Bioconductor Community Advisory Board (CAB) Agenda

14 May 2020

Attending: Lori, Matt, Johannes, Kozo, Saskia, Susan, Aedin, Leonardo, Yagoub
Guest Attendees: Mike Smith, Gabriele Sales, Davide Risso,
Regrets: Benilton

Summary: The second meeting focused on currently planned Bioconductor community events and conferences. Special guests Mike Smith introduced the monthly Developers Forum and Davide Risso and Gabriele Sales spoke about planning for BiocEurope.

Schedule

:00 - :05: Welcome!

:05 - :15: Review minutes from previous meeting and actions Items:
  Completed
  - Added CAB April minutes to Bioconductor website
  - Added CAB members (Saskia, Lori, Kozo, Johannes, Leo, Matt) to Bioconductor Twitter account through Twitter Deck. Use Bioconductor official twitter to promote events or papers that cite Bioconductor tools.
  - Created private/locked community-advisory-board-members slack channel for internal communication
  - Public Bioconductor event calendar created. (google calendar). Email created events@bioconductor.org for requests for events to be added. Current Lori, Mike and Matt but would like one or two volunteers to maintain the calendar.
  - Link Kozo (Bio"Pack"athon) with Kayla from the core team to post material to the Biconductor official YouTube / Website material
  - Created cab@biconductor.org email that will redirect to current CAB members to be used by the community to submit requests, proposals, discussion topics they feel the CAB should attend to and to use for internal communication reminders other than slack.

  Action Item
  - Bioc2020 Feedback
    - Express concerns over live workshops/talks to Bioc2020 committee. Concern besides different times zones was individual internet connection could hinder/prevent live streaming independent of selected service/provider.
    - Conference Sponsorship committee should try and ask organizations for fixed amount that could be split over multiple events rather than each conference asking multiple times throughout the year

- Are conference stickers still going to be distributed?
- Consider asking Stickermule or another sticker distributor for sponsorship and offer discounted purchase of conference sticker?
  - Federico Marini (on #bioc2020 channel on Friday May 14th) said that have a in-kind sponsorship deal with StickerMule, 10 stickers for 1 euro which are ordered via link on the eRUM website. So there is a stickermule banner/link on the conference website)
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Ongoing
- Revisit committees and working groups after further discussion of activities

:15 - :55: Bioconductor TAB & Meetings update
- BioC Technical Advisory Board
  - (TAB) April 2nd [meeting minutes](#)
  - Recent meeting discussed the plan to call for new members to join TAB (approximately 5 positions) this year.
- BioC 2020 will go ahead but as an online virtual meeting.
  - The current committee is brainstorming ideas to make a successful, interactive, engaging Bioc2020 virtual conference. Thoughts and discussion is encouraged in the **#Bioc2020** community slack channel.
  - Registration fees will depend on cost of hosting virtual conference (cost of platform/technical support)
  - The CAB suggests/favored pre-recorded and shorter talks. There is an expressed concern for live conference/talks: Individual internet connection may hinder/prevent live workshops.
- CDSB workshop, August 3-7, Cuernavaca, Mexico. Website [here](#)
  - The TIB2020 team in Mexico told Leo yesterday (2020-05-13) that workshops will be reduced from 5 to 2 and will go virtual.
  - These are 5 day long workshops, the CDSB one involves scRNA-seq R packages while another one involves bash tools for genome annotation.
  - Potential for more attendees than usual (40) so we are thinking about scalability.
  - Exploring Zoom for platform but limited interaction between workshop participants
- BioC Asia, October 17-18, Beijing. Website [here](#)
  - Current local planners are confident for a physical meeting however there are concerns regarding the quarantine for international participants attending.
- BioC Europe, December 9-11,
  - Davide Risso and Gabriele Sales (co-organisers) provided an update. [Website](#)
  - Currently being organized as regular conference with contingency plans
  - Two sponsors
  - Potential blocker: catering/coffee breaks/social aspect

- Currently cannot negotiate catering/coffee breaks because of COVID business closures. These breaks are a central piece for social interaction which may need to be limited for social distancing.
    - There is an increased Importance of setting up Bioc Foundation Europe
        - This would receive sponsorship money locally to be credited as an official organization.
        - Similar to the Bioconductor foundation in the USA and Red Mexicana de Bioinformatica in Mexico
- Developer's Forum.
    - Summary from Mike Smith available here.
    - Also follow the Community-Bioc slack channel **#developers-forum**
    - Every 3rd Thursday
        - Currently at the same time 12:00 EST
        - Excludes parts of the world. Suggestions to rectify this:
            - Poll to switch time
            - Enlist multiple hosts to moderate session in multiple time zones
    - How to more broadly announce and publicize?
        - CAB to announce on official Bioc Twitter
        - Include on Bioconductor public event calendar
        - Announce on other social media forum to try to engage more of the community
    - Initially Started to track/discuss changes (from core team or larger changes)
        - Small group participation
    - Now broader topics to engage more of the community
    - All talks are recorded and posted to Bioconductor YouTube channel and slides posted to Bioconductor website under education material
- Bio"Pack"athon (Kozo Nishida) May 15, 6pm- JST
    - Virtual meetup with Zoom (In Japanese, not in English) Website here
    - The structure
        - Part1: 3 talks (One of them is by me [about CAB activity]),
        - Part2: R packaging Hackathon
    - Talks in Part1 are recorded.
    - This meetup will be held every two or three weeks
    - Link Kozo and Kayla for posting video on Bioconductor YouTube
- 'BiocCheck-a-thon' May 18 - 22, 2020 (Lori Shepherd)
    - Add issues to BiocCheck repository .
    - #bioccheck-a-thon channel of the Community Slack.
    - Promote participation
    - Introduction Slides
    - Feedback Form
- CAB on tweet
    - Promote Meetings, Developer Forum, Publications arising from Bioconductor packages

- Encourage people to join slack? [sign up for community-bioc slack](#)
  - European Association (like Bioconductor Foundation of North America)
    - official European organization
    - Keep track of funding (overflow of funds)
    - Ease concerns of money laundering from government
    - Wolfgang Huber and Laurent Gatto are setting up
  - Conference Sponsorship
    - Asking sponsors to offer support across all events so they are only asked once (e.g. a fixed amount that would be split between Bioc2020, BiocAsia2020, BiocEurope2020 instead of asking three different times throughout the year)
  - Conference Stickers
    - How are they being distributed? Are they being distributed to virtual conference
    - Stickermule sponsor/credit?
- Bioconductor Calendar of events! Open to general public
  - post developer forum date
  - conferences
  - hackathons
  - other events, etc.
  - provides a resource for CAB/others to tweet

:56 - :59: Funding applications. [NSF](#) funds for hands on and interactive learning opportunities, [Chan Zuckerberg Initiative (CZI) Essential Open Source Software for Science (EOSS)](#) (open **mid June**) for funding between $50K - $250K for 1 year.
  - If anyone is interested please reach out to Aedin
  - Davide and Stephanie are working on an application to CZI on improving documentation in Bioconductor (such as for HDF5)

Held over to next meeting
:00-:00: Discussion about CAB activities / initiatives
  - Please take part in brainstorming idea before next meeting.
  - Refer to planning document that includes points from previous meeting that we didn't have time to discuss in detail
  - For reference, the proposed committees in the CAB [Governance Document](#): **User Outreach and Education, including**
    - development of guidelines and processes for community-developed material;
    - coordinating trainer and training activities;
    - coordinating meetup and other event awareness.
    - Developer Training, including oversight of the Bioconductor developer forum.
    - Conference Oversight (North American, Asia-Pacific, European)
    - Code of Conduct

Proposed working groups
- Overcoming barriers to diversity in Bioconductor
- Enabling community-driven development
- New package intake
- Guide to maintaining packages