

## 2009 MASC annual meeting minutes

Date/time: Saturday, July 4, 12:30-2 pm; EICC, Edinburgh, Scotland

### Action Items:

- Joe Kieber (US) retired as MASC chair, Keith Lindsey (UK) moved from vice-chair to chair, and Kazuo Shinozaki (Japan) became vice chair (2009-2010).
- 2010 ICAR (Japan) to be in Yokohama, Japan, June 6-10, 2010.
- 2011 ICAR (US) will be in Madison, Wisconsin (tentative dates: June 22- 25, 2011).
- 2012 ICAR is to be in Europe; a volunteer country/committee is needed. Location/date should be confirmed by the 2010 ICAR. Suggestions included asking EPSO for input; a second was potentially Austria (contacts: Nordborg/Weckwerth), a third was potentially Switzerland (contact: Gruissem), although cost considerations are a concern. Ruth Bastow will follow-up w/new MASC Coordinator.
- 2013 ICAR is planned for Australia (contacts: B. Pogson/H. Millar), tentatively for Cairns, July 8-12.
- Dissolution of MASC Subcommittees was not supported at this time but memberships/chair-ships need to be revised and a 3 year chair term will be instituted. Co-chairs may help promote activity and provide continuity of leadership. Chair Lindsey will contact current chairs to see if they wish to continue and if not, will request suggestions for new chairs. If no suggestions are received, MASC will be polled to find new chairs. Further, chairs will be asked to go over member lists and remove inactive members.
- MASC Subcommittee chairs need to fulfill minimum requirements of submitting an annual report and providing input to MASC annual meetings (in some form, present or not) to remain active.
- TAIR Funding Reduction: NSF is open to funding an international workshop; probably led by NAASC.

### Discussion Points:

1. MASC Coordination: Current Coordinator funding ends early Oct. 2009. 3 year UK GARNet grant begins Oct. 1 with funding for MASC Coordinator, although the person isn't hired yet. Ruth Bastow will oversee the new Coordinator. Future ICARs: new Coordinator can provide scientific advice, and help as needed, but not as extensively as in the past. Most of coordination is expected by local organizers.
2. 21<sup>st</sup> ICAR (Japan): "Arabidopsis: 2010 and Beyond" <http://arabidopsis2010.psc.riken.jp/>
3. Plant Phenomics Facility (Australia), Harvey Millar: Adelaide- Plant Accelerator (3D visualization); Canberra- High Resolution Plant Phenomics Center (deep sequencing/infrared imaging, measuring Arabidopsis and crops traits.) Centers should be ready Sep/Oct. 2009, open to international community.
4. Germany (T. Altmann): Plant Phenomics Network may be funded. A smaller scale Arabidopsis and maize phenomics facility will be open for collaborations at IPK-Gatersleben.
5. MASC Subcommittees: Discussion involved inactive committees and membership lists including people who may not know they're involved. Suggested to restock SC's with those who wish to be more active, perhaps with several co-chairs. Various people liked a more or less formal format of chair terms. MASC chair will contact current chairs to confirm leadership, and revise if necessary (same for membership).
6. ██████████ Systems Biology- Similar to competitions for mouse- ██████████ is developing a proposal to set up an open competition for machine learning in Arabidopsis, perhaps to include publishing papers and presentations at ICAR. Currently they're looking for leaders of the competition who would not be involved as competitors.
7. TAIR Funding: NSF indicates severe funding cuts over the next 4 years. TAIR is used heavily outside the US (74% of site usage). Discussion involved if/how other countries could help fund TAIR, which currently costs 1 million USD/year, although costs are expected to increase with increased data input and development of new large datasets.

Revised: July 21, 2009; Joanna Friesner

- a. Comment: direct funding by other countries will be difficult
- b. AtEnsembl browser at NASC (UK) was recently cut from funding.
- c. Should there be a 'user-pay' or 'data generator-pay' model? Disagreement on this.
- d. Suggestions: fees to companies for usage. Also, subscription fees by institution.
- e. Suggestion: could TAIR act as the overarching 'portal' for bringing together resources that could be built and maintained by other countries, therefore easing cost burdens on TAIR?
- f. ██████████ NSF is supportive of gathering international input on what the community wants/needs from TAIR and in discussing funding possibilities via a workshop. NAASC will probably spearhead setting this up. Significant input from the international community is desired including discussion of how TAIR can best serve the community and funding.

8. MASC meeting attendees present:

Thomas	Altmann	IPK Gatersleben- <b>Germany rep.</b>
Ian	Bancroft	BBSRC- <b>Natural Variation/Comparative Genomics Subcommittee</b>
Ruth	Bastow	GARNet- <b>UK rep. and ICAR 2010 lead</b>
Jim	Beynon	GARNet- <b>New GARNet/MASC Coord. Grant PI</b>
Maura	Cardarelli	National Research Council, Rome- <b>For Giovanna Serino, Italy rep.</b>
Danny	Chamovitz	Tel Aviv University- <b>Israel rep.</b>
Joanna	Friesner	University of CA- Davis- <b>MASC Coordinator</b>
Rodrigo	Gutierrez	Catholic University, Chile- <b>Systems Biology Subcommittee Co-chair</b>
Klaus	Harter	University of Tübingen- <b>Germany rep.</b>
Marie-Theres	Hauser	BOKU- University of Vienna- <b>Austria rep.</b>
Josh	Heazlewood	JBEI/Lawrence Berkeley Lab- <b>Proteomics Subcommittee</b>
Pierre	Hilson	VIB - Ghent University- <b>Belgium rep.</b>
Eva	Huala	TAIR- <b>ex officio and Phenomics Subcommittee Co-chair</b>
Joe	Kieber	University of NC- Chapel Hill- <b>NAASC and outgoing MASC Chair</b>
Masatomo	Kobayashi	RIKEN- <b>ICAR 2011 team</b>
Keith	Lindsey	Durham University- <b>incoming MASC Chair</b>
Minami	Matsui	RIKEN- <b>Phenomics Subcommittee and 2011 ICAR team</b>
Sean	May	NASC/European Stock Centre- <b>UK rep, ex officio, and Phenomics Subcommittee Co-chair</b>
Andrew	Millar	University of Edinburgh- <b>Systems Biology Subcommittee Co-chair</b>
Harvey	Millar	University of Western Australia- <b>Proteomics Subcommittee Co-chair</b>
Sara	Patterson	National Science Foundation- <b>Observer</b>
Randy	Scholl	ABRC- <b>ex officio</b>
Motoaki	Seki	RIKEN- <b>ICAR 2011 team</b>
Kazuo	Shinozaki	RIKEN- <b>Japan rep., incoming MASC Co-chair and ICAR 2011 lead</b>
Steve	Smith	University of Western Australia- <b>Metabolomics Subcommittee</b>
Wolfram	Weckwerth	University of Vienna- <b>Proteomics Subcommittee Co-chair</b>