INNOVATION ADVISORY BOARD
16 September 2015

Minutes of the Second Meeting

Medical Research Council, One Kemble Street, London

Present: Richard Worswick – Chair
         Paul Beasley – Siemens plc
         Debbie Buckley Golder – Innovate UK
         Heather Dunlop-Jones – IBM UK Ltd
         Phil Kaziewicz – GI Partners
         Massimo Noro – Unilever (by phone for items 3-4)
         Jennifer Thompson – Durham Innovations Services, Durham University
         Frank Salzgeber – European Space Agency

Apologies: Tim Bestwick – Executive Director, Business and Innovation

STFC: Sharon Cosgrove – Executive Director, Strategy Planning and Communications
      Lisa Kehoe – Strategy Manager, Secretary to the IAB
      Liz Kirby – Interim Head of Innovation (Items 5 and 6)
      Janet Seed – Associate Director, Strategy, Planning and Communications
      Michaela Simpson – Senior Strategy Manager
1. **Welcome and Introductions**

1.1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, and all those present introduced themselves.

1.2. Debbie Buckley Golder was welcomed to her first meeting.

2. **Minutes and Actions**

   **SOME REFERENCES IN THIS SECTION HAVE BEEN REDACTED AS OFFICIAL**

2.1. The IAB approved the minutes and actions from the July meeting. There were no outstanding actions.

2.2. The IAB’s comments on the review of Diamond Governance had been submitted to the review team and included in the most recent draft which would shortly be reviewed by STFC Council and BIS.

3. **STFC Innovation Activities Status Report**

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3.2. At the July 15 meeting the IAB requested that STFC’s Innovation schemes be reviewed to evaluate whether there was any duplication or gaps in the programme and to ensure that money was being used in the most effective way. This review would be carried out by the Research and Innovation Strategy Group. Draft Terms of Reference would be provided to the IAB in due course.

3.3. The Board noted that it would be very helpful to have more notice of call dates for upcoming schemes to allow companies time to prepare and build partnerships.

3.4. The Board suggested that the potential for interdisciplinary working be considered within STFC e.g. If Hartree is working on flooding we should make sure this is connected to the Global Challenges theme.
4. STFC Comprehensive Spending Review Planning
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4.1. Sharon Cosgrove presented an update on STFC’s Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) planning.

4.2. The Government was expected to announce funding for each Department for 2016-2020 on the 25 November. The process to determine the funding for individual Research Councils would start after the announcement.

4.3. Scienceogram’s comments on this year’s Science and Technology Select Committee inquiry into the science budget were discussed. The document\(^1\) presented statements about Science funding in an accessible way. There was also a TED talk\(^2\) on the blog which summarised the same ideas, and included illustrations based on the costs of nuclear fusion, the Large Hadron Collider and human genome project.

4.4. The Board noted that large companies have market analysts who are constantly reviewing their level of spending; the Board suggested that STFC consider using these analyses, particularly regarding investment in Aerospace and Pharmaceuticals.

4.5. The Board discussed the paper on Campus Clusters, and considered the different characteristics of a Cluster and a Campus. The Board suggested that this topic needed further consideration.

5. STFC Corporate Strategy Refresh
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5.1. Michaela Simpson introduced the item on the Corporate Strategy Refresh. This exercise was seen as an opportunity to be more bold and confident in putting forward STFC’s priorities and affirming its strengths.

5.2. The Board made several recommendations for the next draft.

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\(^1\) https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hlQb-t4NVgGbOJZQwMH55iPzMen46hJbDc8UCCozow/edit?pli=1#

\(^2\) http://scienceogram.org/video/
6. **STFC Computing Strategy**  
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6.1. Janet Seed introduced the STFC Computing Strategy which had been approved by Science Board and Executive Board. The paper would go to STFC Council in September and the next step would be to develop an implementation plan.

7. **AOB**

7.1. The Board was asked to complete the poll to agree the dates for 2016 meetings.

7.2. The Board requested a short 2-3 page bulletin to update member on activities between this meeting and the next. It was agreed that this would be provided by the secretary.