**Minutes from the RosEXEC meeting held on July 27, 2017**

***Committee Members Present****:* Cameron Peace, Chunxian Chen, Christopher Saski, Jim McPherson, Bob Curtis, Sook Jung, Audrey Sebolt, Ksenija Gasic, Dorrie Main, Lee Meisel, Janet Slovin, Steve Knapp, Eric , Vance Whitaker, Margaret Worthington

Meeting Agenda

### WElcome

* **Standing Officers:**
	+ Ksenija Gasic (Chair), Mercy Olmstead (Vice Chair), Chris Saski (Secretary), Cameron Peace (Past Chair)
* **Attendance**: 13 in attendance (50%)
* **Approval of Minutes from 26 April 2017 Meeting** – Ksenija asked if any changes were to be made – pear genome information was corrected. Minutes were approved.
* **Next in-person meeting –** The next in-person meeting will be held in San Diego in January 2018 at 10AM.

### GDR Advisory Board – Presented by Dorie Main

* GDR Q11 Progress Q12 plan of work was reported (March, April, and May)
	+ Reported on adding gene data from NCBI/individual authors – Aligned Rosaceae NCBI genes to the associated genome sequences and made available on genome JBrowse instances
	+ DATA CURATION: A lot of new genetic data was collected by students and staff in this quarter.
		- 21 genetic maps
		- 781 markers
		- 148 QTL/MTL
		- 536 SNPS with genotype data
		- 10M SNP genotype measurements from 17 publications (NOW searchable in database)
	+ Web interface development and breeding data management tools
		- SNP genotype search page added
		- Completed addition of all Clemson peach breeding program data for BIMS – KG is major tester
		- Continued development of BIMS (Breeding information management system)
	+ Continued outreach
		- Several presentations made:
			* “Use of FieldBook and BIMS for Rosaceae Breeding ” at RosBREED project participants meeting in March
			* “Development of database resources and tools for crop genomics, genetics and breeding research “Medicinal Plant Genomics Workshop at PAG Asia in May
			* “Development of database resources and tools for crop genomics, genetics and breeding research” at the Seoul University Plant Genomics and Breeding Symposium in May
		- Abstracts submitted
			* *Peach Symposium, Bucharest, Romania, July 2017 – “Peach Resources in GDR” (Gasic)*
			* *ASHS Annual Conference, Sept 2017*
				+ “NRSP10 Resources for Small Fruit Research” (Bassil)
				+ “NRSP10 Resources for Small Fruit Research” (Peace)
				+ “Using Tripal as a Project Database” (Staton)
				+ “Using the FieldBook App for Specialty Crop Field and Lab Data Collection” (Rife)
				+ “A Breeders Perspective on using the Breeding Information Management System for Fruit Breeding” (Gasic)
			* Other items
				+ Curation efforts at Berkeley in March 2-day event
				+ Co-organized in 2 day AgBioData workshop at Salt Lake City in April
				+ White paper in development in database development and the future of funding
	+ Metrics for GDR usage for Q11 were mentioned
		- Q9: GDR was accessed by 6,590 users from 104 countries, with 69,083 pages viewed in Q11 (Mar 1, 2017 to May 31, 2017)
	+ GDR Q12 Plan of work presented (June, July, August 2017)
		- Add sweet cherry genome sequence (includes functional annotation by GDR)
		- Complete the RefTrans assembly and annotation for Fragaria Ananassa
		- Incorporate marker and genetic map data published in new peach v2.0 paper
		- Add more data from publications
		- Add the phenotype/genotype data provided by RosBREED project
		- Send GDR newsletter
		- Continue work on white paper as part of AgBioData group
		- Submit Main lab Tripal module manuscript
	+ Vance asked if GDR had sufficient capacity to handle multiple octaploid strawberry genomes as they come out in the next 6 months
		- Dorrie asked if they could be delivered ahead of publication and to develop a “go live” switch – gives more time to spend on these
		- Steve Knapp – suggested that Dorrie and Steve should have offline discussion. So much ongoing analysis – Steve is encouraging pre-release. Dorrie said that they just add markers and functional data to the existing annotations. Steve mentioned that the issue will be qualitative differences between the genomes (same cultivar sequenced 2 times by different groups) GDR will take these.
		- Vance said Japanese genome has been made available to select groups. Should be published soon. And, the S. Knapp genome (Camerosa) should be the considered reference assembly because of quality.

### Coordination and updates

* Non-research update (industry, info and tech transfer)
	+ Bob Curtis – Overall CA is in good shape, no horror stories with any particular crop.
	+ Jim McPherson – Record sweet cherry crop in terms of production. Apples look excellent, pears not so much.
	+ K. Gasic – Freeze in spring, not much fruit. Recent grower meeting and tree death is becoming significant issue (ARR, PTSL) and now soil management contributes to problem in replant orchards, terrace system was averted, and now paying price.
* Competitive federal grant project reports
	+ Any recent or planned projects?
		- Ksenija reported on funding awarded for germplasm evaluation and for prunus CGC funding was awarded to test fruitlet freeze tolerance. Juan Carlos Melgar was PI and will conduct project.
		- Any other updates on large-scale project?
			* S. Knapp mentioned SCRI has not greenlighted projects.
			* Cameron mentioned RosBREED3 – planning. Major writing would be late 2018 and into 2019. Asking community what they think most important things are going after. ASHS questionnaire will be distributed. Main questions are:
				+ What are breeding related problems need solution
				+ What are the solutions
				+ Who would benefit from this work?
			* Jim McPherson – looking forward to ASHS 2018 meeting -- looking to to an SCRI spotlight (meeting in DC). Wants to highlight success stories – RosBREED will be spotlighted.
				+ Steve K. asked about postdocs and grad. Students. Jim said yes – training is important and a good venue for this.
* International project collaborations
	+ Jim McPherson – F-FAR (Foundation for Food and agricultural research Farm Bill funded) program beginning to make awards. Nice project out of MSU on red-winged drosophilia. Pay attention to this program. 1:1 matching upcoming
* Any other important research funding coordination opportunities

### Research fields and technology updates

* Germplasm (genetic resources):
	+ Ksenija mentioned paper on germplasm will be coming soon. Paper covers germplasm system in US.
	+ Jim McPherson – crop genetic vunerabliity statements (only 25% have an updated statement)
		- Big push on Crop Germplam Committees (CGC) to update vunerability statements
		- Gail Volk – put together Malus vunerablity statement to be used as template
		- Fragaria needs to get going – going back to chairs of committee to organize.
		- Will be major request to the Secretary and there needs to be priorities and targets. START updating these.
* Phenotyping
* Whole genome sequences and physical maps – covered above.
	+ Updates on status of Rosaceae genomes
* Enabling technologies in genomics and genetics – nothing new.

Ksenija G. said that a survey will be made among prunus breeders about marker assisted technology (led by Pere Arus’s group). How MAB is going in real world. Responses on global level being collected.

### White Paper update

Rosexec white paper: Mercy has established a link. People can collaborate and do it online. Comments are available. Mercy is chair of sub-committee and role is to update white paper. Strengthen position of crops for funding

<http://tinyurl.com/mrdbwh5>

### Personnel changes

* Retirements and other departures, new positions available, recent positions filled, graduating students, candidates looking for positions (e.g., promising grad students, postdocs)
	+ Current search for sweet cherry breeder in WA State. Screening starts on Sept. 01.
	+ Ksenija said USDA level – 2 searches for USDA positions – seeking new members.
		- National Agricultural Research Extension
		- National Genetic Resources Advisory Council
			* Ksenija distributed solicitation via the RosEXEC mailing list

### Announcements for upcoming meetings

* Armillaria Summit: August 09-11 in Davis CA
* NAPB/PBCC Annual Meetings: 7–10 August 2017, at Davis, CA
* ASHS Sept 19-22, Hawaii
* Plant & Animal Genome XXV: 13–17 January 2018, at San Diego, CA, USA
* Eric sent workshop – Apple replant disease workshop in East ?? and
* RGC9 Nanjing China June 2018

### Other items

* Closing to secretary nominations – in hands of Vice chair (Mercy).
	+ Who would be good person for this – Discussed in October meeting
	+ Ksenija will send Mercy a note. Nominations are upcoming

### Next RosEXEC meeting

* Next RosEXEC meeting – last one before in person meeting in San Diego. 3rd week in October
	+ Times? Be considerate of Asia and European colleagues.
	+ Dorrie mentioned that it may not be possible with Nanjing groups (time difference is drastic)

**Minutes submitted by: Christopher A. Saski, Secretary**