Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted to confirm that we have been funded by the USDA NRSP8 Aquaculture small project grant program to work on the project “Functional Re-annotation of Oyster Genomes with Epigenetic Resources (FROGER)”. To this end, we are planning a FROGER workshop 20-22 May 2019 (See draft agenda at FROGER github repository: <https://github.com/hputnam/FROGER>).

The goals of this workshop are to advance the reference genome status and facilitate analysis, curation, storage, distribution and application of the numerous and large datasets associated with the oyster community sequencing efforts. Deliverables as part of this project will include numerous genome feature tracks and annotation tables that will be made immediately available to the community as well as gap identification for future epigenetic needs for functional annotation. In addition, methodological protocols and code will be compared and made available to provide framework for epigenetic characterization in other aquaculture species, in the form of a manuscript submitted for peer review.

We have identified you as a potential interested candidate to participate in the workshop, conveniently planned in conjunction with the Eastern Oyster Genome Consortium workshop (May 23-24). With regards to FROGER funding, our plan is to pay for lodging, food, and transport and substantial portion of your flights or mileage. Participants are encouraged to arrive the afternoon of May 20 for a group dinner that night. We will then transport you to the URI Conference center campus for workshop working days on 21, 22, and morning of 23 May, 2019. We will provide more details on the logistics via our FROGER github repository.

At this point, we will need to know your interest in attending the workshop, as we will need to start soon to plan your travel and lodging.

Please confirm your availability and intent to attend the workshop by April 1, 2019. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.

We hope to see you soon in Rhode Island for an amazing Epigenetics workshop thanks to USDA NRSP8.

Best Wishes,

Hollie Putnam and Steven Roberts