

# Bioc Technical Advisory Board Minutes

7 May 2026

**Present:** Kasper D. Hansen, Laurent Gatto, Vince Carey, Tuomas Borman, Wolfgang Huber, Rafael Irizarry, Ludwig Geistlinger, Michael Lawrence, Maria Doyle, Enis Afgan, Alexandru Mahmoud, Nick Cooley, Gabriele Sales, Kevin Rue-Albrecht, Helena Crowell, Eliana Ibrahimi, Lori Kern, Robert Castelo, Stevie Pederson, Lluís Revilla, Jacques Serizay, Izabela Mamede, Marcel Ramos, Levi Waldron, Martha Luka, Aedin Culhane

**Absent:** Fabricio Almeida-Silva, Umar Ahmad, Zahraa W. Alsafwani, Zuguang Gu, Mengbo Li, Kozo Nishida, Oluwatobilola Ogunbowale, Johannes Rainer, Henrik Bengtsson, Hugo Gruson

:00 - :04 April [TAB minutes](#) and [CAB minutes](#) approved.

:05 - :10 TAB updates.

- U24 proposal got highest possible impact score, should allow 5 more years of core operations.
- Bioconductor version 3.23 released last week.
- New projects:
  - Transition build/check system to <https://bioc.r-universe.dev/builds> (see [blog](#)); improve internal longitudinal visibility of ecosystem status ([biocUniTools](#)).
  - Transition package source hosting from hosted git to GitHub.
  - New GitHub action-driven single package builder for contributed package review.
  - Transition [support.bioconductor.org](https://support.bioconductor.org) to discourse.
- CZI EOSS ended; a [similar program](#) has been announced by Renaissance Philanthropy.

:10 - :20 Limerick updates.

- TeSS ([Training e-Support System](#)) at Elixir-EU; Bioconductor [prototype](#)
  - Replaces current events page
  - Central index for training materials
  - [Software Sustainability Institute](#) (SSI) [Research Software Maintenance Fund](#) (RSMF) full proposal under submission (automation of ingestion of training materials and events)
- Establishing a Google group for centralized/shared resource management
  - Goal: shared drives for internal coordination & materials; manage by NumFOCUS
  - Drive-only setup (no email for now), using subdomain
  - Paused until post-release; pilot shared drive planned

- Opportunity to onboard a Bioconductor training platform onto EOSC ([European Open Science Cloud](#)). Putting forward for Irish government funding as ELIXIR-EOSC demonstrator. See [galaxy demonstrator video](#) for info on EOSC
  - Cloud-based training on Orchestra should be considered.
- Request from Vince: plan to produce a "glossy" [perhaps update to [CSCCE report](#)]; also a world map illustrating contributions and usage would be valuable; talk to Dario at RenPhil?

:20 - :30 Interoperability of other languages and Bioconductor (Tuomas Borman).

- Brief core discussion of the topic raised some questions.
- Maybe exotic combinations of languages should be on CRAN?
- Note the situation of BiocPy (Parallel implementation – how does it stay in sync?)
- Can think of interoperability around shared data structures instead of Basielisk, etc.
- Maybe technically feasible to distribute “Bioconductor” Python packages?
- BiocPy facilitates use of Bioconductor workflows and core data structures in the Python ecosystem. Needs people to contribute packages.

:30 - :40 AI: policies on creating content and reviewing with LLMs.

- Zulip discussion has references to other project's approaches (see [here](#)).
- Priorities: avoid destruction of project reputation, welcome collaborative enhancements to productivity, develop best practices, be scientific, acknowledgment of LLM usage.
- Working group exists on LLM
- Quantification of diverse strategies
- Agentic maintenance and enhancement
- A framework for AI agent skills: <https://github.com/waldronlab/ai-agent-skills>
- Bioconductor package review: <https://github.com/LiNk-NY/BiocReviews/issues> (feel free to submit your package as an issue!)
- Newly added section in Bioc package guidelines: [AI policy and Third Party Code](#)

:50 - :60 Governance and sustainability discussion [[draft charter](#)].