



# GOBLET

## 5th AGM

Brisbane, 7-9 November, 2016

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## Executive report

- **On behalf of the Executive Board**
  - Terri Attwood, Michelle Brazas, Fran Lewitter, Vicky Schneider
    - brief review of actions
    - accomplishments since last AGM



2015 AGM Cape Town, South Africa

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## Actions



- **Executive Board**

- Update fee structure to allow for 3yr payment option ✓
- Update fee structure to allow low/middle income country members to participate ✓
- Invite ELIXIR node institutions to be GOBLET members . . .
- Update benefits distinction in membership levels; narrow down membership levels ✓
- Update membership table with contributor status ✓
- Fran to compile list of possible new members and invite to GOBLET . . .
- Revise and ratify the statutes for next year ✓
- Terri to update mission and vision on website ✓

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## Accomplishments



- **Papers**

- *A global perspective on bioinformatics training needs*
  - preprint to be submitted to BioRxiv
- **Nature Comment**
  - to be submitted

- **'White paper'/paper**

- *Defining a lingua franca for the ELIXIR/GOBLET e-learning ecosystem*
  - preprint to be submitted to Zenodo/F1000
  - lead author to be identified for publication

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# Accomplishments



- GOBLET recognised ELIXIR strategic collaboration, March

**ELIXIR**  
A distributed infrastructure for life-science information

**About**

- Programme
- Structure
- Implementation Studies
- Collaborations
- Documents
- Publications
- Vacancies
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**Collaborations**

ELIXIR facilitates collaboration between its partners through activities such as Pilot Actions. We also collaborate closely with other key European and global initiatives and many of the existing ESFRI Research Infrastructures and e-Infrastructures.

Active cooperation allows for the development of the technical architecture for the transfer, storage and re-use of data, and the global standards in data sharing. It also ensures that data management and Open Data remain high on the agenda in science policy. ELIXIR currently collaborates with:

- European Strategy Forum on Research and Innovation (ESFRI)
- Euro-Bioimaging
- GOBLET
- Research Data Alliance

**GOBLET: Global Organisation for Bioinformatics Learning, Education and Training**

GOBLET is a global consortium of organisations and individuals to promote links and cooperation amongst trainers and trainees in Bioinformatics, Bioinformatics, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (B3CB). Its objective is to provide a support and networking infrastructure for trainers and trainees in and to develop standards for B3CB education and training.

GOBLET and ELIXIR have formed a **Joint Training Strategy**, which sets out how the two initiatives will collaborate on bioinformatics training. Developed on behalf of ELIXIR by the Training Coordinator's Group (TCG), the Strategy sets out the areas for collaboration, including:

- ELIXIR's emerging ISSS portal for training resources and GOBLET's training portal
- Collaboration on train-the-trainer and train-the-researcher activities, with first events planned for 2016
- Joint exploration of training 'accreditation' mechanisms
- Sharing of best practice and expertise on professionalising bioinformatics training

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# Accomplishments



- ELIXIR-GOBLET metagenomics workshop, April, Hinxton

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**News**

ELIXIR in the news

Photos

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**ELIXIR and GOBLET support sharing of metagenomics training materials**

ELIXIR Training Platform and GOBLET (Global Organisation for Bioinformatics Learning, Education & Training) organised a joint workshop for metagenomics training materials re-use, on 7-8 April 2016 at EMBL-EBI in Hinxton, UK.

The aim was to collect a comprehensive set of metagenomics training materials and define a common approach for their curation. Such materials can then be exchanged and re-used via online portals and repositories, such as GOBLET and TeSS.

The workshop brought together 19 participants from ELIXIR Nodes (Denmark, EMBL-EBI, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, and UK) and from Germany, Australia, Brasil, Canada and USA. The participants identified existing training materials available for each metagenomics workflow and described them, using a common set of descriptors.

The Training Platform will soon release the curated materials on GitHub.

Posted: Fri 20 May 2016  
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# Accomplishments



- Training needs for biocuration workshop, April, Geneva

Biocuration 2016  
Home  
Registration

## Biocuration 2016

**WS3: Training needs for biocuration**  
**Organisers:** Patricia Palagi<sup>1,5</sup>, Vicky Schneider<sup>2,5</sup>, Claire O'Donovan<sup>3,5</sup>, Marc Robinson-Rechavi<sup>1,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> SIB Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, Switzerland  
<sup>2</sup> TGAC, United Kingdom  
<sup>3</sup> EMBL-European Bioinformatics Institute, United Kingdom  
<sup>4</sup> University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
<sup>5</sup> GOBLET

**Summary:** There is currently no recognised qualification in biocuration, either to provide new curators with a route for gaining the requisite skills to work within this field, or as a way for curators working in the field to gain recognition for the varied skill-sets that such a career provides them with. This workshop is intended to stimulate discussion on the training biocurators should have, and the role ISB, GOBLET and this community should have in defining the training needs and gaps, and set of competencies. We will work together to discuss this and other related questions, and propose concrete answers to advance biocuration training.

**Duration:** 2 hours  
**Target audience:** All biocurators

Sponsors		Morning	Afternoon	Workshop	Database	Applications: nextProt and UniProt	WS2: Text Mining and Biocuration: Moving to Integration	WS1b: Information extraction for glycobiology: building a whitelist for a toolbox
		WS3: Training needs for biocuration	WS4: Making your database or data standard more visible, informative, and discoverable	WS5: Wikidata as a platform for biocuration	WS6: T8: Tutorial: Gene Enrichment Analysis: Tips and Strategies for Success			

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# Accomplishments



- ISMB 2016, July, Orlando
  - GOBLET booth
  - LET & Fund-raising Committee posters
    - published in F1000Research
      - <https://f1000research.com/posters/5-2152>
      - <https://f1000research.com/posters/5-1683>

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# Accomplishments



- **ECCB 2016, Sept, The Hague**
  - GOBLET booth
  - LET & Fund-raising Committee posters
    - published in F1000Research
      - <https://f1000research.com/posters/5-2152>
      - <https://f1000research.com/posters/5-1683>

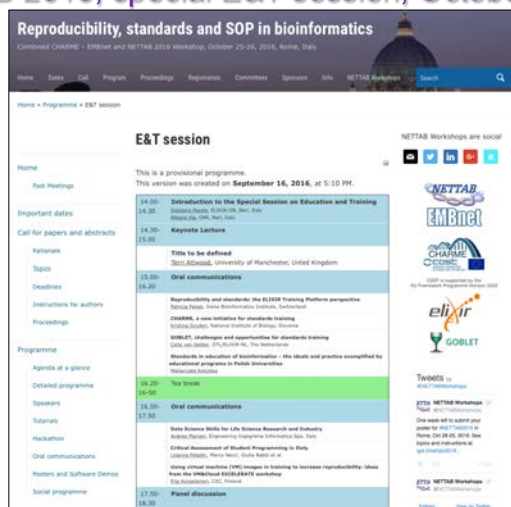


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# Accomplishments



- **NETTAB 2016, special E&T session, October, Rome**



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## GOBLET BEST PRACTICES IN BIOINFORMATICS TRAINING, Day 2

### GOBLET/ELIXIR TtT session

Friday, 4 November

Time	Activity
9:00-9:10am	<b>Welcome and Introduction – Sarah Morgan (EBI)</b>
9:10-10:30am	<b>Train-the-trainer (TtT) session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good vs bad training the trainers <b>Annette McGrath, CSIRO</b></li> </ul>
10:30-11:00am	Morning tea
11:00-12:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do people learn? <b>Sonika Tyagi, AGRF/EMBL-ABR</b></li> </ul>
12:30-1:30pm	Lunch
1:30-3:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Session and course design <b>Ann-Marie Patch, QIMR Berghofer</b></li> </ul>
3:00-3:30pm	Afternoon tea
3:30-5:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gathering feedback <b>Sean McWilliam, CSIRO</b></li> </ul>
5:00pm	Close

## Accomplishments



- EMBL-ABR/GOBLET workshop, November, Melbourne

The screenshot shows the EMBL Australia Bioinformatics Resource website. The main heading is "EMBL-ABR/GOBLET Hands-on training: RNA-seq data analysis". Below this, there is a date "14-15 November 2016" and a search bar with the text "What do you want to find?". The footer includes the text "International Faculty: Dr Eija Korpelainen, CSC-IT Center for Science Ltd, Espoo, Finland".

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## Accomplishments




- **GOBLET in the news**
  - EMBnet.digest, February 2016      Newsletter April
  - SEB Bulletin, Spring 2016      Newsletter September
  - EMBnet.digest, July 2016



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## Accomplishments



- **Grants applied for**
  - Marie Skłodowska-Curie ITN resubmission – Anton Feenstra
    - Viral Learning ✗
  - ICTP – Simon Hodson (CODATA-RDA)
    - Data Science Summer School, Trieste, 2017 – bioinformatics flavour ✓
  - EU CSA – Susanne Hollmann (CHARME)
    - establishing a framework for training in open science (OBTAIN) ?
  - 'NIH BD2K' outline proposal – Terri *et al.*
    - Symposium to promote excellence in data science training ?

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## Main challenges



- **Top three**
  - coordinating meetings across N.American, European & Australian time-zones
    - somebody always suffered, or couldn't attend
  - balancing day job deadlines/priorities with GOBLET responsibilities
    - delivering in a timely way
  - galvanising the committees
    - completely failed with the Outreach & PR Committee

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## Main actions



- **Urgent actions**
  - securing a reliable server-maintenance package
  - hiring a technical intern
  - addressing the gap created by the Outreach & PR Committee
- **Other actions**
  - find a better working relationship with the Committees
    - work with the Fund-raising Committee to try to bring in funds
  - get the survey paper published
  - deliver a robust, well-documented TtT package
    - roll out with interested organisations

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## Technical Committee

Manuel Corpas/Carlos Horros



- **Top 3 challenges**
  - having sufficient manpower to deliver on tasks
    - e.g., portal update/overhaul, which is a non-trivial project
  - managing people in distant locales
    - having to rely on people to work independently
  - getting engagement with the portal
- **Top 3 priority actions**
  - justify hiring an intern in order to move pending tasks forward
  - for Manny to share Tech. Comm. information from last 3 years
  - migration/change of ownership of current server & domain
    - with caveat that website won't disappear because Itico has

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## Fund-raising Committee

Patricia Palagi



- **Top 3 challenges**
  - funding opportunities for training aren't well matched to GOBLET
  - seizing opportunities, while important, takes a lot of time
    - often without tangible outcomes
  - devoting time to fund raising is hard on a volunteer basis
- **Top 3 priority actions**
  - push the Sponsorship Package forward
    - won't necessarily provide funds, but would fulfil committee's 1<sup>st</sup> mission
      - i.e., stimulate collaborative projects with training community
  - gather more ideas for fund raising (on top of those collected in 2014)
    - easier said than done!
  - galvanise committee members to put ideas into practice

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## LET Committee

Nicky Mulder, Celia van Gelder




GOBLET

- **Top 3 challenges**
  - finding time to dedicate to GOBLET activities, which hampers progress
    - *this actually should become a consideration for the GOBLET incentives committee!*
  - finding suitable dates & times to meet regularly
  - creating actionable priorities
    - translating aspirations into concrete & achievable (evaluable) results
  - LET members have different efforts related to bioinformatics E&T
    - these weren't explicitly harmonised into clear added value for GOBLET
- **Top 3 priority actions**
  - get "trainer support platform" pages online
    - TFs created useful info for the website (e.g., links to papers, best-practices, competency profiles, etc.) - want to build on this in future
  - get e-learning section onto website
    - *this is listed as one action, but is actually a lot of (hard) work*
  - complete & disseminate competencies

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## Standards Committee

Pascale Gaudet



GOBLET

- **Top 3 challenges**
  - overlap in objectives with LET & Tech committees
    - communication needs to be improved
  - scope not clearly defined
    - a significant amount of effort was spent inefficiently
  - standardisation in education is a wide problem
    - don't have the resources to address this fully
- **Top 3 priority actions**
  - implement training materials descriptors
  - get feedback from users & refine
  - discuss & implement course material descriptors

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## Outreach & PR Committee

Erik Bongcam-Rudloff



- Report sent at the weekend in the wrong format
- Top 3 challenges
  - ?
- Top 3 priority actions
  - ?

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## Common issues



- Top 3 challenges
  - balancing GOBLET with day job
  - scheduling meetings across time zones
    - making the committees work effectively
  - manpower to do stuff
- Top 3 priority actions
  - improving the website
  - hiring another technical intern
  - fund-raising

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# Conclusion



- Another very busy year
  - we've worked hard
    - but there's always more to be do...
- Huge thanks to all who've mucked in!
  - a plea to everyone to help build on this foundational work
    - help to spread the word...



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