years previously funds had been granted by the School of the Biological Sciences to set up aspects of research computing. Since that time, users had had access to High Performance Computing facilities but provision was ad hoc, lacked responsiveness, and was not well advertised to the constituency that needed to use it. There was a need for a strategy to deliver a transparent basic service that was available to all PIs free at the point of use, with payment for priority access, which would

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act as a stimulus to research. Thus far, the various parties in UIS and the School had not provided a proposal for delivering this transparent provision, although meetings had taken place, further funding for the project had been sought (without success) and draft documents been drawn up.

ACTION: Mark Holmes, Gos Micklem and Jenny Barna to finalise a strategy document for circulation to and approval by this committee and onward transmission to Council of the School of the biological sciences and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research

6. General UIS update

Dr Barna would continue to distribute the monthly School IT newsletter, with a valuable range of information, updates, and prompts for IT staff to take action as required. This item would be removed from future agendas.

7. Dates and venue of future meetings

Lent Term 2018: 22 March
Easter Term 2018: 21 June