TCR Training and Outreach Working Group

Thursday, March 8, 2018 Meeting Notes

3pm Eastern

Meeting phone number: 1-650-479-3207

Meeting number (access code): 733 094 302  
WebEx When it's time, [Join Meeting.](https://cbiit.webex.com/cbiit/j.php?MTID=m62939de65fa516e90c3943c42ea745cd)

Meeting password: TrainingWG2017!

**Google Doc for the Meeting:**

[ITCR-TOW-Mar-2018](https://docs.google.com/document/d/147vrzTqBO7QAJaLkv4sbJTcrGuEme8uT2qNCbAXKVk0/edit)

**Attendees: Please sign in!!**

Mike Ryan, JHU / MD Anderson

Mary Goldman, UC Santa Cruz

Mervi Heiskanen, NCI

Leah Mechanic, NCI

Michael Reich, UCSD

Tali Mazor, DFCI

David Hanauer, U of Michigan

Juli Klemm, NCI

Hayley Dingerdissen, GWU

Bradley Broom, UT MD Anderson

Amanda Bell, GW

**Agenda/Minutes**

* General Announcements

ITCR 2018 Annual Meeting [Registration](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/informatics-technology-for-cancer-research-itcr-annual-meeting-2018-registration-42875098574?utm_term=eventname_text) is now open! Questions? Contact Mervi.Heiskanen@nih.gov

* Outreach Activities (type in here)
  + GenePattern Notebook
    - Mar 5 UCSD [Bioinformatics Seminar series](http://compbio.ucsd.edu/outreach/bioinformatics-seminar-series/) talk
  + cBioPortal - workshop Feb 23
* Round table discussion. Please note that we will be asking everyone on the call to share their thoughts / experience / suggestions on the topic:
  + How to get more collaborators
    - Showcasing your tool via a project / study / paper
      1. can help attract attention to your tool
      2. provides a real-world use case to demonstrate the scientific findings the tool delivers
      3. drives new tool features based on collaborator needs
    - How do you find / support these types of collaborations?
    - Integrating with other bioinformatic tools is also a good method of collaboration that can increase user base and give technical feedback.  How do you find these? What works / doesn’t work.

**Notes:**

Some tools have collaborators built in

A lot of tools leverage existing collaborations, especially for early feedback

People have struggled to get users or 'collaborators' to cite their tool, especially if it is a tool that is used early in research or is 'essential' like

It can be beneficial to specify ahead of time what the collaboration will look like, including citations and credit

It's good to make the project extensible from the beginning, with APIs. So easier to get others to connect. Can make it possible to 'cold call' potential collaborations

APIs do evolve over time. Good to get feedback very early.

It is good to schedule meetings with collaborators. Check in once every 2 weeks. This way you know how much of their time and how much of your time you are using.

ITCR Annual Meeting is a great way to find new collaborations, especially since there is an emphasis on it in ITCR

Can work on collaborations via github. Can do PRs to integrate

Poster sessions can be really good ways to get longer-term users. Can also collect email addresses and then send up follow up emails.

A question was about whether it is better to give workshops as a one-off or as part of a larger conference