Bioc Technical Advisory Board Agenda
7 May 2020

Bluejeans: https://bluejeans.com/272538961
Attending: Martin Morgan, Charlotte Soneson, Levi Waldron, Vince Carey, Sean Davis, Rafael Irizarry, Stephanie Hicks, Kasper, Matt Ritchie, Aedin Culhane, Laurent Gatto (late)
Regrets: Wolfgang Huber

Schedule
:00 - :05 Minutes
   - 2020-04-02 minutes

:05 - :20 Material for review
   - Highlights
      - R 4.0 / Bioc 3.11 releases
      - Community Advisory Board: membership & first meeting notes
      - U24 & CZI seed network progress reports due in the foreseeable future; CZI 'virtual site visit. U24 (core grant, previously U41) panel dates? 06/09/2020
   - Funding
      - U41: (NHGRI; core) Renewal submitted (as U24) January 24.
      - U24: Monthly coordination meetings; private slack channel
      - CZI seed network: monthly meetings, private slack
      - CZI EOSS (Vince)
      - Other opportunities?
         - CZI EOSS call "The third distinct cycle will open mid-June 2020."
         - NSF Conferences -- Computational literacy
   - Events
      - BiocEurope: Padova, Italy - Davide Risso as local host. Date not confirmed yet.
      - CSAMA 21-26 June 2020: Postponed to 2021
      - Other
   - Community Advisory Board
      - Minutes from first meeting
      - Website live
   - Committees
      - Code of Conduct Committee (Levi, with Stephanie): nothing to report
   - Working groups
- Carpentries training (Laurent)
- Developer forum (Michael, Martin): ongoing activities
- Fluent Genomics (Michael): nothing to report.
- Build system / continuous integration (Vince): nothing to report. BiocBBSpack, binaries linked to containers

- Other:
  - European Bioconductor Foundation (Laurent / Wolfgang / Simone B.)

20 - 35 - BioC 2020
- Update on 2020 conference strategy and timeline
  - Workshops:
    - Workshop package approach (leverage github actions for automation)
    - Individual workshop websites (default based on pkgdown)
    - Individual docker container per workshop (with Dockerfile customization by workshop authors)
    - Binder-like “click to run” button per workshop; both Rstudio and Jupyter interfaces available
    - One landing page listing workshops and links to resources
  - Liabilities (thank you Erica for figuring all this out):
    - Simmons has closed for the summer and will refund our deposit of $1500
    - Martin Conference Center (as of Tuesday) is closed to large meetings for the summer. They are offering to refund our deposit or we can reschedule for a later date.
    - The Marriott Brookline will not refund our deposit if we cancel ($3128) but is open to rescheduling at a later date with no or limited penalties.
    - The only other fees we are liable for are the Paypal and Eventsmart fees that run our registration site (about $800).
- Brainstorming on Google Doc Virtual conference notes and slido #52549
- workshop committee will have frequent meetings until virtual conference is established
- APPROVED: Bioc 2020 a virtual conference in the same week in July; exact format to be determined.

35 - 45 Technical Advisory Board membership
- Now is the time to seek new nominations, but none of our terms are expiring. Goal is to have 3-year terms with 1/3 of positions expiring each year.
  - Volunteers to stand for re-election: Robert Gentleman, Aedin Culhane, Sean Davis, Michael Lawrence, Matt Ritchie
- Will make call for nominations & self-nominations
Tabled

:45 - 60 Working with large data
- Review of resources available in Bioconductor
  - Traditional databases
  - HDF5 - on disk, or in object storage (local or in cloud)
  - RESTful query of defined resources, e.g., GenomicDataCommons
- …
- Limitations and challenges
  - Lack of access to newer (??) approaches
  - Far from transparent use
  - Computational scalability strategies, either in classic HPC clusters or on the cloud
- Prioritized needs / paths to improvement