The Executive Board has had a busy spring term. We are very pleased to have finalised admin details to allow us to hire a new technical developer, Antonio Santovito of CREATIVE, who will be assisting the Technical Committee with the redevelopment and deployment of a fresh website. We are also happy to have completed an extensive report on the work and achievements of GOBLET’s first five years, to commemorate this very productive phase of the Foundation’s evolution. The full report and an Executive Summary (for those who only want the highlights) have just been published in *F1000Research* to mark the launch of their new *Bioinformatics Education & Training Collection*.

In March, we presented GOBLET’s activities at a Continuing Professional Development workshop for school teachers, held at the SSERC (Scottish Schools Education Research Centre) in Dunfermline (UK). Throughout the year, we have continued to work closely with ELIXIR to further develop the Train-the-Trainer programme, under the auspices of the ELIXIR-GOBLET Joint Training Strategy, and to develop standards for describing training resources, together with Bioschemas. Once again, we have been contributing to the development of an advanced bioinformatics module for the CODATA-RDA *Data Science Summer Schools*; and, as usual, we have also been coordinating activities both for our AGM later this year, including a workshop in the *Science Teachers Association of Ontario* 2018 Conference, and for GOBLET’s participation in *ISMB2018* and *ECCB2018*. Work to develop a Mastery Rubric for Bioinformatics, via an initiative with the Learning, Education & Training Committee, is ongoing; and new this year is a project with the Operational Board to establish a committee for individual members, to lend them a stronger voice and to involve them more closely in GOBLET’s work.

Our second newsletter of 2018 brings a number of short reports and updates on some of these activities, including an outline of the exciting new initiative with *F1000Research*, a spotlight on ABACBS, and our preparations for *ISMB2018* in Chicago, where we will have two posters and a combined booth with ISCB’s Education COSI – please email the Outreach & PR Committee (pr@mygoblet.org) if you would like to help! We also encourage you to start organising your schedules to join us for the AGM in Toronto in November. To learn more about GOBLET, visit www.mygoblet.org and lend your support!
In recent months, GOBLET has been working with F1000Research to help launch their Bioinformatics Education and Training Collection, for which GOBLET will act as advisors and community advocates.

A variety of content can be published within the Collection, including both peer-reviewed documents and non-peer-reviewed materials that have received editorial approval, such as original papers, reports and white papers, presentation slides, conference posters, and so on.

In line with the F1000Research model, articles can be published open access within days of submission. All articles and associated peer reviews are made publicly available.

The Collection launches with a selection of articles and posters collated from prior submissions to F1000Research, many of which have been authored by GOBLET members.

Additionally, to mark the launch, we have also chosen to publish the GOBLET 5-year report, which outlines the genesis of GOBLET and its achievements over the past five years in supporting and connecting bioinformatics trainer communities worldwide.

To augment and add value to the Collection, we warmly encourage GOBLET members to contribute research articles, hackathon reports, opinion pieces, best-practice guidelines, and open educational resources, among many other article and material types. You can submit to this Collection simply by using the “Submit” button on the Collection page. The Collection can be found here: https://f1000research.com/collections/bioinformaticsedu/about-this-collection
Are you FAIR?

This year’s ISMB conference in Chicago will include a workshop on Bioinformatics Training in the FAIR era (https://www.iscb.org/ismb2018-program/ismb2018-workshop), organised by GOBLET members of the ISCB Education committee. This timely workshop will explore whether our training programs are keeping pace with the changing landscape against a backdrop of reusable data and good data stewardship. As bioinformatics trainers, are we aware of these international initiatives in data use and reuse? As trainers, are we equipping our students to make the most of their own data by understanding both the value of their data and its potential value to others? What steps are we taking to help trainees better manage and value their data?

The workshop will consist of three presentations and discussions showcasing current practices, and identifying future needs in better practices, to enable reuse of research data within the life science community. This workshop aims to highlight how we, as a community, can be most effective in bringing best practices in data management to trainees and students in educational environments.

If you are at ISMB this year, we hope to see you at the workshop!

A full day of education presentations curated by the Education COSI will be held on July 8th!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Australian Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Society Inc (ABACBS)

ABACBS (pronounced ‘əbəkəs (abacus)) is the national scientific and professional society and peak body for bioinformatics and computational biology in Australia. It was formed in 2014 following broad consultation among the Australian bioinformatics and computational biology community with support from the Australian Bioinformatics Network. It is an ISCB-affiliate and a GOBLET member and was happy to host GOBLET’s AGM and satellite events in Brisbane in 2016. The Society aims are focused on the science and profession of bioinformatics and computational biology in Australia, including strengthening the science and profession of bioinformatics, encouraging and supporting students, providing representation and advocacy to government and funding bodies and promoting interaction and awareness.

The Society’s outreach activities include running an annual national conference for bioinformatics and computational biology as well as supporting local and regional events across the country. A dedicated training and education subcommittee was one of the first special interest groups established by the Society and works to support and connect the national bioinformatics training and education communities. For further information, please visit https://www.abacbs.org.
8th ISCB Wikipedia Competition

The next ISCB Wikipedia Competition commences on 10 July 2018, with entries accepted until 17 May 2019. The competition awards students and trainees for the best improvements to Wikipedia’s coverage of topics relating to computational biology. Winners will be presented with their awards at ISMB/ECCB 2019 in Basel, Switzerland.

The ISCB encourages students and trainees of all levels to participate and strongly encourages lecturers, teachers and tutors of computational biology to use the competition as part of their courses, with contributions to relevant Wikipedia content as part of a class assignment.


Save the Date
AGM 2018
November 6 - 8, 2018
Toronto, Canada

New Publications