Brain and Mind Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2017 from 2-3 pm Room 245A NSC

Present: Mel Goodale, Paul Gribble, Marc Joanisse, Stefan Everling, Patrick Callaghan, Rebecca Merkley (Postdoc), Avital Sternin (Grad) and Florence Lourdes

Regrets: Ingrid Johnsrude, Roy Eagleson, Adrian Owen and Jessica Grahn

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

2. Ryan Salewski, BrainsCAN Performance Manager, provided a brief presentation on the CFREF BrainsCAN Postdoctoral Scholars Program, explaining the tiers, distinction between junior and senior applicants and update on McGill’s CFREF program. Results from last Postdoc Accelerator competition will be posted in the near future.

3. Director Remarks:

• WIRB updates: Anticipate disruptions as early as the first week of November when scheduling research activities. Tours of the new building will be scheduled in the week of August 21st. Reviewing AV quotes for lunchroom and meeting rooms and seeking funding sources. Will be sharing cost of AV and appliances in the lunchroom. More information to start preparing for the move is available on the BMI website homepage.

• Postdoctoral fund results have been posted and the next competition will be at the end of January in 2018.

• In preparation of the October Neuroscience Review, both the BMI website and the 2016 Annual Report are being worked on and suggestions are welcome.

• The job posting for junior faculty positions in Cognitive Neuroscience is still open until September 2017. If no more applications are submitted, the positions will be reposted in the new-year.

• Core member applications from Scott MacDougall- Shackleton and David Sherry were reviewed and approved by the Steering Committee. Both applicants will be notified of the decision later in the week.
• PhD Transitional Fund was proposed and discussed. The committee recommended meeting with the SPGS and Juan Luis Suarez to see if there’s interest and support in launching this “bridging” program.

• BMI-MICCN Exchange program for Travel would support early career researchers at both BMI and MICCN. The host institute would cover accommodations and take care of travel expenses for their own researchers. A BMI postdoc has already submitted a letter requesting support to participate in this exchange program. The committee recommended contacting Western International and BrainsCAN about supporting this request. The BMI Steering Committee supports this exchange program in principle under the condition that financing is found.

• The BMI is considering applying to this year’s NSERC Awards for Science Promotion. An email will be circulated to all BMI PIs to provide information as outlined in the competition guidelines. The award amount is $25,000 and unrestricted.

3. BrainsCAN Update - see Ryan Salewski’s presentation above.

4. Financial Update

• A letter from the VPR Office will address the unspent Cluster funds after 5 years. Projected budget for Fiscal 2018 will be reviewed by IPB soon.

5. Postdoctoral Update

**Motion:** To sponsor a workshop before the Psychonomics Society Meeting, November 8 – 9, 2017 in Vancouver, B.C. (see [http://www.opam.net/](http://www.opam.net/)). The committee recommends seeking support from BrainsCAN and BMI will match BrainsCAN contributions. *Amended motion seconded and approved.*

6. Graduate Students Update

• No updates at this time.

7. Other Business

• Next meeting date for the Steering Committee: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 1 pm.

  **Meeting Adjourned at 3 pm.**