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Minutes from Committee Meeting 1 7 December 2022, 17:00 UTC +1

In Attendance: Ceres Barros (CB), Laura Dee (LD), Mike Fowler (MF), Owen Petchey (OP), Sam Ross (SR), Takehiro Sasaki (TS).

Apologies: Hannah White (HW)

Membership update [SR]

Good early interest and membership. Currently skewed towards EU/USA/Japan. No coverage yet in Oceania or Africa. Limited coverage in Asia and S. America. Should be fairly easy to grow the Network (e.g., through conference attendance) and strategically target currently underrepresented areas [MF], but we may want to focus more on initial strategical planning before recruiting more members.

What is our target for membership? When thinking about scale of network, good to ask whether strategic goals are achievable with current membership, fewer members, or many more members? Strategic goals need to adjust to reflect membership [MF].

Events [SR]

OP and SR applied for an OIST Theoretical Scholars Visiting Program, which would fund longer research visits (~8 people) and an in-person workshop (~25 people) in Okinawa in March 2024. TS also organizing the Ecological Society of Japan's (ESJ) annual meeting in Yokohama in March 2024, so should be opportunity for workshop participants/visiting scholars to also attend ESJ meeting.

Strategic Planning [Discussion]

Should remember we're *steering* committee, don't have to do everything ourselves, can/should lean on membership [OP].

What outcomes are we hoping for? Possible options include determining best metric of response diversity, synthesis paper (probably a bit further down the line), datasets.

Networks often take one of two approaches: 1) apply data not initially used for this purpose to do synthesis on response diversity; 2) do a globally distributed/well replicated, standardized experiment. Given diverse membership strengths, Response Diversity Network could do both and compare results [MF].

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One aim could be to gather the data needed for testing metrics of response diversity, and compare to response diversity measured based on trait data [TS].

Could survey the Network. Survey could ask e.g. How do you define response diversity? What would you want from a metric of response diversity? How do you think about/plan to use response diversity? Do you know of any potential datasets or would you be willing to contribute to data collection? etc. In turn, this could be used as a mandate/to inform our strategic plan [LD].

Often trade-off between consolidating existing ideas, producing outputs etc. vs scaling-up to recruit members etc. At this point, probably better to focus on consolidating/producing [OP]. With a proposed positioning paper (see below), scaling up may be automatic [MF].

Spreading the word [Discussion]

Plan to write a 'positioning paper' to advertise network and its strategic goals. Could be combined with need for standardized response diversity metric (OP's 'benchmarking' project) but not necessarily [OP]. Committee supports writing positioning paper to drive aims/goals of network.

Committee members would be authors on positioning paper (anyone else? Whole network? Consider consortium membership for any future whole network papers) [OP].

Steering committee should agree on aims/goals of network before writing paper (or simultaneously) [MF].

Survey could be sent to Network members and results presented in planned positioning paper [CB]. Survey could also be sent to corresponding authors of response diversity papers (already identified through the Ross *et al.* systematic review preprint) similar to recent [Isbell *et al.* paper](#) [SR].

Logo [SR] – Committee approved the logo, which will be used on Network materials, talks etc. in future.

Actions

Who	Action	Timeline
MF	Think about recent discussions on a "metric of metrics" wrt response diversity metrics.	BNM
LD	Start Google Doc with survey Qs for membership etc.	Done
LD	Seek IRB approval for survey.	2023

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LD	Get input on formal survey design from colleagues.	2023
OP	Circulate draft strategic plans (aims etc. from scoping meeting) for comment (in Google Doc/R markdown?).	ASAP
All	Comment on draft survey Qs and draft Network aims (Note: aims will later be informed by survey results).	BNM
SR	Pay graphic designer from Response Diversity Grant.	After invoice
SR	Set next committee meeting for Jan 2023	ASAP

BNM = Before Next Meeting.