“Empowering people, harnessing communities, networking networks”

Teresa K. Attwood
Overview

What GOBLET is

Who’s in it

What it does

What it can do to help
What GOBLET is

Global Organisation for Bioinformatics
Learning, Education & Training
Meeting of 10 internat. & nat. networks & societies in Uppsala, June 2012

- discussed world-wide bioinformatics training activities
- how to harmonise efforts & work more efficiently

The group agreed it’d be helpful to create an umbrella

- to encompass Bioinformatics, Biocuration, Biocomputing & Computational Biology (B^3CB) learning, education & training
The idea was born to create a Global Organisation

- to share, not duplicate effort
- to share, not duplicate cost
- to work together towards common solutions & a sustainable future
MoU drawn up
– came into force in July 2012, with 5 signatures
Registered in November 2012 as a legal Foundation
– based in the Netherlands
Who’s in GOBLET

>30 internat. & nat. societies & networks, nat. institutes & organisations, research & interest groups, SMEs…

- & individual members
Who should be in GOBLET

Very young, growing organisation
- scope for much wider membership

Current members mostly rooted in bioinformatics
- SEB is different
  - connection with ‘bio’ communities who need bioinformatics training
    - essential to ensure that GOBLET remains relevant

So GOBLET also welcomes members from life sciences in which bioinformatics training is needed

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GOBLET’s Ethos

**Inclusivity** – welcoming all relevant organisations, networks, societies

**Sharing** – expertise, best practice, materials, tools, compute resources

**Openness** – using Creative Commons Licence

**Innovation** – welcoming imaginative ideas & approaches

**Tolerance** – transcending national, political, cultural & social boundaries
To provide a global, sustainable support & networking infrastructure for bioinformatics trainers & trainees

To facilitate capacity development in bioinformatics in all countries

To develop standards & guidelines for bioinformatics E&T

To act as a hub for fund gathering

To reach out to teachers at high schools, to bridge the gap to the next generation of bioinformaticians

To foster the international community of B³CB trainers
GOBLET’s Themes

**Quality** – of training, training resources, trainers…

**Accreditation** – of materials, courses…

**Incentivisation** – recognition of trainers…

**Training methods** – personalised learning, e-learning…

**Outreach** – to life science researchers, schools…

**Sustainability** – funding, membership…
What GOBLET does

Website & training portal
What GOBLET does

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Observation</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Countries</td>
<td>75% Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents/career stage</td>
<td>35% PD/RA, 32% MSc/PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents/discipline</td>
<td>33% plant science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current learning method</td>
<td>76% self taught/colleagues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of confidence</td>
<td>33% level 3 (scale of 1-5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training required</td>
<td>67% analysis/interpretation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preferred delivery method</td>
<td>74% workshop/57% e-learn</td>
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</tbody>
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Community surveys on training needs
What GOBLET does

Conference posters

Bioinformatics Training and Education: towards a sustainable global network
www.mygooble.org

GOBLET is steered by an Executive Board (selected by the membership) and four Committees: Education & Training, Outreach & PR, Technology and Fund-raising. GOBLET is about action - working together towards pragmatic solutions to common problems. Building on the work of the EMBL, GOBLET has launched a Training Portal, offering a registry of trainers, organisations, events, and materials and documents, offering a sharing platform for trainers and trainers' data.

GOBLET worked with EU-SC to establish a poster track for education at EMBL conferences. It is also developing standards for disseminating life science events, preparing best practice guidelines for bioinformatics training, exploring ways to bring recognition and accreditation to training, and linking with EU-SC to interface with the European research infrastructure for biological data.

Journal Publications

Publicise the Foundation’s work

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What GOBLET does

Fact Sheets

GOBLET
Global Organisation for Bioinformatics Learning, Education & Training

Empowering people, harnessing communities, networking networks

Our Mission
- To provide a global, sustainable support & networking infrastructure for bioinformatics trainers & trainers (including a training portal for sharing materials, tools, and practice documents, etc.)
- To facilitate capacity development in bioinformatics in all countries
- To develop standards & guidelines for bioinformatics education & training
- To act as a hub for fund-raising
- To reach out to teachers at schools, to bridge the gap to the next generation of bioinformaticians,
- To foster the international community of bioinformatics trainers

Our Ethics Embraces
- Interdisciplinarity (bewteen all relevant organisations, networks, societies)
- Sharing experience, best practices, materials, tools, compute resources
- Openess (using Creative Commons Licence)
- Innovation (promoting imaginative ideas & approaches)
- Tolerance (embracing national, political, cultural & social boundaries)

Our Themes Include
- Quality (of training, training resources & training)
- Accreditation
- Incubation
- Training methods
- Outreach
- Sustainability (funding)

Types of membership

Inaugural meeting, hosted by EMBnet, Uppsala, June 2012

Committee Structure & Activities

Committee Leadership
- Learning & Education: Weiting Wei, Chair
- Outreach & PR: Xiaohua Bi, Chair
- Standards: Weiwei Sun, Chair
- Capacity Building: Weiting Wei, Chair

Inaugural meeting, hosted by EMBnet, Uppsala, June 2012

Publicise the Foundation’s work

January 2014

Newsletters

February 2014

08/07/2014

15
What GOBLET does

Meetings & workshops
What GOBLET does

Annual General Meetings
GOBLET’s Structure

Operational Board

- Learning, E&T Committee Chair
- Executive Board
- Outreach & PR Committee Chair
- Technical Committee Chair
- Fund-Raising Committee Chair
- Technical Committee Chair

General Assembly

- International Networks
- International Societies
- National Entities
- Individuals
- Students
- Research Groups/Projects
- Corporate
- Academic Institutes
- Research Institutes

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Developing & sharing best practice in teaching & learning methods, & providing curriculum guidance

Providing recognition, support structures & resources for trainers, including materials, methods & train-the-trainer programmes
Outreach & PR Committee

Promoting GOBLET’s mission, training resources, activities & events

Maintaining social networking interactions & galvanising the community to participate in GOBLET initiatives
Providing accreditation mechanisms for learners & trainers, to better signpost the wide range of available training programmes

Increasing quality of training materials & programmes
Stimulating collaborative projects within GOBLET & the training community

Raising funds to sustain GOBLET
Providing a support structure for trainers & trainees

Maintaining an open Training Portal for communities interested in bioinformatics, biocuration, biocomputing & computational biology learning, education & training
What can GOBLET do to help?

Coordinate world-wide bioinformatics training activities

– e.g., via its centralised portal (www.mygoblet.org)
  • openly sharing training information & materials
  • making DL resources, workshops, courses, summer schools, etc. around the globe more readily discoverable

Promote & deliver bioinformatics training world-wide

– helping to up-skill communities
  • running courses
  • creating & disseminating training materials
What can GOBLET do to help?

Disseminate best practices
- helping to drive up the quality of ad hoc training courses
  • encouraging the use of standards

Provide fora for discussing training issues
- helping to surface & beginning to address real training issues
  • organising workshops, meetings, SIGs, etc.
What can GOBLET do to help?

Lobby funding bodies to increase the level of support for training programmes

– pressure universities to provide more relevant training?

Listen to & position itself to try to address your needs
Questions?