Bioc Technical Advisory Board Minutes

2 December 2021

Attending: Vince Carey, Nitesh Turaga, Lori Shepherd, Charlotte Soneson, Aedin Culhane, Hervé Pagès, Michael Love, Marcel Ramos, Levi Waldron, Jennifer Wokaty, Laurent Gatto, Rafael Irizarry, Stephanie Hicks, Kasper Hansen
Regrets: Shila Ghazanfar, Aaron Lun, Robert Gentleman, Hector Corrada Bravo, Wolfgang Huber

:03 - :04 Prior minutes approved

:05 - :15 Greatest hits

- Azure hosting of Hub(s) (Lori). Copied EHub/AHub data to Azure, changed endpoint to go live last Wednesday. Seems to be going well so far.
- Dockerhub: Nitesh comments on open source status. Vulnerability scans, unlimited egress of docker images, autobuilds.
- DataFrame evolution: Hervé comments on transition to DFrame.
    - Devel build report mostly fixed. Reserialized lots of old serialized S4 instances.
    - Implemented "hack" in S4Vectors to provide some backwards compatibility to allow at least displaying old objects.
    - The updateObject package is being developed to assist users working with old serialized S4 instances.
    - Should we move towards serializing more basic building blocks rather than S4 objects? Not always possible. Could be done/encouraged within packages if we have a good strategy to recommend to developers.
- Training of reviewers (Lori). 5 new reviewers onboarded, next round started.
- Mentorship program started. 8 applicants so far.
- Carpentries workshop Heidelberg in person 14-15 March 2022 - for material currently under development, see https://github.com/Bioconductor/bioconductor-teaching and links in the README.
- Met with La Piana concerning governance improvements.
- Developer forum about r-universe.

:15 - :25 Conferences

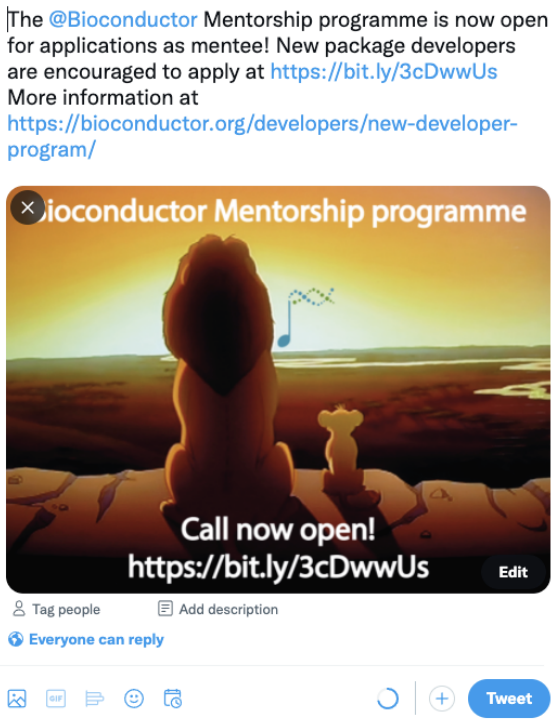
- EuroBioC2022: 16-18 March. Third day of conference will involve working groups/hackathons/birds-of-a-feather sessions; concept of core developer "satellite" and availability for consultation during conference needs discussion.
- BioC2022: 27-29 July. Seattle meeting with hybrid approach, keynote invitations ongoing.

:25 - :30 CZI single cell biology data insights applications due 14 Dec (Stephanie, Kasper, Laurent, Shila, Aedin).

- Slack channel #hca-data-insights, several proposals progressing.

:30 - :40 CAB news

- Multilingual Code of Conduct.
- Multilingual working group (Kozo) are using OLS to translate YouTube content https://crowdin.com/project/bioconductor-code-of-conduct.
- Code of Conduct Committee. New committee members: Mike Love, Anna Quaglieri, Lluis Revilla, Federico Marini, Sowmya Pharthiban.
- Community blog. Kozo is developing a prototype: https://kozo2.github.io/biocblog/.
- New working group on Spanish Bioconductor Training (Estefania)
    - Great need for training in Spanish. Training in Argentina, Peru (both in Spanish).
    - Estefania to reach out to Education committee. Already spoke with Leo. Slack channel.
- Developer mentorship program. 6 mentors. 8 mentee applicants (so far).
    - Application form
    - Geographically spread (2 USA, 2 Europe (Spain, UK), 3 Asia/Oceania (Taiwan, Japan, Australia), 1 Africa (Egypt)). Inferred gender is 1 female, 7 males.
    - Expectations of mentees - should have a GitHub repository with code that is runnable but not necessarily packaged/ready for Bioc submission. Mentees will also contribute to improving the documentation of the development process to help future mentees.



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- CZI EOSS meeting (3 Nov) Attended meeting, slides presented.
- Events:
    - BioC Asia 2021 (1-4 Nov 2021). Recordings are on YouTube.

    - H3Africa BioC Africa Workshop II (17-19 Nov 2021).
        - Introduction to Bioconductor Annotation Resources / public data resources by James MacDonald & Lori Kern. (17 Nov 2021)
        - An introduction to Matrix Factorization and Principal Component Analysis by Aedin Culhane. (Thursday, 18 Nov 2021)
        - Functional enrichment analysis of high-throughput omics data by Ludwig Geistlinger. (19 Nov 2021)

:30 - :40 Discussion of "unfunded project contributions"

- Not covered by the main grant, but very important to the resilience of the project. Some external projects are heavily dependent on Bioconductor infrastructure.
- Introspection - where are we, vulnerabilities, assets.
- Different points of view - infrastructure vs "value to end user".

:40 - :60 Levi Waldron: Review of specs for Hub-like services (link)