Bioc Technical Advisory Board/Community Advisory Board Minutes

4 February 2021

TAB Members: Vince Carey (chair), Levi Waldron (vice-chair), Charlotte Soneson (secretary). Aedin Culhane, Hector Corrada Bravo, Laurent Gatto, Robert Gentleman, Shila Ghazanfar, Kasper Daniel Hansen, Stephanie Hicks, Wolfgang Huber, Rafael Irizarry, Aaron Lun, Michael Love, Martin Morgan

CAB Members: Yagoub A. I. Adam (co-secretary), Benilton Carvalho, Leonardo Collado-Torres, Aedin Culhane (co-chair), Saskia Freytag, Susan Holmes, Kozo Nishida, Johannes Rainer, Matt Ritchie (co-chair), Lori Shepherd (co-secretary)

Attending: Kasper Hansen, Lori Shepherd, Benilton Carvalho, Vincent Carey, Yagoub Ali Ibrahim Adam, Wolfgang Huber, Shila Ghazanfar, Stephanie Hicks, Susan Holmes, Kozo Nishida, Charlotte Soneson, Johannes Rainer, Laurent Gatto, Robert Gentleman, Saskia Freytag, Matthew Ritchie, Leonardo Collado Torres, Aedin Culhane, Michael Love, Martin Morgan, Rafael Irizarry
Apologies: Aaron Lun, Levi Waldron, Hector Corrada Bravo

:00 - :08 - Introduction of CAB/TAB, brief comments from chairs of both boards
- CAB have opened applications for new members (deadline Feb 26th) https://support.bioconductor.org/p/p134374/

:09 - :10 - Greatest Hits January
- Slack discussion on flexible rbind/cbind functionality for S4Vectors: combineRows
- Slack discussion on storage of GWAS summary statistics/genetic data. A new #gwas-data channel was initiated for further discussion.
- Plotting functionality for spatial transcriptomics data on its way into dittoSeq.
- Aaron intends to implement some initial core Bioconductor structures and generics in Julia.
- January Developer forum on using Bioconductor on Azure.
- Videos from BiocAsia 2020 are uploaded to YouTube. Videos from EuroBioc 2020 are currently being processed.

:10 - :14 - Code of conduct (public, assented to by all project participants)/Incident response guide (for internal use, guides CoC committee in responding to incidents). CoC committee has asked for a motion for approval of both.

Code of Conduct Committee members: Saskia, Leo, Yagoub, Aedin, Matt, Levi, Stephanie, Laurent, Johannes, Charlotte.

Motion to approve code of conduct and incident response guide - both documents approved by the boards.

:14 - :15 - Call for TAB and CAB members to assist with publications diversity statement. Sign up here, Aedin will coordinate a meeting to finalize the statement. Vince willing to join.

:15 - :25 - Packages: TAB and CAB are both looking at package submission and review.

From https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/policies.html: Packages should be named in a way that does not conflict (irrespective of case) with any current or past CRAN package (the Archive area can be consulted), nor any current Bioconductor package. Package maintainers give the right to use that package name to ~~CRAN~~ Bioconductor when they submit, so the ~~CRAN~~ Bioconductor team may orphan a package and allow another maintainer to take it over.

Comment: Consider license/copyright issues. Is there additional wording in the CRAN policy re: licensing/retaining code indefinitely? Action item: check CRAN policy in more detail, align statement with CRAN policy.

CAB working group (meeting monthly):
- discussed having two reviewers instead of one
- generally positive to open up participation to the community, but need to develop criteria further

Suggestions:
- public statement of the number of packages that will be reviewed (guaranteed) at a certain point in time before the deadline/release
- move deadline earlier (may be difficult since the Bioc release date is affected by the R release date)
- identify a set of skills that the reviewers need to have - might help to identify candidates
- develop a document describing the review process and what it entails, in a transparent way (either as a checklist or as a collection of case studies). What are the expectations? Allow reviewers to judge whether that is suitable for them, allow community reviewers a way to opt out if it turns out to be outside their expertise, or to defer to the core team.
- check how others invite reviewers from a broader community (e.g. ROpenSci guidelines https://devguide.ropensci.org/reviewerguide.html and https://ropensci.org/software-review/#editors, JOSS guidelines https://joss.theoj.org)

:25 - :35 - TAB working groups

- https://github.com/BioconductorBoards
- https://github.com/BioconductorBoards/TABWorkingGroups
- Request to create a similar repository for CAB working groups (Vince to do)

- Project set: some assignments made, no deliverables yet -- "stand up" session with assignees when present, or other members, to occur monthly

☐	⊘	**Governance revision with consultant**
		#9 opened yesterday by vjcitn ⫶⫶⫶ New Issues
☐	⊘	**Bioconductor Hub data resources and methods**
		#8 opened 15 days ago by vjcitn ⫶⫶⫶ New Issues
☐	⊘	**spatial and multi-omic data structures**
		#7 opened 15 days ago by vjcitn ⫶⫶⫶ New Issues
☐	⊘	**matrix/array processing for genomics**
		#6 opened 15 days ago by vjcitn ⫶⫶⫶ New Issues
☐	⊘	**containerized/localizeable build and check for software ecosystem**
		#3 opened 15 days ago by vjcitn ⫶⫶⫶ New Issues
☐	⊘	**New package review process: timeline reset**
		#2 opened 15 days ago by vjcitn ⫶⫶⫶ New Issues
☐	⊘	**General project management concepts for Bioc TAB working groups**
		#1 opened 15 days ago by vjcitn ⫶⫶⫶ New Issues

:35 - :40 - Governance consultant, plan and budget. Ad hoc committee for governance consultation will be under Levi's leadership. Plan for 10 initial interviews.

:40 - :45 - Discussion of Bioconductor mission statement revision

:45 - :60 - Open discussion
- Current/Potential Funding applications. CAB identified NSF, CS&S event fund, Burroughs Wellcome Fund, MOORE Foundation (https://twitter.com/MooreFound), Sloan (https://sloan.org/grants/)
- books - converge on the infrastructure, there's a barrier to writing books if the infrastructure changes often
- Increasing transparency, communication and outreach. Publicize and solicit greatest hits (#humble-brag slack channel created, blog, news document, "today I learnt", link to Twitter feed on the main Bioc landing page)