

7.9.2010

Regulations of the Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland

These regulations have been approved by the University of Helsinki on 9 June 2010, the Joint Municipal Authority for the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS) on 23 August 2010, the National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) on 7 September 2010 as well as the VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland on 23 June 2010.

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1 Mission of the Institute

The Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland (FIMM) is a joint unit between the University of Helsinki, the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS), the National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) and the VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland. It operates in connection with the University of Helsinki and, in accordance with Section 27 of the Universities Act, is a joint unit between other universities, institutes and organisations.

FIMM is an international institute which, together with the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) and the Nordic centres for molecular medicine, forms the Nordic EMBL Partnership for Molecular Medicine.

The mission of the Institute is as follows:

1. To produce innovations and new data concerning the molecular developmental mechanisms of disease while taking particular advantage of clinical and epidemiological material to diagnose, treat and prevent disease as well as to promote public health;
2. To engage in high-quality international research of a clinical, molecular-medical and genetic-epidemiological nature and to work in cooperation with national and international research centres;
3. To enhance research in the field and to develop infrastructure with universities, university hospitals, research departments and industry to create an internationally visible, multidisciplinary environment of excellence in science and technology;
4. To promote the exploitation of research results;
5. To provide researcher training in the field and research-based education.

2 Organisation

Institute personnel are in an employment relationship with the University of Helsinki, which also manages the financial administration of the Institute. In managing the Institute, the personnel policies and financial rules of the University of Helsinki will apply, as will the regulations and guidelines concerning University administration, financial management, planning and follow-up.

The Institute works in close cooperation with HUS hospitals and research units according to a separate contract.

A unit designated by THL may work in connection with the Institute according to a separate contract. THL personnel are not employed by the Institute.

The Medical Biotechnology Unit of VTT works in connection with the Institute according to a separate contract. VTT personnel are not employed by the Institute.

Research groups from other universities and organisations may work in connection with the Institute according to separate contracts.

3 The Board

The Board of the Institute shall comprise a maximum of nine members and a chairperson. The members each have a personal deputy. The term of the Board is four years.

The University of Helsinki appoints three members to the Board, and HUS, THL and VTT each name one member. The University of Helsinki invites a representative from an industry that benefits from the Institute's research to serve on the Board. One member shall be appointed from among the Institute's staff. In addition, the University of Helsinki may invite a member to represent the Biocenter Finland network.

The University of Helsinki appoints the chair of the Board. The Board shall select a vice chair from among its members.

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4 Duties of the Board

The duties of the Board are as follows:

1. To steer and supervise the Institute's activities and finances;
2. To approve the strategic plans, objectives, budget and human resources plan that affect the Institute's activities and finances;
3. To issue a statement on the Institute's research directors and research group leaders based on international assessments;
4. To approve the annual report of the Institute;
5. To approve the Institute's Rules of Procedure;
6. To propose to the Rector of the University of Helsinki the appointment of the director of the Institute and to appoint a deputy director for the relevant term of office;
7. To appoint the members of the Scientific Advisory Board;
8. To promote the Institute's community relations;
9. To handle and resolve matters referred to it by the director on account of their fundamental importance or far-reaching nature.

5 Meetings and quorum of the Board

The Board convenes when the chair or, in his or her absence, the vice chair deems it necessary or when a minimum of three members submit a written request to discuss a matter.

The Board is quorate when the chair of the meeting, as well as at least half of the other members, are present.

The Institute Director serves as the presenting official at Board meetings.

6 The Director

The Institute shall have a director. The qualification requirements for the position of director include a doctoral degree, expertise in the field of the position, international experience as well as leadership experience suitable for the position.

The duties of the Institute Director are as follows:

1. To be responsible for the management of the Institute in accordance with its strategic plan;
2. To prepare the target programme as well as the human resources plan and budget contained in it, and to negotiate funding with the Rector;
3. To be responsible for the preparation, presentation and implementation of decisions taken by the Board as well as the preparation of matters to be discussed by the Scientific Advisory Board;
4. To decide on the organisation of research and on the distribution of research funding allocated to the Institute;
5. To decide on the engagement of research groups at the Institute and to confirm the appointment of the principal investigator of a new research group, project or network at the Institute;
6. To engage in scientific research and to provide research-based teaching;
7. To develop and maintain international cooperation in research and researcher education and to promote the internationalisation of the Institute;
8. To enhance the Institute's community relations and the exploitation of its research results;
9. To decide on matters which are not included in the Board's mandate or which in the Institute's Rules of Procedure are not assigned under the authority of another official.

The Director may refer to the Board matters of fundamental importance or of a far-reaching nature for handling and resolution.

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7 The Scientific Advisory Board (SAB)

The Board appoints to the Scientific Advisory Board a minimum of six and a maximum of ten internationally recognised experts in the Institute's fields of research and technological activities. The Board shall appoint a chair from among the members of the Scientific Advisory Board. The Scientific Advisory Board shall select a vice chair from among its members. The term of the Scientific Advisory Board is five years.

The duties of the Scientific Advisory Board are as follows:

1. To assess the Institute's activities and quality of research and to provide the Board with recommendations on these matters;
2. To formulate initiatives and to provide statements on the direction of research;
3. To provide a statement on the activities and extensions to the terms of the research groups;
4. To issue statements on the qualifications of applicants for the positions of director and research director.

8 Further provisions

The regulations shall enter into force once the organisations named in Section 1 have approved them.

The activities of the Institute and the duties of its staff may be defined in greater detail in the Rules of Procedure approved by the Board.

The term of office of the Board is four years; however, the term of office of the first Board appointed under these Regulations will end on 31 March 2014.