

# Direction Proposal 2019-2022

Institut Pasteur de Montevideo

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**November 28th, 2018**

The Institut Pasteur de Montevideo (IP Montevideo) has as ***long term vision***:

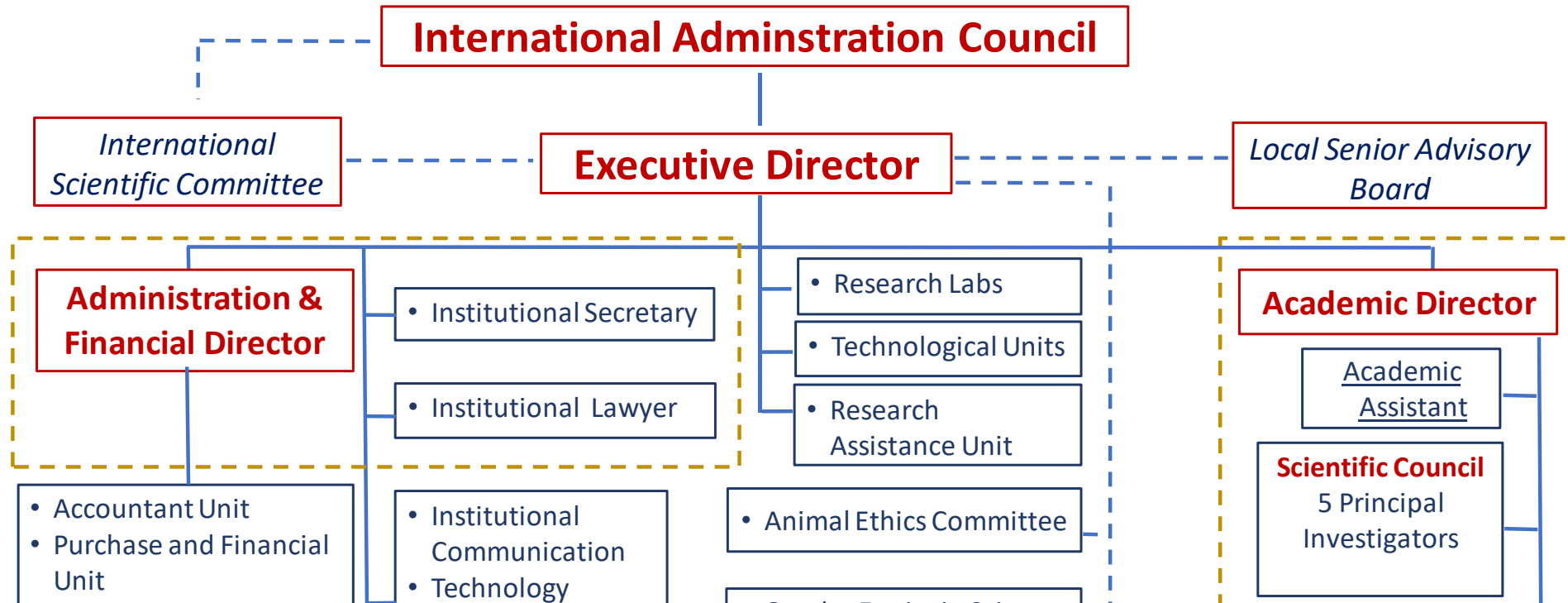
- i) to be a ***center for discovery research with international outreach as part of the IPIN***;
- ii) to be ***part of the national research and innovation system to translate science into solutions***
- iii) to be recognized as a ***highly motivating environment for young researchers*** to thrive in their scientific career.

# Roadmap for a 5 years comprehensive strategic plan

- **This Direction proposal was prepared through a very productive, collaborative and enriching teamwork process,** aimed at ensuring that the IP Montevideo will continue to be proactive in conducting excellent biomedical and translational research.
- “Should this proposal be accepted by the Administrative Council in May 2018...”, we would prepare our 2020 – 2025 plan comprehensively to present it to the International Scientific Council, IAC and National Authorities by the end of 2019 → **“strategic workshop” (November 2018) → local + other international workshops to be held in 2019 → fine-tune our plan → the roadmap for the Direction.**

1. **Renew Institute's governance:** boosting the sense of belonging & encouraging a teamwork philosophy.
2. **Scientific Priorities:** maintaining and strengthen the ongoing institutional *scientific programs* created following the “**One Health**” concept.
3. **Redefine our technological strategy:** optimizing their operation to *better support our own & inter-institutional scientific research programs*.
4. **Education:** consolidating IP Montevideo as a *regional and IPIN reference center for postgraduate courses*.
5. **Develop a robust valorization plan:** improve our social outreach, increase non-conventional funding & *help to develop our national “bioscience” innovation system*.

# 1. Renovation of our Institutional governance



- We know the challenges we will face are ambitious → we need a ***stronger governance structure increasing the participation of more people in the decision making-process and institutional life*** → ***Promote a teamwork culture.***
- This approach will not hamper the Executive Director's capacity to deal with urgent situations or with its own responsibilities.

# 2. Scientific Priorities of Scientific Programs

## ***a) Molecular Mechanisms of Pathogenesis and Rational Drug Discovery:***

- *Molecular mechanisms of pathogenesis involved in human diseases.*
- *Development of new treatments for inflammation-related conditions; trypanosomiasis and helminthiasis.*

## ***b) Immune Response & Vaccine Development:***

- *Milestones achieved in animal health studies.*
- *Valuable input to decipher the innate and adaptive immune responses of livestock & to conceive new veterinary vaccines → important national problems.*

## ***c) Microbial genomics & antimicrobial resistance (AMR).***

- **Promote & consolidate a research program on microbial genomics :**
- **Two key research lines as high priority:**
  - i) **the role of microbiota in health and disease;**
  - ii) **the emergence and movement of AMR pathogens in the whole cycle: humans - animals - environment.**

<http://metasub.org/the-metabea-project/>

### 3. Redefine our technological strategy

- There is a clear ***need to incorporate new technologies that will be defined along this year.***
- It is mandatory to redefine our current technological platforms, ***optimizing their operation to better support our own & inter-institutional scientific research programs.***

## 4. Education: IP Montevideo as a regional reference center for graduate courses

- A **dozen advanced international courses have been run on a yearly basis** and on a range of specialized disciplines in which the institute's teams are experts
- ***An annual practical course: modular structure, aimed at training our postgraduate students (and from other institutions) in the technologies available at the IP Montevideo.***
- ***New collaborative agreements to facilitate the incorporation of foreign students and postdocs + international exchange programs for our students:***
  - Posgraduate program in Molecular Medicine (Mercosur)
  - AUGM (33 Universities from LATAM)
- **Collaborative effort with Institut Pasteur Paris & IPIN**



## 5. Development of a valorization strategy towards long-term sustainability

- *Valorization should come after disruptive discoveries made through hypothesis-driven science.*
- We need a clear and **professional strategy** throughout the entire valorization process.
- **Boost our valorization strategy to improve our social outreach and increase our non-conventional funding to better support curiosity-driven science.**

*Mitigating risk in academic preclinical drug discovery.*  
Nature reviews | drug discovery volume 14 | april 2015 | 279

Thank you for your  
attention!