

# Bioc Technical Advisory Board Minutes

2 July 2020

Attending: Martin Morgan, Charlotte Sonesson, Laurent Gatto, Vincent Carey, Stephanie Hicks, Robert Gentleman, Kasper D. Hansen, Wolfgang Huber, Aedin Culhane, Levi Waldron, Sean Davis, Rafael Irizarry

Regrets: Matt Ritchie, Michael Lawrence, Aaron Lun

## Schedule

:00 - :03 Minutes

- [2020-06-04](#) minutes approved

:03 - :10 Material for review

- Highlights / further discussion in main meeting
  - U41 Renewal status (Rafa / Vince)
  - CAB Responsibilities include events, code-of-conduct committee
  - Currently dormant working groups
- Funding
  - [U41](#): (NHGRI; core, to renew as U24) Renewal scored well. Discussion below. Current grant expires 2/28/2021; note submission had 12/2020 start date.
  - [U24](#): Monthly coordination meetings; private slack channel
  - [AnVIL](#): <https://anvilproject.org>: bi-weekly bioc meetings, public [slack](#); weekly tech calls. Bioconductor-specific [progress](#).
  - [CZI seed network](#): monthly meetings, private slack. Virtual symposium Monday, July 20, 3-4 PM (US Eastern)
  - CZI EOSS (Vince)
  - Other opportunities?
    - CZI [EOSS](#) due August 4
- Community Advisory Board (Matt / Aedin)
  - [CAB page](#)
  - [Minutes](#) from previous meeting (May 14)
  - Events
    - BiocAsia: [2020](#): Virtual meeting, Oct 17-18.
    - BiocEurope: Padova, Italy - Davide Risso as local host. Current planning: virtual meeting 14-18 Dec (with only "a few" hours per day).
    - [Bioc2020](#): Boston July 27-31. Public [slack](#).
    - CSAMA 21-26 June 2020: Postponed to 2021, putatively 2021-06-27 to 2021-07-02.
  - Committees
    - Code of Conduct Committee (Levi, with Stephanie):

- Working groups
  - [Carpentries training](#) (Laurent, Charlotte): created a [google group](#) for discussions. Next step: to set up a call with all participants and plan Bioconductor curriculum. Question: should the curriculum focus on in-person and/or remote teaching? We're also discussing how we can support the BioC2020 workshop presenters (depending a bit on the final workshop structure and the timeline).
  - Developer forum (Michael, Martin): ongoing activities
  - Fluent Genomics (Michael)
  - Build system / continuous integration (Vince):
  
- Other:
  - European Bioconductor Foundation (Laurent / Wolfgang / Simone B.). We plan to go for an "eingetragener Verein" according to German law. This is a legal person, with lightweight regulations and simple tax filing. It will be able to have members from all over the EU (the world?) and also be able to run events there. (We'll need to acquire advice from local tax consultants in each new country initially, to make sure we don't overstep.)
  - We've been advised by EMBL's lawyer on this, so far "for free", Wolfgang will ask the director whether they agree for him to keep consulting us in this manner (to save us costs).

:10 - :20 Governance (Martin)

- Election results:
  - Executive
    - Chair: Vincent Carey
    - Vice-chair: Levi Waldron
    - Secretary: Charlotte Soneson
  - New members
    - Michael Love
    - Hector Corrada Bravo
    - Shila Ghazanfar
- CAB Responsibilities
  - Events and Code of Conduct Committee move from TAB to CAB
- Committees & working groups status
  - Revitalize or disband?
    - Fluent genomics: Michael leaving board, so require new contact person
    - Build system / Continuous integration (Vince)
- Other governance initiatives (Levi)
  - wishlist for improved voting procedure, for TAB to develop into a proposed change to the governance document (Levi)
  - develop proposal for CAB baseline budget and spending procedures

- develop proposal to ensure communication between TAB and CAB (CAB governance requires one TAB member [currently Aedin] on the CAB executive)
- develop proposal for explicitly separating responsibilities of TAB and CAB
- develop proposal for shared aspects of TAB and CAB governance

:20 - :25 BioC 2020 (Levi)

- Conference Direct conference platform
- Program: <https://bioc2020.bioconductor.org>
  - Full week -- 8 hours / day x 5 days. Get to see everything!
  - 1 hour blocks
  - only parallel sessions at lunch time -- meet the core team; birds-of-a-feather; lightning talk; ...; CAB; TAB
  - poster session / section on Bioc F1000 channel; browsing posters
  - Awards -- many nominations

:25 - :35 Core team activities

- New package submission workflow & the 'single package builder'
  - Currently: packages added to Bioconductor git `_after_` review
    - Contributors are taught to do things that are not relevant after submission (e.g., establish a web hook, maintain a github repository)
    - Contributors do not learn to do things relevant after submission, e.g., use SSH keys, push to git.bioconductor.org
    - Opens some future flexibility, e.g., contributions from non-github repositories
  - Planned (this week): packages added to Bioconductor git at the `_start_` of the review
    - Pushes to git trigger single package builder
    - Single package builder uses standard Bioconductor build nodes
  - Next step -- build on commit for all packages?
    - Provisional; infrastructure will be in place to support this, but system needs to be assessed for load and robustness
- Containers
  - bioconductor/bioconductor\_docker status
    - Diagnosing troubles with the workshop image → binary installations from RStudio make different assumptions about system library installations
    - Will be updated to be consistent with these assumptions.
  - Will track [RStudio Package Manager](#)
    - Build strategy: each package built on a tailored image
    - Software requirements scraped from DESCRIPTION SystemRequirements
    - Reverse dependencies also re-built on version bump

- Preliminary discussions about incorporation into BiocManager and provisioning binary versions of Bioconductor packages. RStudio intends to make binary builds available in their paid service
- Can also run Windows and OSX Docker containers, e.g. for multi-platform builds?

:35 - :55 Bioconductor directions (Vince)

- Based on U24 renewal of U41([slide set derived from application](#))

:55 - :60 General Discussion