# Bioconductor Community Advisory Board (CAB) Agenda

December 14 at 5 AM GMT

Members: Maria, Kozo, Aedin, Lori, Johannes, Daniela, Estefania, Kevin, Mike, Hédia, Xueyi, Leo, Nicole, Janani, Umar, Stevie, Luyi, Jiefei, Jordana, Enis, Mengbo

Attending: Maria, Kozo, Johannes, Kevin, Leo, Janani, Stevie, Mengbo, Xueyi, Aedin
Regrets:
Guests:

Schedule
**:00 - :5: Welcome!**

**:5 - :6 Review minutes from previous meeting for posting**
    OK to submit.

**:7 - :09 Working group update: Social Media (Maria)**
- Status on Twitter/X account?
    - Closing this Sunday December 17th (see blog post https://blog.bioconductor.org/posts/2023-11-17-twitter-exit/)
    - We gained a lot of new followers on our other platforms after posting about closing
        - Mastodon https://genomic.social/@bioconductor had 580 followers (took 9 months after setting up account in Feb), at first Twitter/X exit announcement gained 325 in 1 month, now 907
        - LinkedIn https://www.linkedin.com/company/bioconductor 300ish -> 482
- **Action:** Follow Bioconductor Mastodon and LinkedIn accounts and/or encourage others to help grow Bioconductor presence on those platforms
- Consider BlueSky in the future. Social Media Working group is working on it. Stevie: it's currently a nice quiet (well managed) platform.

**:10 - :11 Update CAB meeting time/schedule**
- Will change the meeting time every 4 months by approximately 8 hours.

**:13 - :24 Bioconductor conference organization**
- (Discussion regarding speakers for and "representativeness" of BioC conferences started in the Slack bioc24 conference organization channel. Some points were picked up and discussed during the CAB meeting).
- BioC 2024 organizing committee: select keynote speakers, voting — Dec22.

- For BioC 2024: currently mostly speakers from North America. Question: whether a more diverse speaker group could/should be invited.
- Expensive – maybe have scholarships instead of paying everything for speakers.
    - Kevin: Some sponsors give money specifically for some aspects of the conference, money which may not be repurposed for something else if saved.
    - Difficult to get sponsors, money. International speakers would make it more expensive.
- Remote speakers? Not ideal. Also, some speakers would like to attend if invited. Having non-US speakers only virtual would not be inclusive – but is it better than not having them at all?
- Are there conferences representing all continents? (EuroBioC, BioCAsia).
- BioC conference: is the "global" conference where more international speakers should be invited to. If it is not 'the global' meeting, there should be a name change to reflect that the community knows that, too. Also, all continents should be represented if they get split (S America, Africa, Asia, Australia).
- Instead of "main" conference and local conferences, have a network of smaller (satellite) events: broadcast the *main* conference and have local speakers in addition.
- Kevin: started compiling a list of speakers from previous conferences + a pool of desired speakers organizing committees can pick from.
    - E.g. https://github.com/kevinrue/biocspeakers → https://isee.shinyapps.io/biocspeakers/
- BioCAsia: invite Ellis to the next meeting to give an update.
- Future: invite organizers from previous/next conferences – for continuity in planning, learning lessons from prior meetings, planning ahead, etc.
- Janani: will bring these points to the Slack discussion, get feedback from TAB. Discussion will continue in the January CAB meeting.


**:25 - :39 Working group update: Mass Spectrometry for Proteomics and Metabolomics (Johannes)**
- Aims:
    - Identify (Bioconductor) contributors interested/active in the field.
    - Define technical or community needs to prioritize/harmonize future development.
    - Harmonize development.
    - General info https://github.com/lgatto/BiocMassSpecWorkingGroup
- RforMassSpectrometry CZI EOSS grant (led by Laurent; submitted):
    - organize hackathons and events to engage with community and developers.
    - improve/expand documentation; define/set up courses and workshops.
    - Translate documentation and tutorials/workshops.

- "Universal mass spectrometry data processing in Python and R" CZI EOSS grant (led by Wout Bittremieux; submitted):
    - matchms, pyOpenMS, Pyteomics, spectrum_utils (all Python) and RforMassSpectrometry packages (Spectra, …).
    - Improve integration of python and R libraries for mass spectrometry.
    - Events for community engagement.
- Even without these grants we aim to get some of the proposed things done, such as better support for standard data types for data sharing (e.g. mzTab-M) etc.
- Kozo/Jo: plan to organize a "bioinformatics hub" (better name needed) at the [Metabolomics 2024](#) conference of the Metabolomics Society: forum to interact and engage with developers and users. Promote MS/metabolomics/proteomics efforts in Bioconductor.

### :40 - :43 Bioconductor.org website redesign update (Maria)
- **Action:** Vote on changes in Slack #biocwebsite
- Content of the web-page is in branch of current github repo.

### :44 - :52 BioC student council (Aedin)
- Should we have Bioconductor student council ?
    - **Action:** VOTE
    - YES: 7
    - NO: 0
- Eligibility anyone registered for a degree (undergrad and postgrad)
- Include postdocs or not? Should be consistent with the meeting registration definition.
- Goal would be 1) engage students 2) gather info on student needs 3) organize or suggest student events online /hackathon 4) feedback and assist with training material development 5) dissemination of announcements (e.g., calls for meeting abstracts, etc)
- Student members would receive assistance from TAB/CAB and CoC getting started
- Should we invite leaders in the ISMB student council to talk to us and for tips getting set up.
- Do we have any students or postdocs on TAB/CAB/CoC who might be interested in helping facilitate council ? [**to be re-discussed next meeting**].
- For 2024 could have a birds of a feather or table at 2024 conferences [liaise with organising committees].
- Bioconductor Student Council (BioSC) sessions/events could organize a pre-conference day/session or a career event at their regional Bioc conference meetings in 2025
- Lots of volunteers – from trainee groups
- [https://www.iscbsc.org](https://www.iscbsc.org) | Aedin, Janani can chat with them & revert to CAB and conf committee | *reached out on Dec 12, 2023.*

- *Have also asked ISMB about a possible booth — will share info via slack soon (Janani, Aedin)*

## :53 - :54 CAB Regular Working Groups Reports


- Working group(s) to invite for January (by Janani):
    - 2.3. Cloud Methods | 2.8. Multilingual

:54-:55 **Public CAB folder**

Currently we share some docs as public but it's unclear which files and folders are public. Should we create a public folder and copy shared docs in that folder.  Then it's clear what is public or not.
- **Action**: VOTE
- YES: 7
- NO: 0

## :55 - :00 Other Business