

# Using Standards for greater reuse of training material

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# Why Standards ?

- In a digital world, **standards** of many types are essential for underpinning **interoperability** between **data**, computational **tools/software** that act on the data, and the **underlying infrastructure** that these tools/software use.
- Standards allow automated efficient exchange between tools and environment.

The screenshot shows the homepage of biosharing.org. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Standards, Databases, Policies, Collections, Add/Claim Content, Stats, and Log in or Register. Below the navigation bar, the bioRxiv logo is displayed with the text "standards, databases, policies". A main heading reads: "A curated, informative and educational resource on data and metadata *standards*, inter-related to *databases* and *data policies*". The page is divided into three main sections: "Find", "Discover", and "Learn". The "Find" section includes a "Recommendations" box with a thumbs-up icon, a "Collections" box with a globe icon, and an "Educational" box with a graduation cap icon. Below these sections is a search bar with the placeholder "Search FAIRsharing" and a "Search" button. Underneath the search bar are checkboxes for "Standards", "Databases", "Policies", and "Collections/Recommendations". To the right of the search bar are links for "Advanced Search" and "Search Wizard". The "Advanced Search" link has a magnifying glass icon and the text "Fine grained control over your search.". The "Search Wizard" link has a speech bubble icon and the text "Let us guide you to your results.". At the bottom of the page, there are three boxes showing statistics: "702 Standards" (with icons for a person, a document, and a database), "975 Databases" (with icons for three cylinders), and "97 Policies" (with icons for a document and a list). Each box also lists specific categories and their counts.

Category	Count
Standards	702
Databases	975
Policies	97

Oxford e-Research Centre & University of Oxford



# biosharing.org : What it is?

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# biosharing.org : Why was it developed?

For **researchers/curators** looking for guidance

- To find the appropriate standard and database for your data;
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## **For funders** developing data policies

- To help refine policy by discovering which standards and databases are inter-related, more used and mature, or are funded by the organisation



# biosharing.org : What is in it ?

## STANDARDS

The standards in biosharing are manually curated from a variety of sources, including:

- [BioPortal](#) (repository of biomedical ontologies),
- [MIBBI](#) (repository of Minimum Information specifications for Biological and Biomedical Investigations)
- [Equator Network](#) (database of health research reporting guidelines)

## Current content - 701 standards:

- [Terminologies](#) (ontology, controlled vocabulary, staging systems, etc) 344 (7 Aus)
- [Model/Format](#) (exchange formats, markup languages, RIF-CS, etc) 240 (11 Aus)
- [Reporting Guideline](#) (diagnostic reporting guidelines, minimum info specs, etc) 117 (10 Aus)



# biosharing.org : What is in it ?

## DATABASES

A catalogue of databases, described according to the [BioDBcore guidelines](#) (a community-defined, uniform, generic description of the core attributes of biological databases), along with the standards used within them; partly compiled with the support of Oxford University Press ([NAR Database Issue](#) and [DATABASE Journal](#)).

### Current content - 975 databases:

- [Life Science](#) (non-human) 733 (20 Aus)
- [Biomedical Science](#) (human) 181 (5 Aus)
- [General Purpose](#) (incl. figshare, OSF, zenodo, wikidata, RDA, etc) 10 (1 Aus)



# biosharing.org : What is in it ?

## POLICIES

A catalogue of data preservation, management and sharing policies from international funding agencies, regulators and journals.

### Current content - 97 Policies

- [Funder](#) 22 (1 Aus)
- [Journal](#) 68 (0 Aus)
- [Society](#) 3 (1 Aus)



# **biosharing.org : Who can contribute ?**

Anyone can register to contribute content, or claim ownership of records created by a 3rd party



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Recently (2017) biosharing has become discipline agnostic:



# biosharing.org : Researcher attitude



## 2015/16 survey

BioSharing Survey - Summary, 19 May 2016

### BioSharing Survey - Summary

*Peter McQuilton<sup>1</sup>, Pascale Gaudet<sup>2</sup> and Susanna-Assunta Sansone<sup>1</sup>.*

1. Oxford e-Research Centre, University of Oxford, UK
2. CALIPHO, Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, CH

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A 10-question survey was conducted from the 18th December 2015 to 22nd February 2016 to gather users' views on which features and content they need to make informed decisions, e.g. on how to best select standards and understand their maturity, or to find the databases that implement them. A link to the questions can be found here: <https://bd2kccc.org/2016/01/15/biosharing-standards-registry-survey>.

[https://figshare.com/articles/New\\_draft\\_item/3795810](https://figshare.com/articles/New_draft_item/3795810)



# biosharing.org : Researcher attitude

2015/16 survey - 3 months, 533 respondents

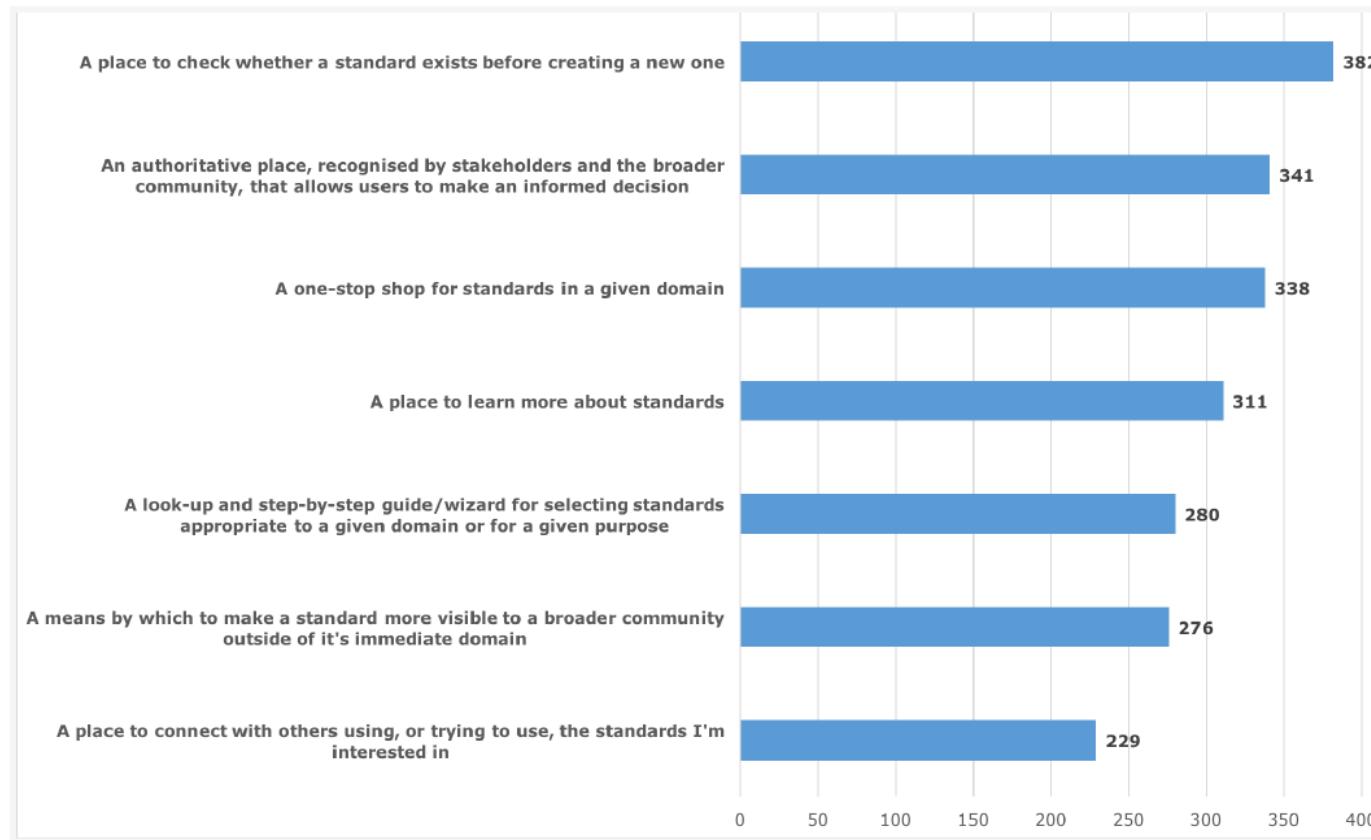
Researcher	323
Tool/database developer	274
Standard Developer/maintainer	206
Data Curator	151
Data Manager	150
Journal Publisher/Editor	31
Librarian	20
Funding Agency	20

- 25% assoc. with Elixir (EU)
- 21% assoc. with NIH BD2K (US)
- 65% aware of biosharing
- 30% had used biosharing



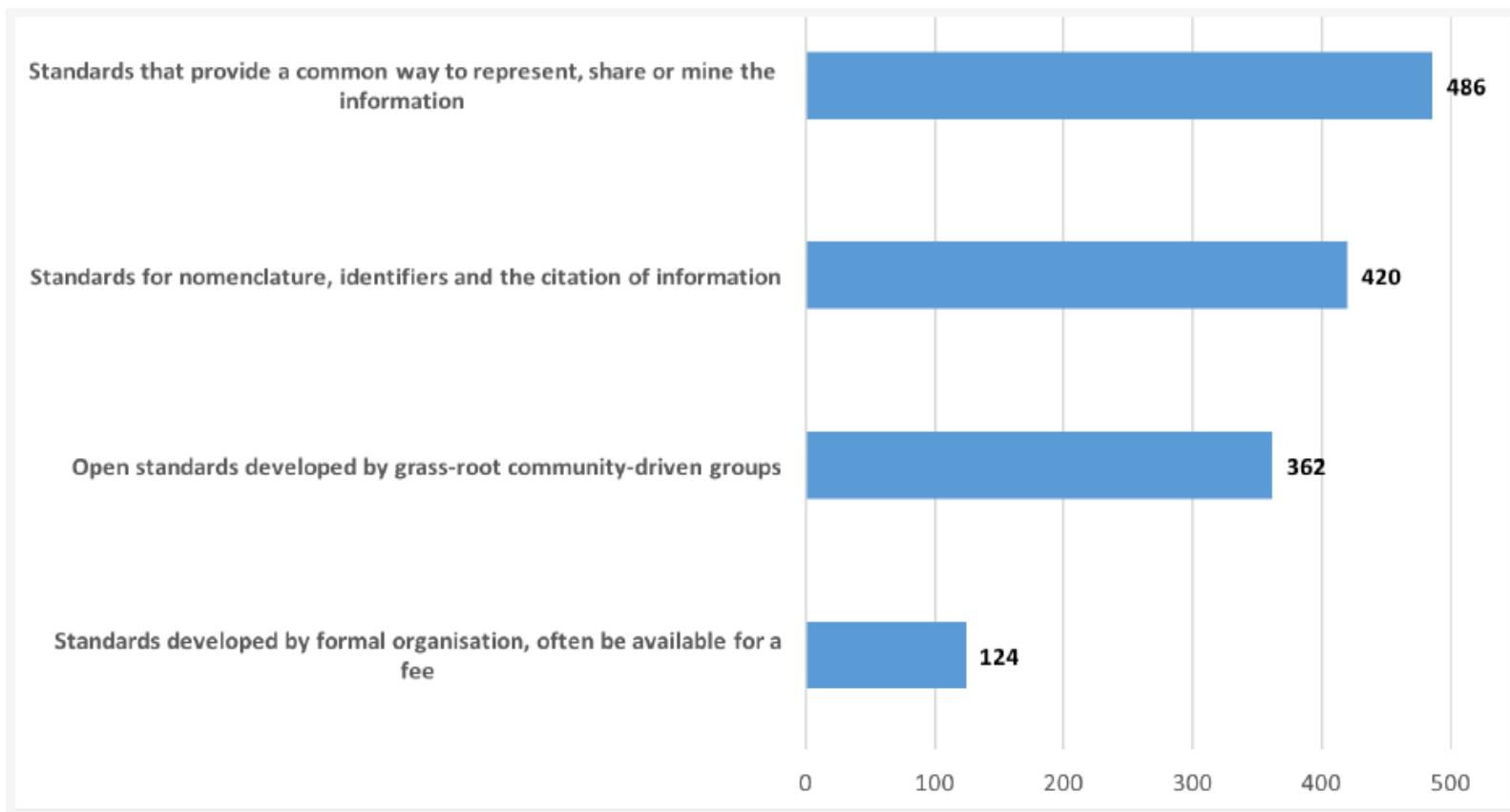
# biosharing.org : Researcher attitude

2015/16 survey : What do you need from a standards registry?



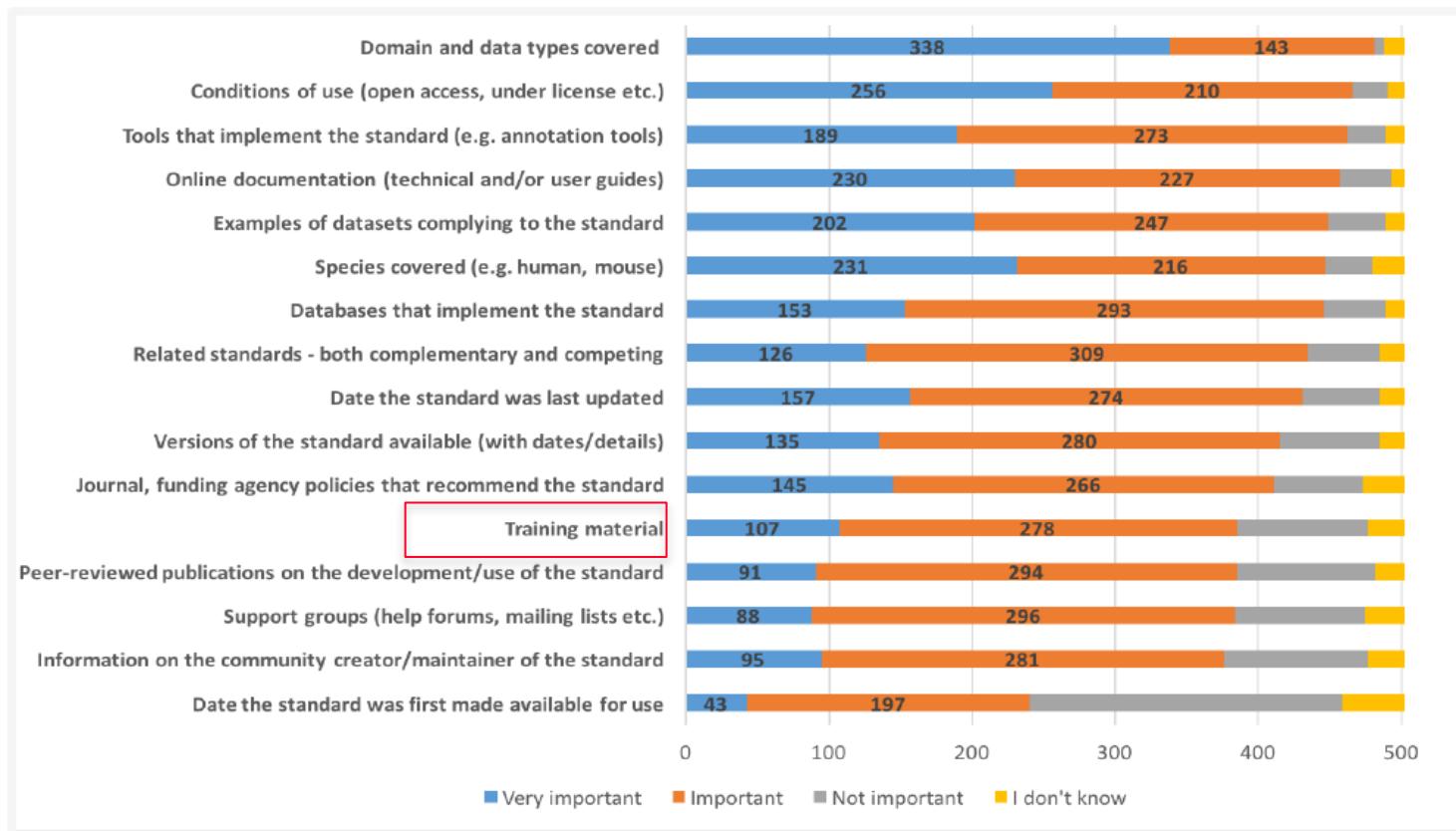
# biosharing.org : Researcher attitude

**2015/16 survey:** What types of standards would you like to see in the registry?



# biosharing.org : Researcher attitude

2015/16 survey: What information should a standards registry capture about a standard?



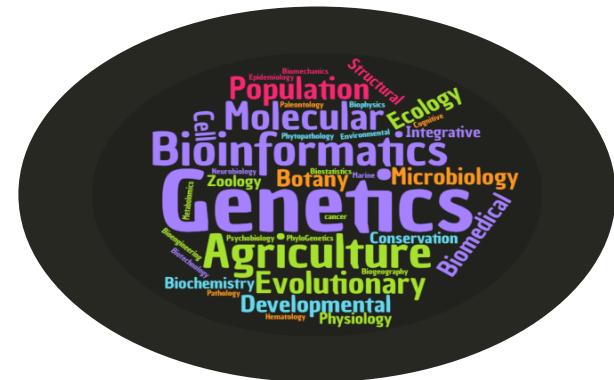
# **biosharing.org: Awareness in Australian Bioscience community**



## **How aware is Australia's bioscience community of Standards?**

EMBL-ABR + GOBLET Standards Key Area: 2017 Survey into Standards

- Aim: to collect information to direct EMBL-ABR node efforts and resources for the maximum impact for the needs of the Australian research community when it comes to standards across key areas in bioinformatics including data, tools, workflows and training
  - Promotion: via each node (email lists, social media, etc.)
  - Response rate: extremely low ( $n=17$ ) \*



\* previous data and tool surveys have previously attracted ~100 responses

## How aware is Australia's bioscience community of Standards?

EMBL-ABR + GOBLET Standards Key Area: 2017 Survey into Standards

- Is interest in and/or understanding of standards by biology and bioinformatics researchers in Australia therefore low?
- Awareness and Education is required ?

*Overall, there is confusion between file formats and standards for metadata and annotation. Most respondents are unable to name an ontology or are unaware of how to find one. As yet, we have received limited responses relating to training material standards; however, this was listed amongst the top priority standards to be developed*



# Standards for Training material ?



- to improve **data interoperability** in life sciences.
  - By using **schema.org** to add semantic markup to webpages for consistently structured information.
  - makes it easier to discover, collate and analyze distributed data.
- a collection of specifications that provide guidelines to facilitate a more consistent adoption of **schema.org** markup within the life sciences.

The IEEE 1484.12.1 – 2002 Standard for Learning Object Metadata

“Reusability of learning objects, to aid discoverability, and to facilitate their interoperability, usually in the context of online [learning management systems](#)

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The term "**schema**" refers to the organization of data as a blueprint of how the **database** is constructed.

The schemas are a set of 'types', each associated with a set of properties. The types are arranged in a hierarchy. e.g. '**Event**' is a type that has properties like '**startDate**', '**endDate**' and '**description**'.

# Standards for Training material ?



Training specification is under development. It is being written by a multi-institutional team from [ELIXIR](#), [Pistoia Alliance](#), [GOBLET](#), [TeSS](#), [BioSharing](#), [EMBL-ABR](#) and [BBMRI](#).

You can find more about the project and similar projects on the [bioschemas GitHub pages](#).

# Standards for Training material ?



## Standards committee:

- started to test how to make easier sharing bioinformatics events and training materials using schema.org
- minimum information and vocabularies which are important in our community.
  - Minimum descriptors to define training material
    - <http://tiny.cc/TrainingStandards>
  - Bioschema mapping
    - <http://tiny.cc/bioschemaMapping>

# Acknowledgements

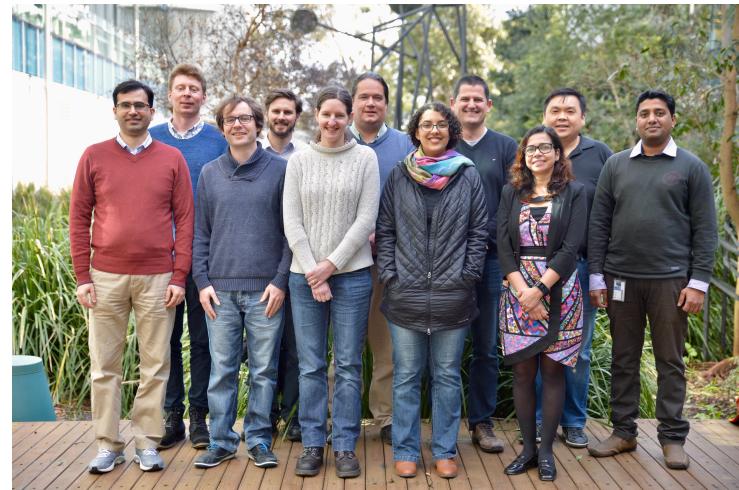


Jeff Christiansen (EMBL-ABR Data Coordinator)



## Standards Committee

- Sonika Tyagi (Acting chair) (Monash, Aus)
- Sarah Morgan (EBI, UK)
- Michael Charston (UTAS, Aus)
- Patricia Palagi (Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics)
- Anette McGrath (CSIRO, Aus)
- Gabriella Rustici (Cambridge University, UK)
- Judit Kumuthini (H3BioNet South Africa)
- Saravanan Dayalan (EMBL-ABR Standards Coordinator)



Monash Bioinformatics Platform team

## Group exercises

1. Go to <https://fairsharing.org/standards/> and find out if there are existing standards for training material?
2. How many standards are there for the term ‘expression’ ? What different sub-types exist?
3. Go to <http://schema.org/docs/schemas.html> and look at ‘CreativeWork’ type and see if you can use some of the properties to ‘training material’ ? **[hint: look at examples here <http://schema.org/docs/gs.html>]**

# Registrations are extended till the ABACBS17 week!

We are hosting BioinfoSummer 2017

AMSI  
**BIOINFO**  
SUMMER **17**  
A SYMPOSIUM IN BIOINFORMATICS

4–8 DECEMBER 2017  
MONASH UNIVERSITY, CAULFIELD CAMPUS

**THEMES:**

- INTRODUCTION TO BIOINFORMATICS
- PROTEOMICS & METABOLOMICS DATA
- RNA-SEQ THEORY & PRACTICE
- SINGLE-CELL GENOMICS
- VISUALISATION, MODELLING & ANALYSIS

**REGISTER** [BIS.AMSI.ORG.AU](http://BIS.AMSI.ORG.AU)

