

Bioc Technical and Community Advisory Board Minutes

2 March 2023

Attending: Wolfgang Huber, Vince Carey, Maria Doyle, Stephanie Hicks, Laurent Gatto, Davide Riso, Kozo Nishida, Levi Waldron, Alexandru Mahmoud, Hervé Pagès, Janani Ravi, Jennifer Wokaty, Lori Shepherd Kern, Aedin Culhane, Robert Gentleman, Kasper Hansen, Charlotte Soneson, Sean Davis, Marcel Ramos

Regrets: Michael Love, Mike Smith, Shila Ghazanfar, Rafael Irizarry, Yagoub A I Adam, Benilton Carvalho, Daniela Cassol, Leonardo Collado-Torres, Xueyi Dong, Susan Holmes, Leo Lahti, Estefania Mancini, Nicole Ortogero, Johannes Rainer, Matt Ritchie, Kevin Rue-Albrecht, Hedia Tnani

Agenda:

:00-:05 Welcome

:05-:15 Update on NumFocus

- Fiscal sponsorship application accepted in December.
- Upcoming meeting to address any remaining questions.
- Question: how much support would they be able to provide in the context of e.g. small community grants?

:15-:40 [TAB update on active working groups](#).

- Comments:
 - BioC2023 - interest in having (hybrid) booths, e.g. from R-Ladies? To be discussed at the next conference organization meeting.
 - State of the python infrastructure for mass spectrometry - largely complementary to what is offered within Bioconductor.
 - Recommended classes - the goal is not to enforce specific classes in all cases, but rather to provide enough documentation clearly explaining the purpose and benefits of the existing classes.
 - How to coordinate formation of new working groups/special interest groups? Good if many people in the community are aware of new initiatives, but we also want working groups to be able to arise 'organically' without too much bureaucracy. Flexibility is one of the strengths of the project.
 - Blog - editorial control (manageable with the current load). More publicity needed - perhaps an iframe on the website.
 - Spatial/multi-omics could be a lead topic for developer day at (Euro)BioC2023?

:40-:60 Updates from CAB

- New CAB [working groups](#):

- Website development
- Industry working group
- Social media group
- Bioc [blog](#)
- OSI compliant licenses review - publication/blog which explains different licenses to developers and users (Charlotte's work + industry group).
- YouTube - can we create a couple of community inclusive videos, e.g. a short video at the conferences - engage a professional videographer?
- Connecting the 3 conferences - global sponsorship packages (where would the money go?).
- Developer support. Developer forum, mentorship program. We need to discuss how we get developers to support developers.
 - Community champions
 - Incentives
 - Connect to the R Journal submissions
 - Invitations to speak at the conferences
- Building connections with other open-source communities. Connections to Galaxy, ELIXIR, rOpenSci, recent co-events. Do we need to think about this more? Should we have a developer day session at BioC where we invite other communities?
 - scverse connections
 - BiocPy/alabaster/artifactDb (Genentech)
- CZI recently reported that they expect 1 billion cells in cellxgene by 2026. Should we discuss plans to leverage/support? Stefano Mangiola's CuratedAtlasQueryR package ([blog post](#)).
- Spatial omics - development and support. Eg IDR connectivity, class structures etc.
- Bioconductor app for the phone.
- HuBMAP (connections with Bioconductor)? Martin Morgan and Federico Marini (with some input from Shila) have started putting together a HuBMAPR package, similar to [cellxgenedp](#). A key challenge is that the data is very inconsistent between samples, and data is made available through a mix of direct API and via globus links. Reaching out to data management folks in HuBMAP would be helpful.
- Interested in the R-Ladies booth/birds-of-a-feather session idea? Please join #r-ladies on the Bioc Slack.

General comments:

- Should we try to map video presentations from conferences to the Bioc packages (or other artifacts)? Could help to link from package landing pages to videos (perhaps maintainers can put links in the DESCRIPTION file).
- Are there journal partnerships to consider Bioc R/shiny package manuscripts? If not, should we talk to Bioinformatics advances (new ISMB journal)?
- Branch renaming happening on March 8 - [blog post](#).