Outreach working group progress Dec 2005 - Dec 2006

The annotation outreach group reports on, and encourages, events across the consortium that may lead to establishment of new sources of annotation.

Targets from initial report reached:

- Working group members found, and mailing list established.
- Outreach recording system discussed.
- Regular reports submitted
  (see wiki: http://gocwiki.geneontology.org/index.php/Annotation_Outreach_group_reports)
- Found out about improving IEA accessibility - Mike is dealing with this.
- Many outreach visits made (listed below)

Targets from initial report now part done:

- Outreach recording system now modified to include a collaboration ontology to keep track of relationships between potential and actual annotation groups. This is about two thirds finished and is extremely helpful in keeping track of outreach work.
- Annotation SOP - This is in progress.
  http://gocwiki.geneontology.org/index.php/Beginning_Annotation_SOP

Targets from initial report not reached:

- AmiGO modification - I would like to add a page to AmiGO to direct new users to outreach information but I have been waiting for the AmiGO rewrite before asking for this.
- Generic annotation tool - The group was very keen to see a generic annotation tool developed. Unfortunately funds are not currently available but it is hoped that a submitted GOA grant may provide these.

Significant events

Funding

- GOA and Roslin group applied for chicken annotation grant.
- AgBase received chicken and cow annotation funding.
- Immunology annotation grant submitted.

Outreach visits to:
- Plant and Animal Genome XIV Conference 2006 (Jennifer Clark, John Day-Richter, Harold Drabkin, Rama Balakrishnan, Suparna Mundodi)
- Medaka group (Jennifer Clark)
- GlaxoSmithCline (Jennifer Clark and Erika Feltrin)
- Society of Nematologists (Raymond Lee)
- ARK-Genomics 6th Farm Animal Functional Genomics Workshop (Jennifer Clark, Emily Dimmer, Evelyn Camon)
- Eurofung Aspergillus Annotation Jamboree (Jennifer Clark)
- Cold Spring Harbor Chicken Genomics and Development Workshop (Shane Burgess, Dave Burt)
- Queensland Biosciences Precinct Special Seminar Series (Fiona MacCarthy)

New annotation submitted by:
- PseudoCAP (Submission handled by David Hill)
- Aspergillus community (Submission handled by Jennifer Wortman of TIGR.)

Annual Annotation training held at SGD.

**General Summary**

We have had lots of opportunities for outreach visits. Any groups requesting outreach visits have been dealt with very carefully and given full support. This has been a big success.

We have mostly not been aggressively targeting groups that are not explicitly interested, as annotation and ontology development work has been judged to be a higher priority. Once the recording system is finished it will be easier to restart aggressive marketing if this is judged useful. The system is well on the way to being finished.

Awareness of the annotation outreach work within the consortium is improving but there is still scope for better communication between the consortium members and the working group.