

# VPH Initiative Day

Brussels - September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009.



## WP4 Integration and Training Activities

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European Commission  
Information Society and Media

# WP4 Presentation Outline

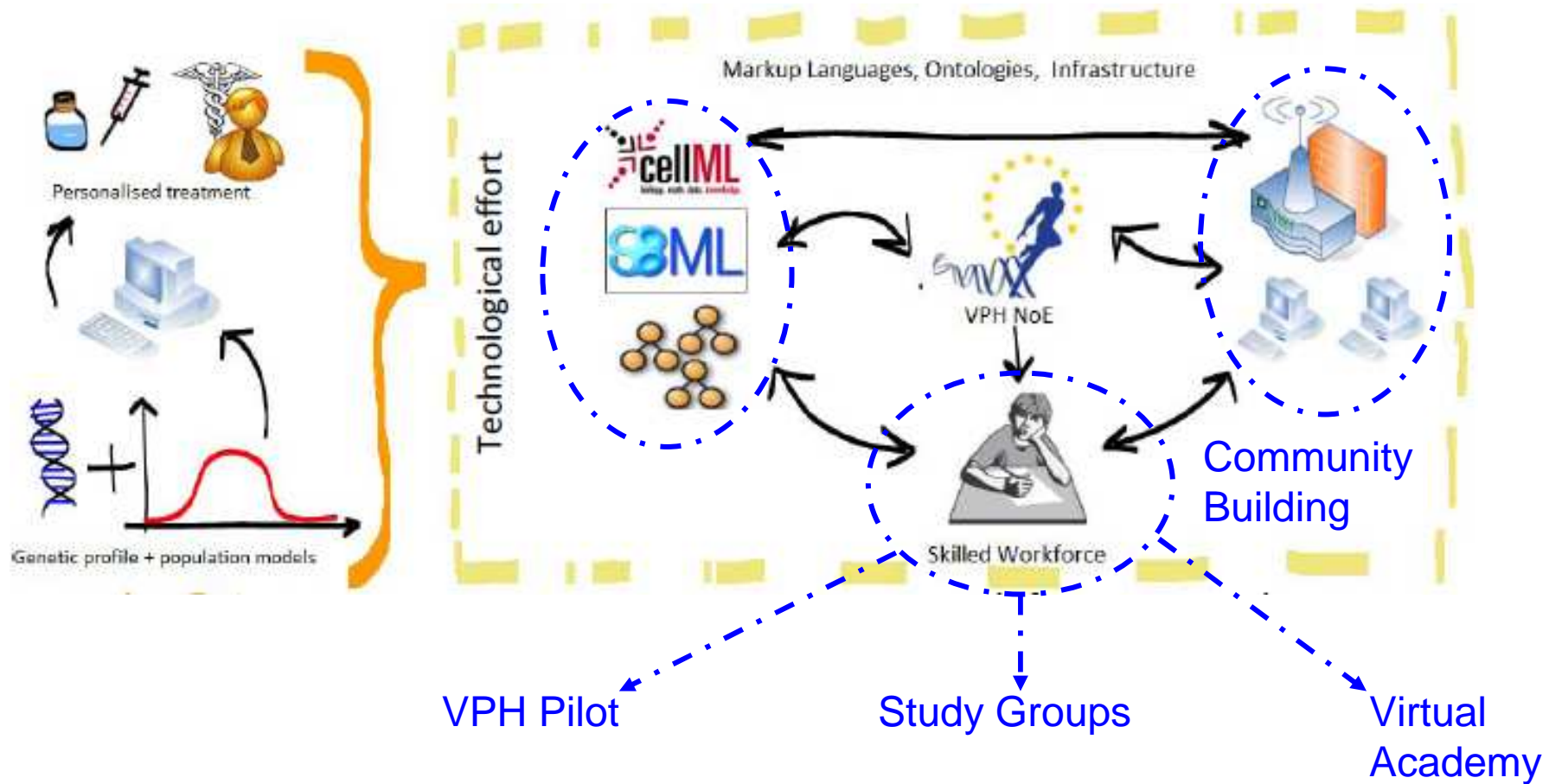


1. VPH Training Landscape
2. Industrial & Clinical involvement in WP4
3. VPH Pilot, Study Groups & Virtual Academy
4. Strengthening community awareness

# VPH Training Landscape



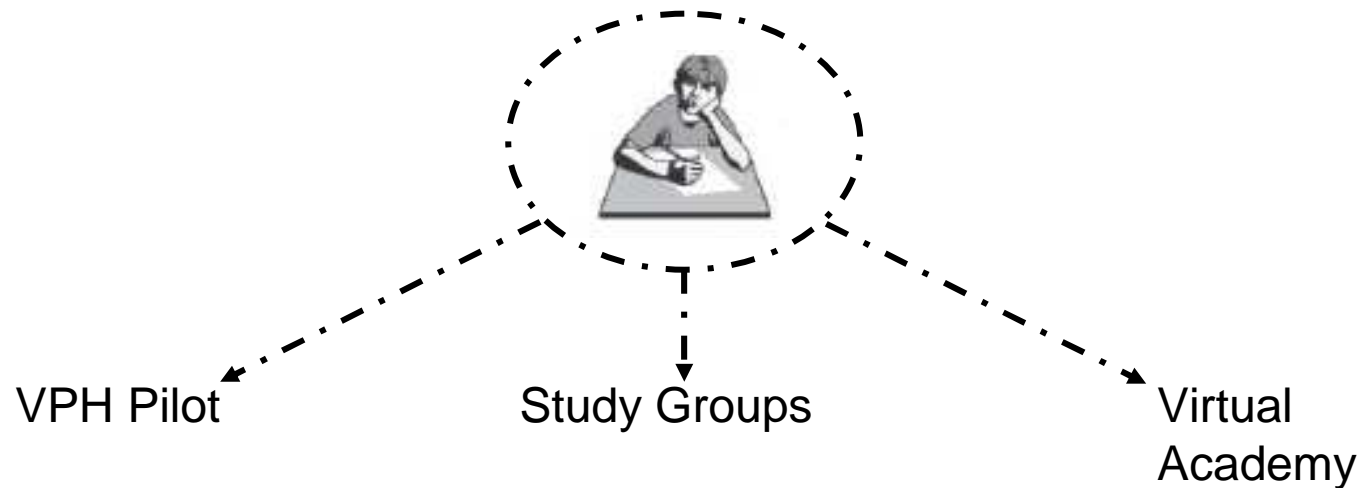
## Challenges and Opportunities in VPH



# WP4 Activities



- WP4 efforts largely organized around three main activities

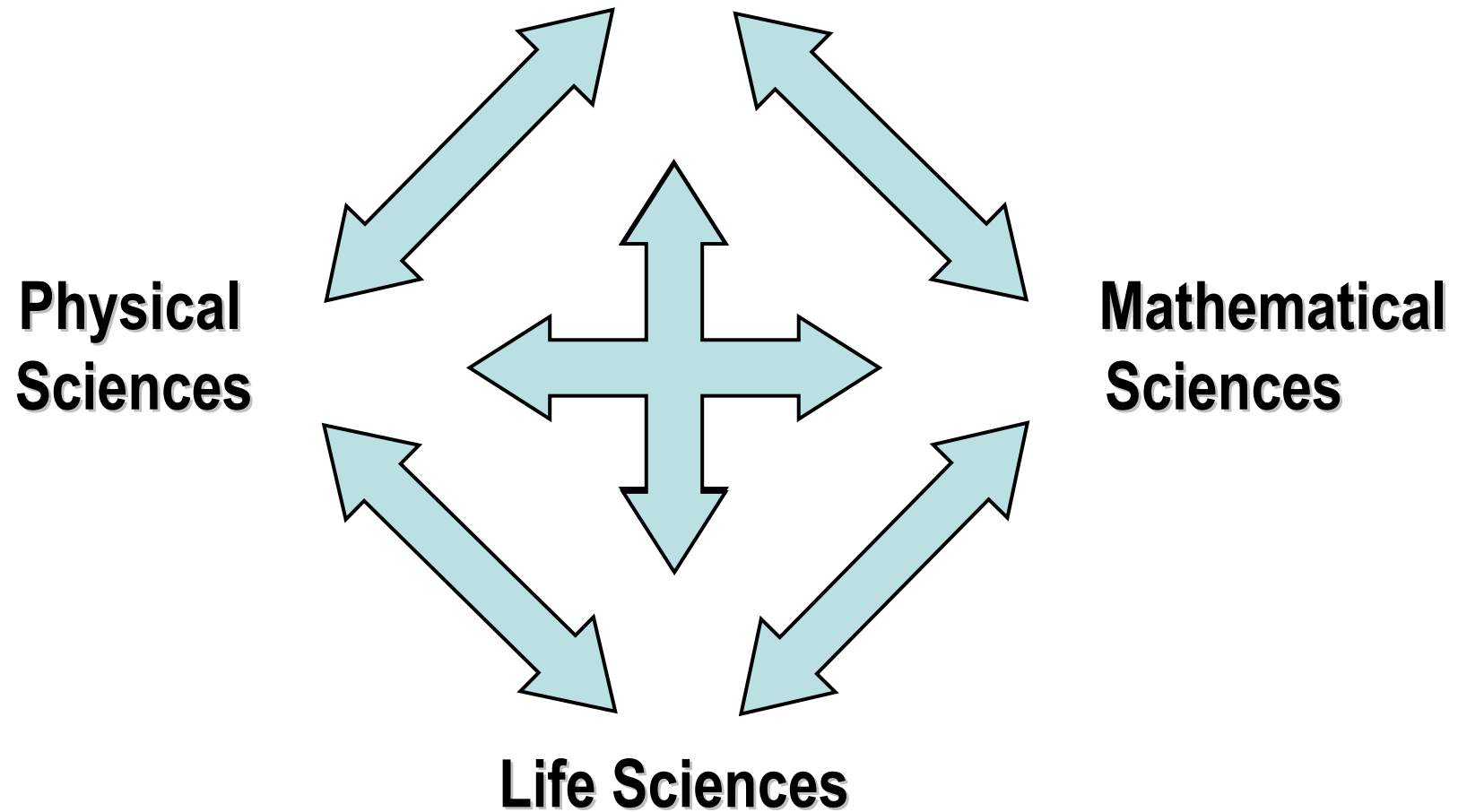


... engaging (young) researchers and **clinical & industrial stakeholders** in the future and potential of *modeling* as a methodological approach to understanding biological function as well as improving and personalising healthcare

# Need for VPH Training

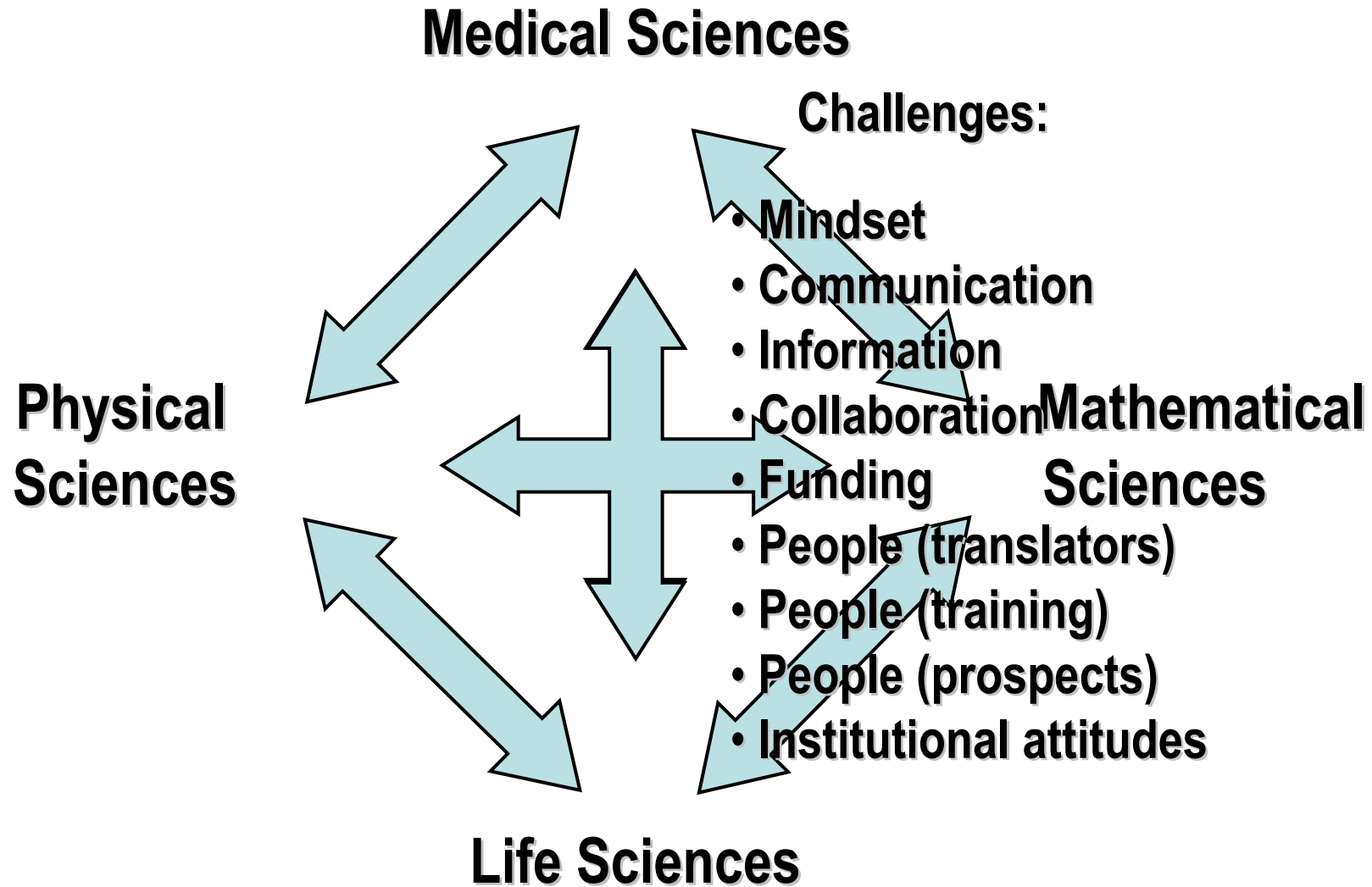


**Medical Sciences**



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# Need for VPH Training



# WP4 VPH Pilot for Training



- Understanding the VPH training landscape
  - Survey of existing VPH-related programmes
  - Training is also a powerful dissemination mechanism for the VPH Initiative
- Strategy for implementing a communal VPH training
  - Phase 1: short-term stay or summer courses re-using existing processes, resources and courses
  - Phase 2: inter-institutional degrees based on existing courses, providing the wide diversity of specific teaching tracks needed by the VPH community (design potentially funded under Erasmus Mundus)

# WP4 Study Group



## Aims

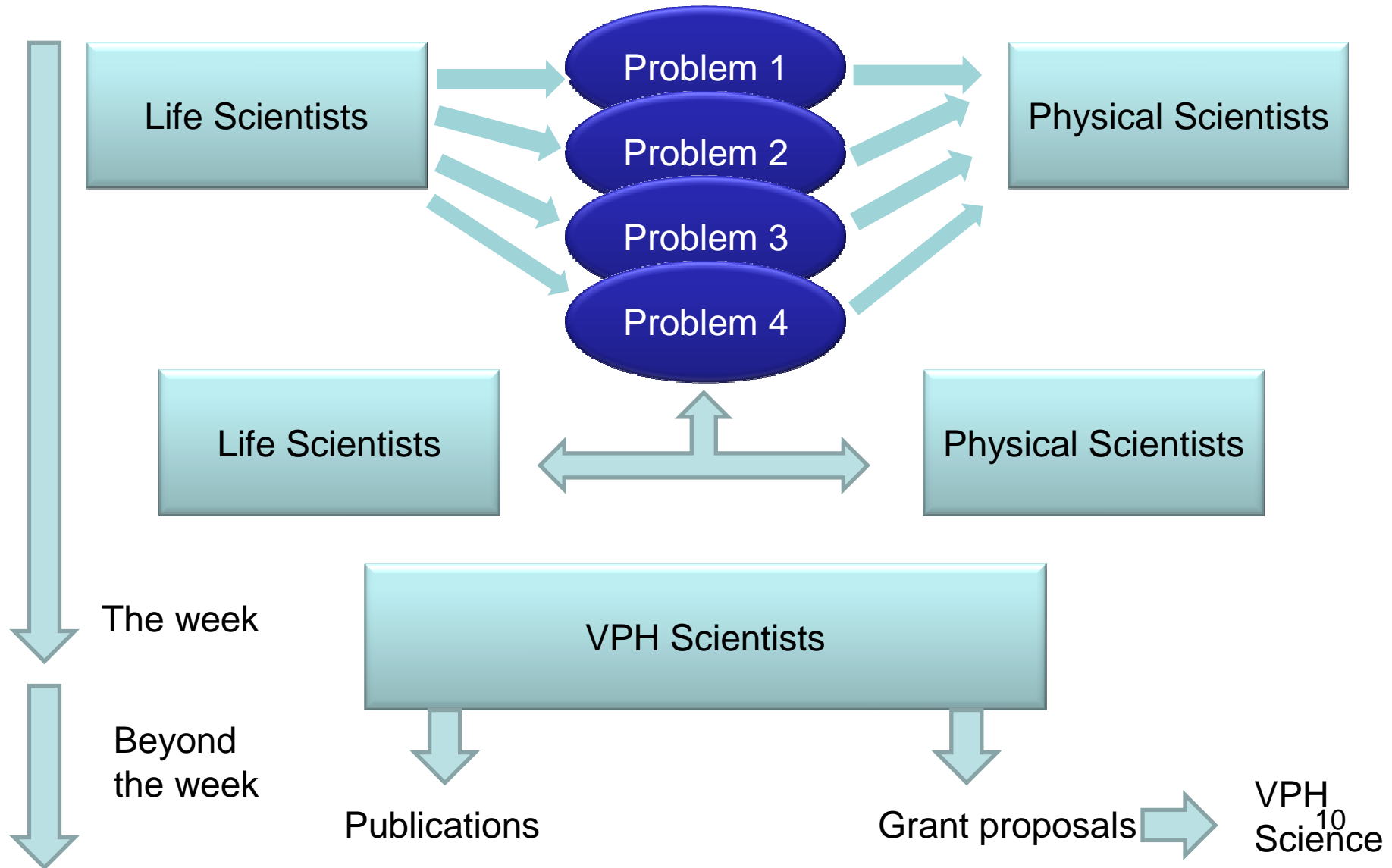
- To facilitate and encourage collaboration between life scientists and physical scientists
- To break down barriers in communication between the multiple communities through intensive hands-on problem solving
- To provide in-career training to post-doctoral through to more senior academic faculty

# WP4 Study Group - Design



- Design
  - A theme is decided on. This year: *Regenerative aspects of Epithelial Tissue/Cells*
  - **Biologists, both industrial and academic**, invited to propose problems at the cutting edge of their research, amenable to quantitative mathematical modelling.
  - A long list of problems is short-listed to 4 or 5 most suitable for a week of brainstorming, in which models are developed, assessed and written up
  - Scientific reports produced by each group – with potential to extend to publication
  - Most promising work will feature in Special Issues of Phil. Trans. R. Soc. A

# WP4 - Breaking down barriers



# WP4 Study Group follow-up



- Activity report available
  - Exit questionnaire – significant positive feedback, both communities believe they have learnt from the experience
- Scientific reports due early Sept
- Video summarizing experience
- Work to transfer experience and refine the topic of the second study group in Sept. 2010 is in progress
- Potential for use of VPH toolkit at next study group to be investigated



# WP4 ... tightening efforts



## Aims

- To provide a single meeting point of integration for the VPH community as a whole
  - Appealing to young researchers through clear career paths (including academia, industry and the clinic) and complementary training material
  - Engaging established researchers with up-to-date community activities and in-career training
  - **Industry and Clinical meeting point with Academia, with the Advisory Board as a source of expert advise**
- Foresee the need for a central tool for building the VPH community

# WP4 Virtual Academy - Life

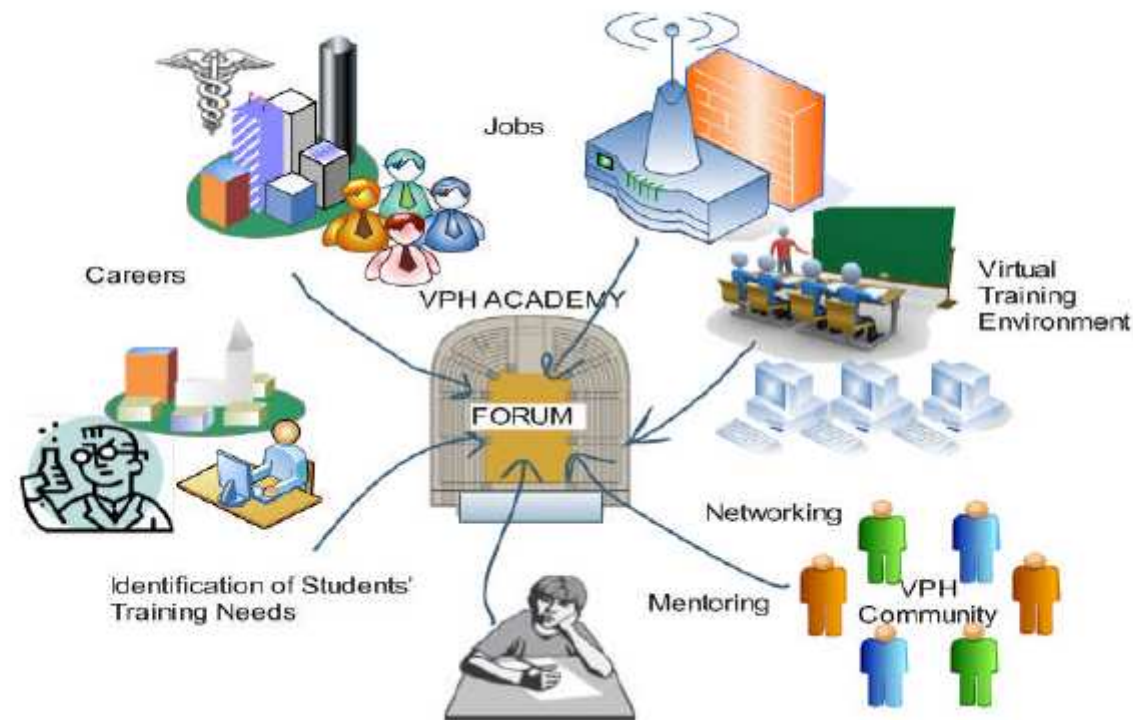


(website demo)

## Main Menu

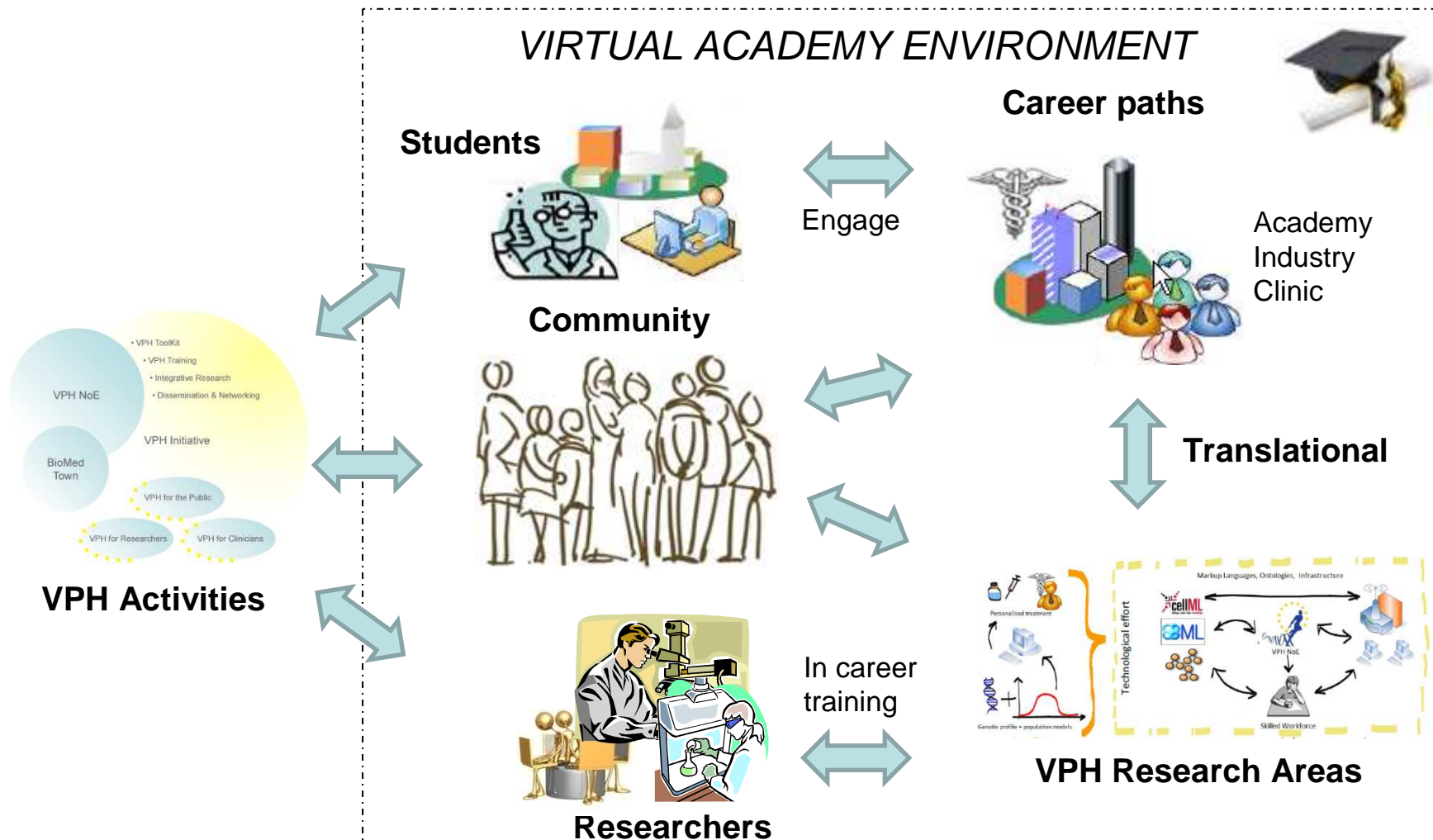
- Home
- VA Forum
- VPH Students
  - Study within the VPH community
  - Mentoring opportunities
- VPH Community
  - Sign up
  - Meet our members
  - Existing VPH projects
  - Start or join a new project
  - VPH networking
  - VPH Community Surveys
- VPH Training
  - 'What's on' in VPH Training?
  - Study Groups
  - VPH Related Courses
  - VPH Textbook
  - Virtual Training Environment
- Opportunities for travel and cooperation
  - For students
  - For researchers
- A career in VPH?
  - VPH Education
  - VPH Career paths
    - Academia
    - Healthcare / Clinical
    - Industry

## Virtual Academy



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# WP4 Virtual Academy



# Question Time



# Thank You



The financial support of the European Commission is gratefully acknowledged. Material in this presentation reflects only the author's views and the Commission is not liable for any use that may be made of the information contained herein.

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# VPH-I Day agenda



09.15 - 10.00 Registration and Coffee  
10.00 - 10.15 Welcome (Peter Coveney)  
10.15 - 11.15 VPH NoE Overview

Toolkit: the first release of a centralized web resource for the community - *Sharon Lloyd & Randy Thomas*  
VPH Training and Virtual Academy - *Jesús Bisbal & Carlos Martin*  
Integration of the VPH-I community - *Philippe Rohou*

11.15 - 12.00 Representatives of VPH-I projects and VPH NoE General and Associated Members will briefly introduce posters  
12.00 - 13.30 Poster/networking session / Buffet lunch from 12.00  
13.30 - 14.00 VPH- I Funding and Policy in the European Commission and role of the VPH NoE Roadmap - *Joel Bacquet, EC*

**Discussion groups** - *focus on key VPH priorities - There will be two sessions of parallel discussion groups*

14.00 - 15.30 **Discussion group 1:**  
Data sharing& modelling – Peter Kohl & Marco Viceconti.  
Standards and ontologies - Bernard de Bono & Peter Hunter  
**Discussion group 2:**  
Clinical & industrial engagement -Pat Lawford & Keith McCormick  
15.30 - 16.00 *Break*  
16.00 - 17.30 **Discussion group 3:**  
Use of clinical data – John Fenner & RADICAL  
**Discussion group 4:**  
HPC and Infrastructures (including data sharing infrastructure) - Peter Coveney  
17.30 - 18.00 Report from group discussions, Q and A and final remarks