

Bioc Technical Advisory Board Minutes

1 August 2019

Attending: Martin, Matt, Rafa, Levi, Aedin, Michael, Vince

Regrets:

Schedule

:00 - :05 Minutes and action items from previous meetings

- [Minutes](#) approved.
- TAB Nominations approved; nominations close July 31.
- Community survey approved -- schedule for deployment (Matt)
- Bioconductor developer forum approved -- next steps outlined below

:05 - :15 Material for review

- Funding
 - CZI seed network: kick-off meeting, Toronto, July 29 - Aug 1; Martin, Aedin, Matt, Greg Finak, ...
 - U41: Vince, Rafa, Martin need to make preliminary plans for renewal; contact PO.
 - U24 renewal submitted June 11: (Levi, Martin mPI), Vince, Davide Risso
- Events
 - CSAMA course in Brixen, Italy: complete; successful; thanks Wolfgang / Simone / Mike / Lori!
 - BiocAsia: Sydney Dec 5-6; Peter Hickey (WEHI), Stephen Pederson (University of Adelaide), Saskia Freytag (Harry Perkins Institute) and Dario Strbenac (University of Sydney) are organizing
 - BiocEurope: Brussels Dec 9-10; Laurent Gatto local organizer
 - Meetups
- Committees
 - Conference (BioC2019; below)
 - Emerging Topics
- Working groups
 - Developer forum
 - Initial meeting Aug 15 12:00 Eastern. Mike Smith will announce on bioc-devel & community slack, and will create a community slack channel. Record via bluejeans.
- Other
 - slack channel '[tech-advisory-board](#)' created

:15 - :35 TAB Nominees

- Nominations closed
- 11 of 15 positions currently filled, so 4 positions available.
- [Governance](#) requires supermajority (two-thirds of cast ballots) approval, but description of voting protocol not adequate. Executive proposes:
 - Vote on each candidate: yea / nay
 - Abstentions, explicit or implied, are not tallied, i.e., votes in favor = yea / (yea + nay)
 - 4 or fewer with supermajority -- appointed
 - >4 with supermajority -- highest votes; ties broken with set.seed(12132); sample(<alpha by last name>)
 - Ballots made available after meeting

:35 - :45 Conference

- Motion: establish a Code of Conduct committee
 - Representation: 1 TAB member (for communication); 1 outside expert; three community members
 - Charge: establish project-wide and conference code of conduct, including CoC response best practices
- Arrange final conference committee meeting (Levi)
- Discussion: site & date for next year
 - Conflicts: BIRS meeting (Jun 14 - Jun 19), CSAMA (June 29 - July 3), useR (St. Louis, July 7-10), ISMB (Montreal, July 12-16), BOSC/BCC (Toronto, July 18-25), JSM (Philadelphia, Aug 1-6)
 - Location: Boston
 - Tentative dates: July 29-31 (Wednesday- Friday)
- Discussion: conference committee chair
 - Levi willing to continue, but open to alternatives. Consider co-chair arrangement.

:45 - :00 [#diversebioc](#)

- Discussion: establish a Community Advisory Board?
- Specific areas to address
 - Diversity
 - Discussion: Establish Working Group of the TAB to explore?
 - Users
 - Main challenge is to provide an easier 'on ramp'
 - How to empower others (rather than 'core team') to accomplish this?
 - Conference tracks
 - No conclusions reached
 - Developers
 - Bioconductor developer forum
 - Conference
 - Conference committee tasked to tackle challenges of inclusion, format, & breadth

- Other outreach activities
 - Targeted allocation of conference income?
 - No conclusions reached