BioCatalogue Strategy Advisory Board Telecom Meeting

Date: 22 October 2010

Attending: Carole Goble, Steve Pettifer, Franck Tanoh, Rodrigo Lopez, Eric Nzuobontane, Jo Dicks, Terry Payne, Hamish McWilliam

Apologies: Jiten Bhagat, Chris Rawlings, Antoine H.C. van, Mark Wilkinson, Robert Gill

Agenda

- 1. Review of actions of last SAB
- 2. Update of BioCatalogue activity including presentations, alliances meetings and challenges
- 3. Outlook and sustainability plans
- 4. AOB

Presentation slides: http://dl.dropbox.com/u/1449587/BioCat%20SAB-Oct-2010.ppt

Minutes

1. Review of actions of last SAB: See presentation slides

2. Update of BioCatalogue activity including presentations, alliances, meetings and challenges: http://www.biocatalogue.org/wiki/doku.php?id=public:news

3. Outlook and sustainability plans

With the BioCatalogue running out of funding by February 2011, the focus in this section was to get feedback and suggestions from the SAB members on how the BioCatalogue can be sustained.

a) Feedback and suggestions from the SAB Members

The suggestions received from the SAB members can be grouped in 5 categories:

i) Improve visibility

- The BioCatalogue needs to be more visible in the community. (e.g. Outreach program to establish the community)
- There is a need to organise BioCatalogue users and providers forums and jamborees
- Allow easy integration of BioCatalogue in other system. e.g. Galaxy
- Promote the APIs by providing APIs toolkits to the community
- Make the content of the catalogue known to a wider public

ii) Content analytic

- Find out what type of annotation is useful for the users. Are they happy with just service usage example?
- Provide a much better analytics of services
- Find out how and what services in the catalogue are used for

iii) Our user base

- The BioCatalogue needs to know who its users are and what they exactly want. Are the users presented with the information they want? We might need to rethink the way we present the information to the users once we know what they want.
- The BioCatalogue needs to focus on user engagement. For example invite users to peer review services and annotations in the catalogue.
- Find out what users think about the current interface (is the interface too cluttered?)

iv) Market

- Market the BioCatalogue and its content separately
- Position the BioCatalogue as the web service-marketing place in Life Science.
- Establish the BioCatalogue as essential (can be done through Elixir)

v) Catalogue as an authority

- The BioCatalogue should establish itself as the authority and marketing place for web service in Life Science. To achieve that, the BioCatalogue can work closely with Journal (e.g. NAR, Bioinformatics) and Research councils (for data sharing policies). We could use the expertism of the SAB members to achieve that.
- Identify and present the BioCatalogue curation team

b) Actions to be taken

- Marco to send more info about the Galaxy community to Carole
- BioCatalogue team to address the suggestions made by the SAB members

4. AOB

The SAB members recognized that the BioCatalogue has made tremendous progress since its launch. For the next development stage of the catalogue, they advised us to focus on the business side.