

Centre for the Clinical Application of Particles

Management Board Meeting #3

Room 532, Level 5, The Blackett Laboratory, Imperial College London

Wednesday, 18Jul18, 10:00 – 12:00

Present:

Ken Long, Dan Elson, Uwe Oelfke, Jamie Meredith, Zulfikar Najmudin, Jaroslaw Pasternak (phone) Victoria Blackmore

Apologies:

Charles Coombes

Notes:

1. Welcome, introductions and goals for the meeting

KL welcomed and thanked everyone for coming.

KL noted that CRUK has changed the way it funds radiotherapy-related research in the UK. The uncertainty created by these decisions, combined with a search for a new Director, has meant that the OIRO's collaboration with the CCAP has been paused until a new Director has been appointed. This has highlighted the importance for a Business Plan and, perhaps subsequently, a collaboration agreement and also the need.

CRUK is expected to release a call for proposals for radiotherapy-related research with a deadline of the end of 2018. The call has not yet been announced, and it was agreed to wait and see the specifics of it before pursuing it.

Discussions with I. McNeish (HoD Surgery and Cancer, IC) have been strong. Engagement with staff from Charing Cross hospital has been enthusiastic. The new Head of Medical Physics, Claire Hardiman, is engaging directly in our activities. Development of interdisciplinary activity is strongly supported by both I. McNeish and M. Dougherty (HoD Physics, IC), who are working together to make a case for the parallel recruitment of Lecturers in bio-physics and radiation medicine. Details of the Centre Manager post are agreed in principle and the details are being worked out.

A synergy has been identified between ICR's (UO, JY) interest in high-dose/microbeam electron radiobiology and an opportunity to use a linac at Charing Cross. A meeting will be set up to discuss this opportunity further **[Action: VB to organise meeting]**

An IC graduate student, H. T. Lau, has now been placed at MedAustron and is contributing to the carbon-ion treatment beamline commissioning. His future work there will be discussed in September **[Action: VB to organise meeting]**

Andrei Seryi has stepped down as Director of the John Adams Institute. Phil Burrows (Oxford) is acting as the interim Director. He has been invited to join us for this and future meetings.

A regular seminar series began on June 27th, 2018, with S. Gruber (MedUni Wien). This will continue with K. Prise (Belfast) on October 24th, 2018 and M. Vretenar (CERN) on December 12th, 2018. Future seminars are being arranged with K. Kirkby (Manchester), and could be held at ICR [**Action: VB to arrange**]

Finally, the second CCAP plenary meeting was held on July 16th, 2018. It has been noted that dates should be set further in advance, and ideally not all should be held in the Blakett Laboratory. [**Action: VB to arrange**]

2. Notes and actions from previous meeting

Actions from the previous meeting are listed below. There are no outstanding actions.

- **BV:** Circulate list of s/w packages that simulate the passage of particle beams through tissue;
 - Superseded
- **JY:** Circulate list of simulation packages presently in use within the ICR to simulate particle interactions with tissue;
 - Completed
- **VB:** survey the available treatment-planning software;
 - Superseded
- **VB:** Incorporate comments in the summary document tabled at the meeting and circulate for further amendment;
 - Completed
- **KL:** Seek volunteers to draft discussion documents outlining the programme to be carried out in each of the two themes outlined above;
 - Completed
- **VB:** Organise “CCAP plenary meeting” in September 2017;
 - Completed
- **KL/VB:** Organise a “half-day” meeting to discuss the two themes outlined above;
 - Completed
- **KL/VB:** Initiate organisation of peripatetic CCAP seminar series;
 - Completed
- **MH:** Invite CCAP members to take part in the MSc course on radiobiology that he runs at OIRO;
 - Superseded
- **MW/DG:** Organise “clinician-led” CCAP programme-development meeting;
 - Completed
- **VB:** Circulate summary of industrial connections from R. Wilson
 - Completed
- **VB:** Identify date and time of the next MB meeting by Doodle
 - Completed
- **MW (with KL/VB):** Take forward the development of a concept for a paper that analyses the benefits of radical technological developments in the clinical use of particles.

- Completed

3. Discussion of development of business plan

The Business Plan has been discussed individually with the key authors of each of the three main themes. We agreed to seek to complete the Business Plan in the Autumn term of 2018. Completion of the Business Plan will be used to establish the first meetings and activity of the Governing Board and International Advisory Board.

Teaching and continuing professional development was noted as an area that needed more development. A medical imaging undergraduate course is currently offered at IC.

The ASAIL laser collaboration will be included in the business plan, and the benefits of (high dose rate/microbeam) electron beam radiotherapy will be mentioned.

It was agreed that the Business Plan will consist of a public-facing and Centre-facing part.

3. Status of proposals made to date, future funding opportunities

Two successful proposals: European Partners application succeeded, and STFC Impact Acceleration Account.

It was agreed that a more strategic approach should be employed, which raises the priority of the development of the Business Plan. KL has committed to preparing an ERC Advanced Grant Application consisting of 'Phase I' of the desired radiobiology facility. Proposal sections have been assigned to the key writers, and text is being assembled. The secondary gain of a costed project plan was identified as an important priority, in addition to the primary purpose of the proposal. An ERC Synergy Grant was noted as an alternative route for this proposal if, once costed, it fell outside the bounds of the Advanced Grant call.

The CRUK Multidisciplinary Project Award was considered too high risk when reviewed, and it was agreed that it would be reformatted for an EPSRC Healthcare call.

4. Development of links with industry

KL attended the Proton and Ion Medical Machine Study 2 meeting at CERN, which identified a potential site in the Balkan states. Opportunity exists to develop an international collaboration in this area, as their goals are aligned with ours.

5. Future meetings

- Seminar series
 - K. Prise, 24/10/18, 4pm, Blackett Laboratory
 - M. Vretenar, 12/12/18, 4pm, Blackett Laboratory
- Proposed invitations to:
 - K. Kirkby (Manchester), being arranged
 - P. McKenna (Strathclyde)

- C. Phillips (IC)
- M. Durante (GSI)
- Next meetings
 - Management board meeting: 6/11/18, 10:00—12:00
 - Plenary meeting: 6/11/18, 14:00—18:00

6. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be on November 6th, 2018, from 10:00—12:00.

7. Summary of actions

The principal actions from the meeting are summarised at the end of this document.

9. Any other business

KL to circulate his bi-monthly reports to the MB, and to post on website.

Summary of actions

- **VB:** Initiate Doodle poll for next MB and plenary meetings
 - Completed
- **VB:** Continue to arrange Seminar Series
- **VB:** Arrange meeting between ICR and CHX to discuss opportunities with high dose/microbeam electron radiotherapy
- **VB:** Arrange meeting at MedAustron to discuss future work of IC student.