

Rules of Procedure for Biocity Turku and Turku Bioscience Centre

Changes approved by the Board of the University of Turku on 20 January 2023.

Section 1 BioCity Turku is a research community formed for developing research on cell and molecular biology as well as on biotechnology at the University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University (henceforth the universities). Research groups in the field at the University of Turku in the Faculty of Science, Faculty of Technology, and Faculty of Medicine, and at the Åbo Akademi University in the Faculty of Science and Engineering as well as in the independent units belong to BioCity Turku.

The mission of the community is:

1. to advance research and education on cell and molecular biology as well as on biotechnology;
2. to develop and coordinate research programmes as well as research education related to the field in cooperation with the faculties, departments, and independent units;
3. to advance the cooperation between the University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University in the field of research; as well as
4. to maintain and develop national and international co-operation in the field of research.

Section 2 The joint Board of BioCity Turku and Turku Bioscience Centre is responsible for the strategic development of the organisations.

The Scientific Director of BioCity Turku is responsible for the operational development of BioCity Turku and for coordinating the operations.

Section 3 The Scientific Director is assisted by the Management Group, which consists of the directors of the research programmes approved by the University of Turku's Faculty Science, Faculty of Technology, and the Faculty of Medicine as well as Åbo Akademi University's Faculty of Science and Engineering. The Management Group shall have representatives from the University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University.

Section 4 The remit of the Scientific Director is:

1. to act the chair of the joint Board of BioCity Turku and Turku Bioscience Centre;
2. to develop and coordinate research in the field as well as postgraduate and continuing education according to the guidelines established by the Board;
3. to be responsible for the execution of the Board's decisions concerning BioCity Turku;
4. to organise a regular evaluation of the research in the field;
5. to take the initiative for developing research co-operation between the universities;
6. to be responsible for the information concerning research programmes and research education in the field; as well as
7. to develop national and international connections related to research and postgraduate education.

Section 5 The universities have a joint independent unit, Turku Bioscience Centre - Turun Biotiedekeskus (Åbo Biovetenskapscentrum), which is henceforth referred to as the Centre. The Centre's recognition and visibility is built first and foremost on the English-language name.

The mission of the Centre is:

1. to advance research in biotechnology and to develop research methods in the field;
2. to produce and coordinate research, equipment and information services;
3. to advance the -between the research groups at the University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University as well as the co-operation between the universities and business life; as well as
4. to advance the development of applications in biotechnology as well as to maintain and develop national and international co-operation in the field of research.

The Centre can be divided into operational units.

Section 6 The Centre's administration is run by the Board and the Director. The Board also takes care of the matters belonging to the administration of BioCity Turku mentioned in these rules of procedure.

Section 7 In addition to the Scientific Director of BioCity Turku, who acts as the chair, there are eleven other members in the Board of the Centre.

The University of Turku appoints two members on the proposal of the of the Faculty of Medicine, one member on the proposal of the Faculty of Science, and one member on the proposal of the Faculty of Technology. In addition, the Rector of the University of Turku appoints one member from among the Vice Rectors or another appropriate person.

Åbo Akademi University appoints the vice-chair and three other members on the proposal of the Faculty of Science and Engineering.

The Centre's staff elects one member from among the staff members.

In addition, there is one member in the Board who represents the business life outside the universities or some other community related to the field, who is invited by the Board.

The deputies of the Board members are appointed from corresponding circles. The term of the Board is three years.

Section 8 The Board convenes on the invitation of the chair, or if the chair is prevented, of the vice-chair, or when a minimum of three Board members asks for a meeting in writing to handle a specific matter. The Board has quorum when the chair of the meeting and at least half of the other members are in attendance.

Section 9 The remit of the Board is:

1. to be responsible for the strategic development of BioCity Turku;
2. to supervise the operation of the Centre;
3. to make a proposal for their part to the universities' rectors on the resource allocation of the special resources of cell and molecular biology and biotechnology and the other resources that profile the field of research;

4. to make a proposal for appointing the Scientific Director of BioCity Turku;
5. to make a proposal for appointing the Director of the Centre;
6. to invite an international scientific committee that evaluates the research in the field and other activities;
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7. to decide on the proposals made for the universities related to the operation and financial plan; as well as
8. to handle other duties determined by the University of Turku or Åbo Akademi University.

Section 10 The Director of the Centre manages and supervises the operation of the Centre and is accountable for the economic, efficient and profitable handling of the Centre's duties.

The Director will solve the matters concerning the Centre that are not otherwise stipulated or regulated.

The Director may devolve a matter within their remit to the Board to solve.

Section 11 In recruitments and granting absences from work, the Centre follows the decisions made by the rectors of the University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University and the regulations in the universities' rules of procedure.

Section 12 The Rector of the University of Turku appoints the Scientific Director after they have received statements on the applicants from Åbo Akademi University and the Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Science and the Faculty Technology at the University of Turku. The Director is appointed for a maximum of five years at a time.

Section 13 The Rector of the University of Turku appoints the Director of the Centre after receiving a statement on the applicants from Åbo Akademi University. The Director is appointed for five years at a time or for the time being.

Section 14 These rules of procedure come into force when the boards of the University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University have approved them.