

Bioconductor Community Advisory Board (CAB) Agenda

December 12

Members: Aedin, Enis, Hédia, Janani, Jasmine, Jiefei, Johannes, Kevin, Kozo, Leo, Lluís, Lori, Luyi, Maria, Mengbo, Nicole, Oluwatobilola (Tobi), Stevie, Umar, Xueyi, Zahraa

Attending: Lori, Maria, Kozo, Xueyi, Lluís, Hedia

Regrets: Janani, Johannes, Kevin, Stevie, Aedin, Enis, Jasmine, Jiefei, Leo, Luyi, Mengbo, Nicole, Tobi, Umar, Zahraa

Guests: Ellis Patrick

Schedule

:00 - :05 Welcome!

:4 - :05 Review minutes from previous meeting for posting

[November Minutes](#)

:05 - :10 Action items from last meeting

[] not started, [-] ongoing, [?] status unknown/feedback required, [C] canceled, [X] done.

- [-] **Janani:** Blog post on R-Ladies engagement. Waiting for OK from R-Ladies to publish. Figure out a working group, too. Blog post approved from our side (Maria, Janani from CAB); awaiting final approval from R-Ladies leadership. Will reactivate the working group soon after the tandem release of the blog post. ([#r-ladies](#))
- [-] **Maria:** set up a joint public channel with the Galaxy community. Update from Maria: Maria is in touch with the communication person from Galaxy (Natali).
- [?] **Nicole:** reach out on Slack to see if there are interested people to join the industry working group. Otherwise, update the status of the working group.
- [-] **Lori/Maria:** start working group for conference concepts/ideas and more centralized between groups. Not done because there are no volunteers. We can start by reaching out to previous organizers of 3 conferences. We'll discuss & try to arrange 3 meetings across the year.

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:10-:35 BiocAsia [Guest: Ellis Patrick]

Recap and discussion

- ~580 participants of ABACBS (BiocAsia conference was a satellite event from a this major Bioinformatics conference)
 - Monday student day, Tue-Wed ABACBS, Thur-Fri Bioc satellite event

- Con of having Bioc as satellite: if sitting through a main conference could be long and repetitive, combat that with having differences (type of presentations, types of questions)
- Bioc portion consisted of mostly workshops (R/Bioc and non Bioc like gpu) and research presentations (~60 participants)
- Davide and Belinda as keynotes
- How can we get more international participants?
- Hybrid conf (in-person + zoom).
- No Bioconductor Carpentries workshops have been held in Asia yet.
 - It is planned to change for next BioCAsia.
- How to decide where/how in future
 - Potentially needs more structure/steering committee to keep things moving
 - Hybrid/Satellites to broaden inclusion across Asia
 - Strong interest of having Caprenties workshop (Kozo)
 - The next host country will be chosen in January.
- Given the rising cost of travel, it's becoming more difficult to gather people for a single conference. Perhaps we should consider holding workshops in different Asian regions instead? (Hedia) Like How H3Africa
<https://h3abionet.org/index.php/categories/event/workshop/introduction-to-hands-on-bioconductor-workshop> and Tunis R user group
<https://amalboukteb.github.io/2024-10-30-INRAT/>
- **TODO:** [Maria/Lori] Start/Advertise an “Event” working group that can be workshops, capentries, conferences, etc.... (Ellis, Hedia, Kozo)

:36-:45 EU Cyber Resilience Act [Lluis]

R Consortium on the November R repository working group meeting mentioned that the new [EU cyber resilience act](#) will affect all R package repositories. They are looking for volunteers to work on making clear the requirements for software stewards (with the Linux Foundation). Requirements should be met by October 2027.

There is a [Github blog post](#) about it.

:00-:00 [Move to next meeting] CAB paper update [Aedin/all]

- Discussion:
- Agreed on “perspective”. Focus the paper on the CAB and what CAB is doing and lessons learned.
- Set a deadline for 1st complete draft - propose end of September -> December?
- What are some timelines associated with editing, rewriting to submission? Is this still going to PLoS CompBio?

:45 - :55 CAB/TAB information exchange [Lori]

(permanent item to allow information exchange between CAB and TAB)

There is supposed to be a bi-annual joint meeting but it hasn't happened for a while,

TAB → CAB

Two new technical working groups forming: Pangeome, WASM

Github action / github as bioc source moving forward.

Spatial omics recap from Helena

Workflow/Publications recap

Conference feedback:

Lean towards not having one large conference that rotates. They like the diversity and decentral. They like spatially distinct locations and feel like it does not hinder community building as it makes it more accessible to regions.

Their view is there is a main conference in the US that is more distinct and that isn't a bad thing. The others formed naturally when there was a need and separate interests. Each conference has different formats and accessibilities.

Overwhelmingly they miss developer day and think it should return. That was originally what the "conference" was intended for and the focus on research has alienated developers.

Workshops need to be more "established" rather than focused on newer packages and a vignette demo.

CAB → TAB

EU Cyber Resilience Act

"Event/Engagement" working group proposed

:55 - :00 Other Business

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(All members are welcome to suggest ideas and topics for discussion in future meetings)

[EuroBio](#) September 17-19, 2025, at the Barcelona Biomedical Research Park ([PRBB](#)), in Barcelona, Spain

Well done all, our work building community connections Bioconductor and EU ELIXIR are reflected in that Bioconductor was mentioned in the recent [ELIXIR and NIH Memorandum of Agreement](#) (sep 2024). Can we discuss this at an upcoming meeting but we can benefit from the three main areas in the [MoA](#).