ELIXIR Meeting, 4-5 November 2013

Lightning Talk
Jan T. Kim, The Pirbright Institute
jan.kim@pirbright.ac.uk
1. What are the training needs and what are you doing to address these needs?

- broad spectrum – sequence analysis, trees, gene expression analysis, deep sequencing, modelling, ...
- focus on biological content and computing principles (transferable skills) – beyond specific “pipelines”
- current training activities:
  - bi-weekly bioinformatics workshops
  - two-day courses for PhD students (and staff)
  - one-to-one advice, collaboration
2. What can you offer at a Pan-European level that is sustainable?

- exchange of trainers (outreach / knowledge transfer)
- participation in training forums (like today)
  - identification of training objectives
  - sustainable principles / practices
- example data sets
- Reference Laboratories: use of bioinformatics in molecular diagnostics
- personal interest: computational systems biology modelling
3. What is your vision for a Pan-European, overarching training strategy?

• unified training in transferable skills
  – common basis for specialised training at institutes
    • principled understanding of computing and algorithms
    • separation of data from representation and formats,
    • practical skills – e.g. how many words are in echo we write sequences from 5’ to 3’?
  – advice on achieving training objectives
• enabling bioscientists to communicate about computational work
• awareness of biological information as object of research
• focus on content and reproducibility