

International Society for Biocuration (ISB) Executive Committee Meeting minutes

Date: 18 Jan 2018

Attendees: Nicole, Suzi, Rama, Pete, Andrew, Sandra, Ceci, Rob

Regrets: Zhang, Sylvain

1. Biocuration 2018 - Conference committee: Ceci, Nicole, Zhang (Chair)

- a. Paper, abstract and workshop deadline has passed. Over 110 abstracts have been submitted. As requested by ISB-EC, guidelines for the reviewing process have been sent to the scientific committee by the organizers. Abstracts are now under review.
- a. Travel fellowship deadline is Jan 31. Reminders will be sent to the ISB community to take on this funding opportunity.
- b. The ISB Award winner has been selected and contacted and will be announced soon on the ISB website. We would like to thank the committee: Nicole Vasilevsky, Betina Porcel, Tanya Berardini, Ruth Lovering, Seth Carbon, Scott Cain, and Sherri De Coronado for their participation in the selection committee.

2. ISB Website - Committee: Andrew, Pete and Rama

- a. We are aware of issues with members having trouble joining or renewing their membership at the time of payment and are looking into solutions to remedy this.
- b. If you are currently experiencing any technical issues with your membership, please contact us (intsocbio [at] gmail.com).
- c. A message will be posted on the website to indicate users of such registration problem.

3. New Communications committee- Pete, Ceci, Rob

- a. Will be responsible for the ISB newsletter, and a new blog.
- b. A meeting is scheduled on January 23 to discuss aim, scope and content. The group will report back on the February EC-meeting.

4. Survey the community as to what they want from their EC

- a. The ISB EC is developing a survey that will be sent to ISB membership, with the goal of identifying community needs and ways we can better serve the community.
- b. It will be distributed in mid-Feb
- c. Results will be discussed with the community in the ISB 2018 meeting in Shanghai

5. Training materials (Nicole, Pete)

- a. Biocuration Training Materials Effort (going forward with Moni, Nicole, Pete) - connection with GOBLET and ELIXIR TeSS. A meeting has been set, the group will report back on the February EC meeting.

6. ISB Opportunities

- a. We will increase dissemination of funding opportunities: micro-grants (Nicole has prepared a new brochure to be posted and printed around); and revive the ISB Laboratory Exchange Fellowships (budget permitting)

Updates from previous actions which are done:

- Among a set of outstanding candidates, the ISB EC has hired Rob Davidson for the ISB admin position. Rob is working closely with the EC and helping with the website, communication, etc.

- The ISB biocuration article has been re-submitted to PLoS after hard work from Pete, Suzi and Sylvain in responding to reviewer's comments. We will keep you posted!