

SYNTHESYS

Synthesis of systematic resources

Project: Synthesis of systematic resources
Project acronym: SYNTHESYS3
Grant Agreement number: 312253
Workpackage: 2: Improving collections management and enhancing accessibility.
Deliverable number: 2.3
Deliverable title: New physical collections management policy meeting
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Ole Seberg (UCPH)
Date: 26th November 2014

Minutes from the Workpackage (WP) 2.4 Meeting Nov. 25th-26th, 2014

at Naturhistorisches Museum Wien

Tuesday, November 25th, 9.30 am-5pm.

1. Welcome and goals of the meeting
2. An overview of the goals of WP 2.4: Establish network of DNA and tissue banks
3. A general overview of the current status and goals of GGBN
 - a. The current status of the GGBN Data Portal and GGBN's Data Standards and Access Task Force
 - b. Marketing and Outreach Task Force
 - c. Policies and Practices Task Force

Lunch break

4. Policies for new physical collections
 - a. Who else from SYNTHESYS might become part of this TF
 - b. Next steps within SYNTHESYS for implementing policies
5. Linking to GGBN's data portal (part 1)

Wednesday, November 26th, 9am-1pm.

6. Linking to GGBN's data portal (part 2)
7. How do we move forward towards
8. Any other businesses

Minutes

1. Following a formal welcome and a round of introductions, Ole Seberg summarised the goals of the meeting, which included an overview of WP 2.4 (and the relevant part of WP 2.1) compared to the goals and objectives of GGBN (Global Genome Biodiversity Network; www.ggbn.org).
2. The goals and objectives of WP 2.4 (and WP 2.1 p.p.) and GGBN are almost identical as acknowledged at the kick-off meeting in Berlin of WP 2 (and the reason for including the relevant parts of WP 2.1 in WP 2.4). E.g., the German led DNA Bank Network is in the process of being integrated into GGBN and the ABS Best Practices initiated by the ratification of the Nagoya-protocol are perfectly aligned with that of CETAF, of which the SYNTHESYS members are also members. Additionally, 6 SYNTHESYS members (5 of which are included in WP 2) are already deeply involved in GGBN and several SYNTHESYS members are currently considering joining GGBN. It must be emphasised that GGBN is a democratic, member-driven organisation, which currently is in the process of changing from a concept (established in 2011) to a fully, operational organisation, sustained by membership fees (to be decided).

3. This item included a broad discussion of GGBN's task forces and their role. Gabi Dröge gave an overview of the GGBN data portal which will allow data providers to share data via BioCASE or Darwin Core Archive. The underlying GGBN Data Standard is currently in the testing phase and will be finally submitted to TDWG to be ratified as a TDWG standard. Ole Seberg gave an overview of the work of the Policies and Practices task force, which is far advanced in developing both a MoC and a Draft Term of Reference. Additionally, a series of ABS documents incl. MTAs are close to completion and developed together with CETAF. The work plan of the Marketing and Outreach Task Force is currently being reshaped towards supporting the next conference of GGBN which will take place in Berlin in 2016 before the SPNHC meeting.
4. As indicated above there are already 6 SYNTHESYS members in GGBN. Thus, Ole Seberg, is Interim Chair of the International Steering group (ISC) and member of the Policies and Practices task force and Gabi Dröge is Technical manager and member of the Data Standards and Data Access as well as Marketing and Outreach task force. Any member with a vested interest may become member of a task force.

Following a brief discussion it was agreed by all present, except one, that SYNTHESYS members should join GGBN as the only sensible way of fulfilling the objectives as defined in the revised work plan of WP 2.4 (incl. WP 2.1 p.p.). Due to the lag time between writing and submitting the successful SYNTHESYS bit and its approval developments elsewhere has changed the international landscape of biobanking.

5. -6. Most of the technical issues related to GGBN data portal were presented and discussed by Gabi Dröge, including technical requirements for getting biobank data online, data quality issues and a presentation of the DNA Module (open source software for managing a biodiversity biobank).
7. It was agreed by all participants (except one) at the meeting to suggest to the management of SYNTHESYS that they should encourage the SYNTHESYS members to join GGBN in order to fulfil the requirement of WP 2.4 (plus WP 2.1 p.p.) It was tentatively suggested that the money freed by implementing pt. 7 were used to help SYNTHESYS members implementing the data portal requirements and/or to do site visits explain the objectives of GGBN. Karin Wiltschke received the participants' thanks for arranging the meeting,

Gabi Dröge

Ole Seberg

GGBN web page: <http://ggbn.org> – go to “data portal” in the navigation on the left or direct link:

GGBN data portal: <http://www.dnabank-network.org/Query.php>

Participants:

1	Tim Fulcher	London (RBGK)
2	Ole Seberg	Copenhagen (UCPH)
3	Gitte Petersen	Copenhagen (UCPH)
4	Christiane Quaisser	Berlin (MfN)
5	Gabi Droege	Berlin (BGBM)
6	Isabel Rey	Madrid (CSIC)
7	René Dekker	Leiden (NCB)
8	Karin Karlsson	Stockholm (NRM)
9	Kevin Holston	Stockholm (NRM)
10	Ruth Hollands	Edinburgh (RBGE)
11	Virginie Winant	Tervuren (RMCA)
12	<i>Karin Wiltschke</i>	<i>Vienna (NHMW)</i>
13	<i>Elisabeth Haring bzw. Luise Kruckenhauser</i>	<i>Vienna (NHMW)</i>
14	<i>Andrea Krapf</i>	<i>Vienna (NHMW)</i>
15	<i>Heimo Rainer</i>	<i>Vienna (NHMW)</i>