

Rucio Advisory Board

v1.2

February 5, 2025

1 Introduction

The major success of the Rucio project can, in large part, be traced back to the way the project is organised and how design decisions are made: An open development team, comprised of technical experts rooted in the scientific community, drives the development based on expertise, technical best-practices and input from their respective communities. This recipe of success is core to the culture and identity of the Rucio project and must not change.

However, with the success of the project, and the on-boarding of many scientific communities, this process does have shortcomings with respect to the long-term strategic perspectives of the involved communities. These are not very well covered, simply because they are beyond the scope of the development team. For the same reason it is also difficult to address and discuss the identification of person-power, funding streams, and the common submission/participation in funded projects.

These shortcomings are addressed by the **Rucio Advisory Board**, further explained in this document.

2 Mandate and responsibilities of the board

The primary function of the Rucio advisory board (RAB) is to provide expertise from representatives of Rucio Science Communities (RSC) and to advise the Rucio project leader. Long-term priorities and plans of communities should be discussed by the RAB in order to advise on the alignment of Rucio project objectives and plans. This should also lead to the identification of common objectives to form common development efforts. The resource and person-power situation within the Rucio project, the discussion and identification of funding streams and collaboration on funded projects are also within the scope of the RAB. The Rucio project leader communicates the advice given by the advisory board to the development team.

The board provides non-binding strategic advice and is informal in nature.

3 Composition

The RAB is composed of a group of representatives of their respective RSC. The goal is to complement the expertise of the development team, and thus representatives should have knowledge about the long-term computing strategy of their community and ideally have responsibility for their project programme and budget.

Membership in the RAB is by invitation of the Rucio project leader. However, suggestions for expanding the board should ideally come from the RAB itself. Representatives serve a 2-year, renewable, term. Invitations to join the board are made to the legal representative of the RSC, typically the spokesperson or coordinator charged with the computing portfolio of the community. The RSC should in return nominate one representative from their community to join the board. Nominations are discussed with the Rucio project leader who ultimately decides on the acceptance.

The Rucio project leader is an ex-officio member of the board and chairs the board meetings.

4 Eligibility criteria

There are no strict eligibility criteria for an RSC to be viable for having a representative on the RAB. However the goal of the RAB is to have all science communities, who utilize Rucio in production and who are significantly involved in the development of the system, represented on the board. Such significance involves, but is not limited to, long-term contributions of source-code, leadership roles as Rucio component-leads, participation in hackathons and Rucio workshops, community support on the Mattermost channel, etc.

5 Organisation

The RAB meets as needed, nominally twice a year. Meetings generally take place at CERN, with remote participation possibilities. The RAB members agree to select a secretary for each meeting who will be in charge of keeping minutes. Minutes are kept internal to the RAB.

Should a representative be exceptionally impeded to join a board meeting, they can nominate a replacement representative, from their RSC, to join the meeting. The replacement must be approved by the Rucio project leader.

Guests can be invited to parts, or the entirety, of a board meeting. Invitations are issued by the Rucio project leader and the RAB members must be informed, in advance, of the attendance of guests.