

General Discussion Session Notes

Following notes represent major points discussed during the General Network Discussion Meeting on the 17th of July, 2013.

1) **Expanding the network:** how do you become a member?

- It has been agreed that we (NetworkPlus) should allow new members to join in the simplest and most transparent way. If the request is from an individual who wants to join, an email to B. Hnat with expression of interest will be all that is needed. If an institution would like to join with multiple individuals, then the advisory board will also be consulted.

2) **Monitor progress of the network**

- The EPSRC representative indicated that the Network can decide what the outcomes are and how to present them to the funding agency
- While it is unlikely that there will be a large amount of papers coming out of the Network activities (not the EPSRC rule, especially since we do not have research funding), it would benefit everybody if the Network is acknowledged in the manuscript, when appropriate. B. Hnat should be emailed with manuscript details when needed.
- *The EPSRC Fellowships:* there is a separate category (distinct web page) for the EPSRC Fellowships aligned with Grand Challenge themes. Such fellowship applications have much better chance to be successful if one could demonstrate some level of activity within an appropriate Grand Challenge Network (organizing workshops, giving presentations during the meeting, mini-projects, etc). If you are writing a fellowship application, then let us know. The same applies to grants related to this Network.
- B. Hnat and T. Galla will send out an email every 3 months and ask people whether they applied for grants, and/or fellowships.
- Claudio Castelnovo suggested we should have a link on our network page, with link to the EPSRC Grand Challenge Fellowship page (done, see the front page for the Network). Letters of support can be provided to applicants by the Network
- Workshop reports, keynote speakers. It is extremely important that we collect reports from all Network events in the organized and timely fashion. Workshop reports should have 2 sections: motivation as to why such event should be funded by this Network and conclusions, which should focus on how the outcomes of a particular workshop fit into the future road map produced by the Network.

3) **Main outcomes of the Network**

- One of the main goals is to identify areas to be funded by the EPSRC in the future. Provide input to EPSRC, opinion pieces, the network should feel entitled to be opinionated when it comes to input to EPSRC

- Individual Network member visits, keep track of who visits who, even if not funded by network
- Workshops (see point 2 above): need to make case why a particular area is important, beyond immediate academic circles (not just me and my friends)
- Industrial links, encourage workshop organisers to make such links, extend it to government organisations, such as, MoD, NHS
- Could try industrial showcase events at the meetings? The Network would pay for the space and travel. This would be a nice outcome if we can say 'so many companies attended'
- pilot projects: for ppl to go between institutions; so-far one call, 1 application, ideally new collaboration

4) **Association with the Institute for Complex Adaptive Matter (ICAM)**

- Claudio Castelnovo has been asked to represent the Network on ICAM board. Claudio agreed.
- ICAM gives you the right to apply for workshops, only possible through the association
- Matthew Turner organised ICAM-funded workshop recently, light touch, given \$50k to organise workshop in France, all organizers from Europe
- ICAM also funding available for students to attend workshops and/or visits collaborators

5) **Name and logo for the Network?**

- 6) **Final paper:** Royal Society special issue? Royal Society interface; focused issue