Mallory A Freeberg, PhD

Who I Am Community Builder. Human Data Sharing Expert. Metadata Enthusiast. Open Science Advocate.

Contact Address: Wellcome Trust Genome Campus LinkedIn: mallory-freeberg
Website: malloryfreeberg.github.io/whoami ORCID: 0000-0003-2949-3921

Professional Experience

EMBL European Bioinformatics Institute, Cambridge, UK

Human Genomics Team Leader

May 2024 - present

- Leading multiple teams contributing to Ensembl, a foundational resource providing scientists with data and tools to study genomes
- Providing scientific and strategic oversight of the DECIPHER platform for enabling clinical interpretation of human genomic variation

Coordinator, European Genome-phenome Archive

Jun 2021 - Apr 2024

- Contributed expertise to help establish the Federated EGA Network for transnational discovery of and access to sensitive human data (blog post)
- Engaged with external partners and stakeholders to ensure human data submission, discovery, and distribution services align with community standards and data protection regulations
- Managed a 14-person team responsible for operating production data archive services (publication)

Project Lead, UK Biobank, European Genome-phenome Archive

Aug 2019 - May 2021

- Oversaw data flow to archive 500,000 whole human genomes totalling 12PB of data
- Built and led 3-person team to successfully distribute 4PB of data to cloud-based analysis platform

Senior Bioinformatician, Human Cell Atlas Data Coordination Platform

Oct 2017 - Jul 2019

- Coordinated data wrangling work for 6-person team across UK- and US-based institutions
- · Performed curation and ingestion of flagship HCA datasets into the Platform
- Developed HCA metadata standard for cellular-resolution transcriptomics data (publication)

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD USA

Trainer, Galaxy Training Network, The Galaxy Project

Jan 2017 - Sep 2017

- Designed and delivered seven Galaxy training workshops in three countries (publication)
- Created training materials and computational workflows to support reproducible transcriptomics research (contributions)

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Biology

Jun 2015 - Sep 2017

- Investigated post-transcriptional gene regulatory networks using neural networks
- Piloted Oxford Nanopore direct RNA sequencing protocols to catalog transcriptomes

Education

PhD Bioinformatics, University of Michigan, USA

May 2015

Department of Computational Medicine and Bioinformatics

Dissertation: Computational analysis of the post-transcriptional gene regulatory network (thesis)

BSc Bioinformatics, Saint Vincent College, USA

May 2009

Herbert M. Boyer School of Natural Science, Mathematics, and Computing

Dissertation: Functional annotation of non-coding elements in the Amphioxus genome

Selected Publications Corvo A, Matalonga L, Spalding D, et al. (2023) Remote visualization of large-scale genomic alignments for collaborative clinical research and diagnosis of rare diseases. *Cell Genomics*. DOI:10.1016/j.xgen.2022.100246

Thakur M, Bateman A, Brooksbank C, Freeberg MA, et al. (2022) EMBL's European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI) in 2022. *Nucleic Acids Res.* DOI:10.1093/nar/gkac1098

Freeberg MA, Fromont L, D'Altri T, et al. (2021) The European Genome-phenome Archive in 2021. *Nucleic Acids Res.* DOI:10.1093/nar/gkab1059

Rehm HL, Page AJH, Smith L, et al. (2021) GA4GH: International policies and standards for data sharing across genomic research and healthcare. Cell Genomics. DOI:10.1016/j.xgen.2021.100029

Lawson J, Cabili MN, Kerry G, et al. (2021) The Data Use Ontology to streamline responsible access to human biomedical datasets. *Cell Genomics*. DOI:10.1016/j.xgen.2021.100028

⇒Full list of publications can be found on Google Scholar.

Selected Invited Talks

Federated EGA: Providing global discovery and access for sensitive human data. *ISMB/ECCB*; Jul 2023; Lyon, FR (slides)

The Federated EGA: Global discovery and access for sensitive human data. *GA4GH 10th Plenary*; Sep 2022; Barcelona, ES (slides)

FAIR principles and promoting openness in the life sciences. *NIHR Statistics Group Workshop*; Feb 2022; virtual (slides)

The European Genome-phenome Archive Metadata Model. *GHGA Workshop on Metadata in Biomedical Genome Research*; Jun 2021; virtual (slides)

Selected Conferences & Workshops

"Exploring gene and environmental exposure interactions to understand human health and disease" *EMBL-EBI Training Course*; Feb 2024; Cambridge, UK; Scientific Organiser and Trainer (course)

"Demonstrating Federated EGA services for sensitive data discovery and access" *ELIXIR All Hands*; Jun 2023; Dublin, IE; Organiser and Presenter (workshop)

Leadership Roles

Co-lead, GA4GH Implementation Forum (Mar 2024 - Present)

Support adoption of GA4GH products and tools, working closely with organisations in the genomics and health community to address key challenges and promote best practices in genomic data sharing

Co-lead, GA4GH "Future of VCF" Working Group (Mar 2022 - Feb 2024)

Guide discussions and assessment of solutions for scaling the Variant Call File format for representing genetic variants across large-scale studies

Organiser, ELIXIR Federated Human Data Community (Feb 2022 - Apr 2024)

Set agenda and priority topics for FHD Community meetings, co-organise FHD Community Day event, coordinate federated human data activities across ELIXIR members

Mentoring

Mentor, Bioinfo4Women (Jul 2024 - Present)

Promoting research done by women in computational biology with a focus on their transition from postdoc to junior independent positions

Mentor, Open Life Science (Jul 2020 - Present)

Mentor participants on open science practices as part of a 16-week mentorship and training program to empower open science ambassadors

Training Courses

ELIXIR LEadership And Diversity (ELEAD) mentoring programme	2023-2024
Emotional Intelligence and Mindfulness	2020
Talented Women's Impact Programme	2019-2020
EICAT Complementary Scientific Skills Training - Scientific Project Management	2019
Handling Conflict and Difficult Conversations	2018