
Meeting

IPAB Staff Meeting

DateThursday, 30th June 2022**Attendees**

Ram Ramamoorthy (RR) – chair

Bob Fisher (BF)

Michael Herrmann (MH)

Mohsen Khadem (MK)

Alex Lascarides (AL)

Ruaridh Mon-Williams (RMW)

Cristian Novotny (CN)

Kartic Subr (KS)

Steph Smith (SS)

Kasia Stoinska (KSt)

Apologies: Stefano Albrecht, Sethu Vijayakumar,
Barbara Webb, Chris Lu, Steve Tonneau, Hakan Bilen

Place

G.03, IF

Time

2pm

1. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes from the last meeting were agreed as accurate.

2. Matters arising

No matters arising.

3. Arrangements during co-vid

It was agreed that this items should now be removed as a fixed agenda item.

4. Arrivals and departuresLeavers

Vlad Ivan – taken up new post as Staff Roboticist with Touchlabs.

5. New grants and proposals, research opportunities

Ram – UKRI New Horizons Scheme - £250k (PDRA x 2 years)

Turing call

Turing Special Interests Group – if interested, contact Ram.

6. Budget and resources

Apologies from Joanne.

Institute funds for the current financial year are now spent. The next financial year starts 1st August 2022.

Institute funding requests

The number of Institute funding requests to assist with travel costs/conference attendance continue to increase. Going forward in the next financial year the criteria for applying for this funding will be important to adhere to:

- Institute support only for students who have accepted papers
- Each student will be restricted to one award application per financial year
- Evidence that there are no other funding sources available – it is important that supervisors think hard about alternatives and only use IPAB funds as last resort

We will institute a cap on the amount of support per student per trip (£2000.00 for an international conference, and “1250 for UK and Europe). These are upper limits, with preference for students to find economies where possible, in the interest of stretching our funds to as many eligible students as possible.

7. Business development

Honda Framework Agreement – now in place.

Toyota Motors – potential PhD studentship

Robotics for Renewables - Cristian has restarted conversations with Scottish Power (inspection of winter wind blades, overhead cables – not specific to renewables). Cristian will keep Ram up to date on progress/conversation outcomes.

8. IPAB webpage

News items and web updates should be sent to the admin team to action.

9. Teaching

CDT calls

The next CDT call is expected to announce in October with tight submission deadlines very likely.

10. IPAB space

External storage

Suzanne Perry is now the contact for the external storage arrangements.

11. IPAB seminars and workshops

Snacks and refreshments will be re-introduced in the next financial year.

12. Student issues

Ruaridh will liaise with student volunteers to arrange social event(s)/networking opportunities (lunches, Firbush, BBQ were raised as potential events).

13. Admin issues

Kasia Stoinska, Institute Office manager, introduced herself to the team.

Kasia reminded the group that the Diversity Travel self-service model is now available to book travel and accommodation.

14. Socials

No social items discussed.

15. Directors business

No directors business discussed.

16. A.O.B

No other business discussed.

17. Date of next meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 25th August 2022.

