LET Committee Report
Committee Aims

• The aim of the LET Committee is to coordinate the development and sharing of best practice in teaching and learning methods, and to support bioinformatics trainers. This includes contributing to curriculum guidance, core competencies, trainer recognition, and developing a trainer-support platform.
Committee Members

- Nicola Mulder
- Celia van Gelder
- Vicky Schneider
- Cath Brooksbank
- Pedro Fernandes
- Marie-Claude Blatter
- Gabriella Rustici
- Vicky Nembaware
Task forces/activities

• Trainer support task force (Cath Brooksbank)
• Accreditation/recognition task force (Pedro Fernandes)
• Train the school teachers task force (Marie-Claude Blatter)
• E-learning task force (Celia van Gelder)
• Capacity development (Nicky Mulder)
Long terms plans from 2014

- Have useful resources on the website for:
  - Trainers
  - High school teachers
- Run training workshops on e.g. best practices, teaching methods, evaluation etc.
- Provide information on e-learning facilities
- Have accreditation system for lecturers
GOBLET Trainer Support Task Force

• Leveraged off other projects to...
  • Create a toolkit for trainers
    www.on-course.eu/toolkit (EMTRAIN)
  • Secure funding for two train-the-trainer workshops in 2016 – probably Italy and Slovenia (ELIXIR)
  • Working together on shared materials for NGS data analysis (ELIXIR-UK) and metagenomics data analysis (GOBLET-ELIXIR)
EMTRAIN portal

on-course

Toolkit for trainers

Get started
Explore training strategies
Optimize your training
Connect with other learning professionals
GOBLET T-t-T workshop

• Cape Town 16-17\textsuperscript{th} November
• Covered aspects of training –delivery, course organisation, etc.
• Discussed core competencies for different trainee audiences
• Discussed trainer recognition
• Could come out with some useful documents/guidelines for trainers
Work has progressed with pilot experimentation with the Mozilla Open Badge system, probing for its functionality and limitations.

An inter-twinning of activity with the Standardization Committee is under way to ensure that our next steps in the choice of criteria for recognition of training efforts matches a set of possible standards that GOBLET may adopt and make public. Meanwhile, we are keen on cooperating with them in the definition of the plans for shared quality monitoring.
Train the school teacher Task Force

Marie-Claude Blatter, Celia van Gelder

The aim of this task force is to share experiences within and outside GOBLET and accumulate materials and good examples of practice for introducing bioinformatics to high school teachers and to the public at large.

One particular challenge related to this TF is that

i) the material often is in the native language of the country that is providing it

ii) there is no universal school biology curriculum
A survey has been prepared to collect efforts of the GOBLET partners in this area.

The survey has to be posted on the GOBLET website: http://www.mygoblet.org/content/teaching-high-school-teacher-survey

Send out invitation to the world (first GOBLET partners) to fill it in

Follow-up activities

- Set up a document to provide insight into how high school bioinformatics teaching is organized in different countries.
- Identify key principles that are shared between most school curricula and that could be linked with a bioinformatics activity.
- Collect information of related to ongoing initiatives and projects in the world and set up liaisons with them (e.g. European Schoolnet, InGenious, ELLS or Scientix).

We have already set up a document listing the different initiatives in EU.

- Bioinformatics activities for the general public: the best practices and examples which are used by the different partners during exhibitions, open days and science fairs will be collected and made freely available.
- Discuss if the result of such an effort would be worthwhile writing a paper in PLOS CB
Capacity development

• Continued with curriculum development for new MSc degrees in Africa
• Mali started first MSc program in 2015 –used curriculum, some lecturers taught from distance
• Malawi is establishing program –finalising curriculum to submit to university
• Tunisia and others preparing for MSc programs
• Trained >450 people over 3 years, varied topics and audiences
• All course materials made available
• Developing eGenomics catalogue
• Developed training evaluation framework -HTrainDB
Tracking Training and Education

• Developing a system to track, monitor and evaluate the training development of students and staff

Zahra Mungloo- Dilmohamud
Shakuntala Baichoo –University of Mauritius
Why HTrainDB?

• A **major goal** of H3Africa Consortium is to **train the next generation of “genomics” scientists**

• Ongoing training is widespread, un-trackable, and therefore not easy to monitor/evaluate

• Need to establish a “one-stop” center for **training tracking, info & opportunities for trainees**

• A tool to **facilitate reflections & planning**: where we are, where we have come from, plan next steps
ELIXIR – GOBLET
Collaboration strategy

- Published April 2015
- Collaboration between ELIXIR’s and GOBLET's training portals
- Collaboration on train-the-trainer and train-the-researcher activities.
- Joint exploration of training 'accreditation' mechanisms
- Sharing of best practice, standards and expertise on professionalising bioinformatics training
Activities related to E-learning
ELIXIR – GOBLET collaboration

E-learning workshop 15-17 September 2015
Ljubljana
• Overview of e-learning systems, experiences, defining vocabulary

e-learning session in GOBLET AGM 19 November 2015, Cape Town
• Discuss Slovenia outcome
• Define **added value** GOBLET could offer for trainers
Exploring collaboration with RDA-CODATA – Data Science Summer schools

RDA-CODATA working group is organizing data science summer schools

• Build curriculum framework
• Build reusable modules
• Vanilla school: more generic, basic data science elements
• First edition summer 2016 in Trieste

The WG approached GOBLET, ELIXIR and H3Africa to collaborate on follow up school (another flavour 😊) about bioinformatics. First meeting took place, we will follow up.

RDA - Research Data Alliance & CODATA - International Council for Science: Committee on Data for Science and Technology
Short and long term plans

- Consolidate e-learning with other activities
- Trainer portal development – what to include, avoid redundancy
- Run more trainer workshops
- Work with other training initiatives