

GOBLET newsletter

September 2016

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Letter From The Executive Board

Teresa Attwood, Michelle Brazas, Fran Lewitter, Vicky Schneider

GOBLET has had a busy six months since our last news update. As 2016 has been flying by, we have been occupied, amongst other things, with organising joint ELIXIR-GOBLET hackathons and Train-the-Trainer workshops, trying to write up the outcomes of previous workshops, preparations for conferences, writing preliminary grant proposals and sponsorship packages, planning for the forthcoming AGM in Brisbane and preparing for the next elections.

This newsletter brings updates on several of these activities, including preparations for the AGM. Also, we draw your particular attention to two calls: first, for candidates for GOBLET's officer roles - we warmly encourage you to step up to be part of GOBLET's leadership team; second, for proposals to host the 2017 AGM - please don't be shy!

To learn more about GOBLET visit <http://www.mygoblet.org> and get involved!

Not yet a member? Then join us!

Call For Hosting The 2017 AGM



2015 AGM Cape Town, South Africa

The call for proposals to host GOBLET's 6th AGM is open:

<http://mygoblet.org/announcements/call-hosting-2017-goblet-agm>

Organisations and individuals interested in submitting a bid should send a proposal to the Executive Board by 30 October 2016 – an email with expressions of interest would also be helpful prior to this date (info@mygoblet.org).

Bids received will be discussed at the 2016 AGM in Brisbane in November, where a vote will take place and the successful proposal will be announced.

Format

Proposals, which should not exceed one side of A4, should contain:

- The name and institution of the local organiser
- Details of the proposed venue (for ~20-30 participants)
- The range of dates available for the meeting
- Estimate of costs (including venue, catering, hotel, local transportation)
- Outlines of any plans to attract additional sponsorship
- Suggestions for satellite events/workshops to reach out to the local community

For more info about previous meetings (held in Amsterdam, Norwich, Toronto and Cape Town), please visit: <http://mygoblet.org/about-us/goblet-events>. This year, we particularly encourage suggestions for European venues.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Call for candidates for GOBLET's officer roles

The forthcoming AGM in Brisbane marks the completion of the 3-year terms of GOBLET's first elected officers: all will hence be up for re-election, some are standing down. We're now seeking motivated candidates to stand for all these roles, and especially to fill a number of vacant seats, including the Chairs of the Technical, Standards and

Fund-raising Committees, and two positions on the Executive Board. These roles are critical to work that will shape GOBLET's future; we therefore warmly urge you to step forward to join the team that will drive GOBLET forward.

The formal call for nominations is now open. Please visit the website to put yourself forward or to

nominate a colleague: <http://mygoblet.org/about-us/nominees/2016>.

The successful candidates will be announced at the 2016 AGM in Brisbane in November.

Welcome To New Members

During 2016, we are happy to have been able to extend warm welcomes to three new member organisations: EMBL-ABR, H3ABioNet and Repositiv. This brings the number of GOBLET's member organisations to 29. We also now have a total of 17 individual members, 10 of whom joined the GOBLET community for the first time this year.

We'd like to thank all our members - new and old - for their ongoing support of the Foundation, and look forward to fruitful collaborations in the coming years.



Update on Brisbane AGM & satellite events

Registration is now open for the GOBLET AGM and Workshops in Brisbane (AU). This year, the AGM will be held in conjunction with the annual conference of the Australian Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Society (ABACBS) on 1 and 2 November 2016.

Workshop dates: 3-4 November 2016, at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Brisbane

AGM dates: 7-9 November 2016, at QUT.

You may register here for the events: http://www.abacbs.org/goblet_agm/

Deadline for registration is **Friday 14 October 2016**.

Further info on the workshops, AGM and travel in Brisbane can be found on the registration website.

Logistics

- Three (3) nights hotel, bed and breakfast will be covered for GOBLET member organisations at the Stamford Plaza, Brisbane (<http://www.stamford.com.au/spb>) during the AGM. This is a city-centre location and ~5-minute's walk from QUT. The negotiated rate will be available for stays from 2 to 10 November, inclusive. Additional nights can be booked at guests' own expense during this time at the negotiated rate. Bookings must be made directly through the hotel, but will be expensed by GOBLET for the 3 nights of the AGM.

- The AGM dinner will be held on 8 November; you can indicate your attendance when you register.
- The workshops and AGM will be catered for all attendees.
- GOBLET Executive, Gold and Platinum members are eligible for travel reimbursement up to €500.
- Organisation of airfares and incidentals is the responsibility of GOBLET AGM attendees.

We hope you will join us for both events!

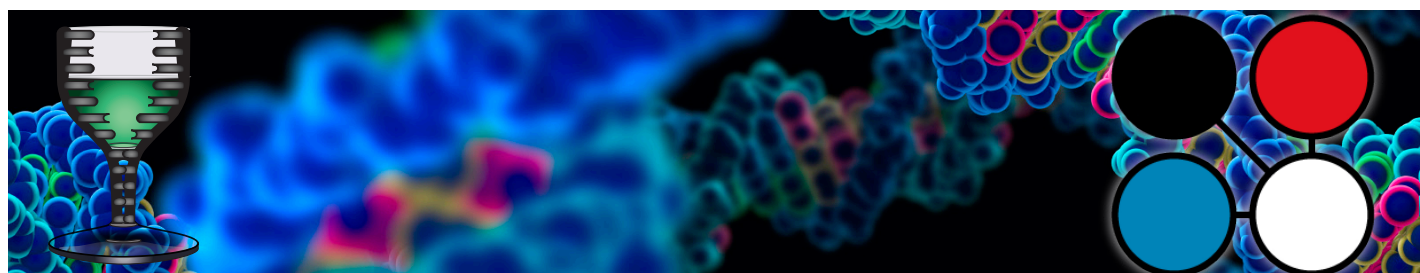
RNA-Seq data-analysis workshop with ABACBS

GOBLET is delighted to be delivering an RNA-Seq data-analysis workshop in conjunction with the Australian Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Society (ABACBS) on 10 November 2016 at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Brisbane (AU).

Eija Korpelainen will deliver a 1-day hands-on workshop that will introduce participants to RNA-seq data-analysis methods, tools and file formats. It will cover the whole workflow, from quality control and alignment, to quantification and differential expression analysis. Experimental

design will also be discussed.

Further information and registration details can be found at <http://www.abacbs.org/abacbsgobletnaseqcourse/>





GOBLET At ISMB 2016, Orlando

ISMB 2016 was held at the Swan and Dolphin Hotel complex in Orlando, Florida (USA), from 8-12 July. The meeting provided opportunities to participate in a diverse array of Satellite and Special Interest Group Meetings, Applied Knowledge Exchange Sessions, Community of Special Interest and Committee Meetings, Poster Sessions etc., alongside the full conference itself.

What is ISMB?

ISMB (Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology) is the ISCB (International Society for Computational Biology)'s annual international conference, now the largest computational biology and bioinformatics meeting in the world.



GOBLET booth at ISMB2016

This year, GOBLET presented two posters in the Education Track. The Learning, Education and Training Committee reviewed its recent activities, including i) development of a set of minimal, standard descriptors for training materials to ensure FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable)-compliance; ii) development of core competencies, and guidelines on their use; and iii) charting the bioinformatics e-learning landscape, to discover existing resources and develop new materials. Meanwhile, the Fund-Raising Committee promoted a new initiative to develop a Train-the-Trainer programme, aiming to increase the provision of bioinformatics training in Next Generation Sequencing.

In addition, GOBLET had its own booth in the exhibition hall, to highlight its work in general, to raise awareness of the forthcoming AGM, and to try to stimulate further community engagement. The booth was supported by members of the Executive and Operational Boards, committee members and local organisers of the Brisbane AGM.

ECCB 2016

15th European Conference on Computational Biology

SEPTEMBER 3-7, 2016

THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS - WORLD FORUM CONVENTION CENTER

GOBLET At ECCB 2016, The Hague

This year, GOBLET also made a splash in The Hague, where ~1200 experts in the life- and computational sciences met for the 15th European Conference on Computational Biology (ECCB 2016). The conference was a great success.

The dedicated Training Poster Track attracted 21 posters, with topics ranging from showcasing training approaches and activities at the country level, to surveying training needs and developing descriptors for training events and metrics to measure training success.

The two GOBLET posters presented at ISMB2016 were re-displayed at ECCB. GOBLET members were also involved in many of the other training posters, a testament to their involvement with, amongst other things, various ELIXIR nodes, the Galaxy Training Network and the eBioKit project.

The GOBLET booth, kindly provided by the ECCB2016 Organisation, and supported by a range of individual and organisational members (from South Africa, Switzerland, Portugal, the UK and the Netherlands), stimulated a lot of interest and promises of new membership.



GOBLET booth at ECCB 2016

Train-The-Trainer: GOBLET's Initiative To Increase The Provision Of Bioinformatics Training In NGS

GOBLET has launched a Train-the-Trainer initiative to set up effective training courses and help plug known skills gaps, especially in the area of NGS data analysis. This initiative, aligned with GOBLET's vision, will help to share:

- bioinformatics training expertise, experience and resources;
- train bioinformatics and life-science specialists;
- support life-science research;
- promote collaborations among scientists worldwide, and;
- build capacity in developing and developed countries.

The programme consists of workshops, which are expected to co-locate as satellite events to major conferences worldwide. Each workshop is organised around two main topics: 1) how

to exploit NGS data, and 2) how to set up and deliver excellent training courses. Trainers, members of GOBLET or experts in the field, will teach on a volunteer basis. Workshop participants will commit to replicate the workshops at least once, driving an exponential effect.

To deliver this ambitious project, GOBLET is seeking **partners** and **sponsors** interested in increasing the provision of bioinformatics training in the area of NGS, either as GOBLET collaborators to customise the programme to specific communities, or to fund workshops at given locations. If you would like to be involved in any way, contact us at frc@mygoblet.org. More information on this project is available on GOBLET's website at <http://www.mygoblet.org/content/fund-raising>.

Upcoming Events

- NETTAB/EMBnet/CHARME/ELIXIR/GOBLET/ special session on education, 26 October 2016, Rome (IT)
- GOBLET/ELIXIR Train-the-Trainer workshop, 1-2 November 2016, Brisbane (AU)
- GOBLET AGM, 7-9 November 2016, Brisbane (AU)
- RNA-Seq data-analysis workshop, 10 November 2016, Brisbane (AU)

GOBLET/ELIXIR Train-the-trainer Instructor course

The first GOBLET/ELIXIR Train-the-Trainer Instructor course will take place throughout October, and will be delivered by Sarah Morgan (EBI) to a group of trainers from the [BPA/CSIRO](http://www.bpa.csiro.au) training network in Australia.

These trainers are an experienced group who have participated in a number of Train-the-Trainer courses at the European Bioinformatics Institute and TGAC (now Earlham Institute) over the past 4 years.

Sarah will instruct a group of 8 trainers on how to deliver a Train-the-Trainer (TtT) course to other trainers, using TtT material from the EMBL-EBI node of ELIXIR.

A number of these trainers will then deliver a Train-the-Trainer course at the upcoming GOBLET Best Practices in Bioinformatics Training workshop on November 4th, ahead of the [GOBLET AGM](http://www.abacbs.org/gobletworkshops/) in Brisbane, Australia.

More details about the Best Practices in Bioinformatics Training workshop can be found at <http://www.abacbs.org/gobletworkshops/>