YNiC Science Committee meeting

Minutes, 20/10/14

\* Silke Goebel is no longer on the committee but is still getting emails. Can she be removed from the list.

\* Pat Johnston and Michael Simpson have left York, so are no longer on the committee.

\* Jill Hurst will be taking minutes (SJ this meeting).

14/10 - Apologies from Tim Andrews.

14/11 - Minutes of previous meeting approved without comment.

14/12 - Matters arising:

\* Support issues:

- RT has been cleared out and is again being triaged as appropriate. Users should be reminded to use the support emails. ACTION GG

- The suggestion was made to stream requests into low and high level support, i.e. "simple" fixes, bugs etc. vs infrastructure "project level" support that would be assessed more thoroughly for cost/benefit before being addressed.

\* Science day:

- It was suggested that the YNiC science day might be combined with the MSc poster session. This would mean the timing and room availability etc. would need to be looked at again.

\* Issues surrounding the analysis of legacy data:

- Discussed under science issues; 14/13.

14/13 - YNiC Science Issues:

\* TMS charging.

- At present TMS is not charged for, despite there being maintenance and consumable costs. If this is to be changed a decision is needed before January to get into PFACT in February. A charge of £5.50 per hour has been proposed. There are unresolved questions however:

- The TMS room is used for psychophysics, inflating TMS use. More accurate TMS lab use is required (ACTION GG).

- A decision needs to be made regarding when to start charging, particularly where ongoing grant supported projects are concerned.

- TMS needs a budget line.

- A decision on who funds TMS is needed.

- The issue will be presented to Management Committee, options for a way forward to be circulated to science committee.

- One possible solution, which could also address legacy data analysis projects (see below) would be a one-off set up project charge.

\* Multi-finance projects.

- This is regarding projects that have multiple sources of funding, e.g. pre-existing projects that become MSc projects.

- There is no simple solution in terms of changing the current booking system. Currently, projects are duplicated in order to link to two different finance codes.

- Further discussion is needed.

\* Legacy Data.

- There is increasing demand for projects wishing to re-analyse existing data.

- There are funding implications, currently all funding is gathered via scan charging. One possible solution would be to charge a project set up fee to cover computing, admin etc.

- There is a question of consent for new projects.

\*\*\*\*

Added by SJ:

(This should be covered for new scans. The current general consent form reads:

- I confirm that I consent to my scans and any results obtained being stored and used for research purposes as approved by the York NeuroImaging Centre.

- I confirm that I consent to my anonymised data being used for the creation of scientific publications.

However, prior to 2014-01-31 the general consent form reads only:

- I give my consent to anonymized images from my scan being used for display purposes.)

\*\*\*\*

- It may be possible to re-contact participants for approval, but this would require additional tracking.

- There is reticence from some PIs about re-analysis of "their" data, however MRC funded research requires data "sharing", which may have implications for all data acquired on the new scanner.

14/14 - YNiC Ethics and Research Governance issues:

\* Training documentation:

- TMS training documentation has been used.

- MRI training documentation is ready but has not yet been tested, trainees will be piloted soon.

- MEG training documentation has been drafted and is being standardised.

- Thanks to ARM and MH for the work done.

\* A lay member has now been found for the RGC.

14/15 - Issues from YNiC Users:

\* Nottingham has a science week, where large data sets are collected and experiments carried out with and on local school children. The possibility of YNiC following a similar model was raised. In principle this is something YNiC would be keen to be involved in, however with recent staff departures, realistically there is not the resource to devote to this kind of project at present.

\* The question of training on MVPA techniques was raised. A wider range of master classes could be run, to include MVPA.

14/16 - Issues passed from the Dept. Research Committee:

\* None

14/17 - AOB:

\* Committee membership.

- It was agreed Miles Whittington and or Natalie Adams could be approached to join the committee.

\* MRI.

- Funding for a new scanner will be announced on Thursday. Outline of the spend will be agreed by 28th Nov and plans presented to the MRC on 13th Jan. Things will happen fairly quickly after that.

\* MEG.

- The replacement electronics project is moving forward. At some time in the new year there will be a change over with associated changes in data formats etc. This will need to be managed carefully, users will be kept up to date with plans as appropriate.

\* 4 yr PhD program.

- There is another opportunity for PhD funding, however based on the last round proposals will need to be more focused.