Welcome to STAMPS 2023!

Welcome and Orientation from
Amy Willis & Titus Brown

Land Acknowledgement

The STAMPS team shares the Marine Biological Laboratory's acknowledgement that we are working on the traditional and sacred land of the Wampanoag people, whose history, language, traditional ways of life, and culture continue to influence this community.

This land acknowledgement is an intentional act to counter the erasure of indigenous people and to demonstrate respect for their sovereign rights.

mbl.edu/about/diversity-inclusion/land-acknowledgement-statement

Scope and overview

- Many folx get excellent training in generating microbiome data from their local group
- But then…?
- The goal of STAMPS is to bridge the gap between data generation and knowledge generation
- STAMPS offers interdisciplinary training in bioinformatics and statistics to practitioners of modern molecular microbial ecology and microbial genomics.

Learning goals

The objective of this course is to give you the **knowledge** and **skills** to analyze and interpret a broad variety of microbial genomics datasets. We will

- Develop foundational skills for working with modern microbiome sequencing data
- Discuss specific bioinformatic and statistical tools
- Practice executing software commands, decoding errors, and writing reproducible workflows
- Build perspective about evaluating tools and understanding caveats
- Empower you to *ask* & *answer* questions you have of your own data
- Create a framework and a network

Course format

- Hands-on, active learning
- Mix of lectures, tutorials and practice
- Lots of time for questions and interactions
  - This is the whole point of a 40 person, in-person workshop!
- Materials available during and after the course
- Learn from *each other* as well as instructors and TAs

Learning environment

The objective of this course is to give you the **knowledge** and **skills** to analyze and interpret a broad variety of microbial genomics datasets.

How do we create a learning environment where we can achieve this goal together?

Learning environment

What **norms** and **ground rules** would you like to set for **yourselves and each other**?

Submit your responses at [see Slack for link]

In small groups, please introduce yourselves, chat with your group about your ideas for norms, and submit your responses individually via the link.

We will regroup in 4 minutes.

Learning environment

What **norms** and **ground rules** would you like to set for **the instructional team**?

Submit your responses at [see Slack for link]

In a new small group, please introduce yourself and discuss.

We will regroup in 2-3 minutes.

I will compile our norms and add them to our Wiki.

Code of Conduct

In addition to our norms, which are a set of <u>shared expectations</u>, we also have a formal <u>code of conduct</u>, which all STAMPS attendees are expected to agree to.

<u>The Quick Version</u>

STAMPS is dedicated to providing a harassment-free experience for everyone, regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, or religion (or lack thereof). **We do not tolerate harassment in any form**. Sexual language and imagery is generally not appropriate for any STAMPS venue. STAMPS events are neither a dating scene nor an intellectual contest.

If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any other concerns, please contact Amy Willis or Titus Brown immediately. If either is the cause of your concern, please see the MBL's Equal Employment Opportunity Coordinator at 508-289-7378 or eeo@mbl.edu.

https://github.com/mblstamps/stamps2023/wiki/Code-of-Conduct

Logistics

- Course schedule: 9-noon, 2-5, 7-10ish
- Restrooms
- Breaks
- Social events
    - Social coordinators: Tessa and Jia — send ideas/requests their way!
    - Options for activities: anytime outside course schedule!
    - Evening social events
    - Alcohol policy & alcohol contributions
- Day off
- Illness protocols
    - Masks
    - Testing
    - Quarantine

- If there's something you need, let us know!

Course communication

- Wiki
    - https://github.com/mblstamps/stamps2023/wiki
- Slack
    - Announcements, links, help, and chatter
    - Email Amy/Titus if you can't get connected
- Twitter & social media
    - #stamps2023
- Getting help on workshop exercises
    - Green and red stickies
    - We will collect topic-adjacent/opposite questions on slido

An ode…

- … to Mike Lee

T-shirts

- Every year, STAMPS participants design a course t-shirt
- Mailed to you in a few months
- We are looking for "t-shirt committee" volunteers
    - Low level of commitment, fun way to make friends
    - Jokes, art, theme, motif, mascot ideas… all welcome!
    - T-shirt committee chair: TA Sarah T

Questions…?

Introductions

- Let's meet each other!
    1. Write your **name**, and **what you work on in 3 words or fewer**, on a sticky note
    2. Read your sticky note to the group. Also, say aloud one thing you're proud of that you made.
    3. Place your sticky on the board

Next up…

- Tracy, for a history of MBL x microbiome science…