Brain and Mind
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

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

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

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

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

2. Director Remarks:

   • CFREF – 51 LOIs were submitted this round and 30 institutes were invited to the application stage, Western included. McGill will also be applying with a very similar proposal title. Consequently, Western and McGill will not merge their proposals but plan to cross reference each other as much as possible. McGill has agreed to submitting parallel applications to complement the strengths of both institutes with the goal that both institutes would secure funding. Application deadline is March 29, 2016.

   • BMI Website – to complement Western’s CFREF submission, the BMI website will be revisited and updated to include the core areas and research themes outlined in Western’s application. Terry Rice will also be contacted to arrange for more photos and video clips.

   • HBM Joint Meeting – scheduled for July 1, 2016. Still confirming who will be attending – presently about 6-7 BMI members.

   • Exchange Programs - Western delegates visiting Donders group this May, possibly pairing with research symposium on June 1st. Email invites to be circulated by Brian Corneil in near future.

   • Kim Cornish and James Bourne, from Monash, visiting Western from April 3-9, 2016. Email the BMI Director or AO if interested in meeting them. Anticipate an exchange agreement with postdocs and grad students from this visit.

   • Space Planning Committee – members have been confirmed and all will be officially notified by email.

   • New Building (WIRB) – have posted tender addendum to only existing bids. The successful bidder to be determined in the near future.

   • BMI Membership Appointments – further discussion on drafted membership criteria and terms. To also discuss at upcoming Core Member (PI) meeting.

   • Postdoctoral Fellowship Competition - competition results with bio-sketches to be posted on the BMI website. Recommendation: to fully fund postdoctoral position for 1 to 2 years under the Cluster funds. Justification would be required in order to be considered for full support. Agreed to further discuss. One postdoctoral recipient has received a NSERC Postdoctoral award – will use Cluster funds to “top up” difference, if needed.

   • International Graduate Student Scholarship Competition – first round of applications due February 29th. Applications will continue to be accepted up to April 1, 2016.
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- Succession Planning – uncertainty about proceeding. May need a trigger/marker
to jumpstart discussions.

3. Financial Update

- No updates since last meeting.

4. Postdoctoral Update

- BMI PIs have agreed to be part of the mentoring bank program. Now rolling
out program to the Faculties – require Dean/Chair support.
- Presentation on Mentoring Bank (coordinated by Schulich) to take place in
near future. More information to come.

5. Graduate Students Update

- No further updates.

6. Other Business

- Next Meeting February 24th at 2 pm in NSC 245A.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 pm.