

**From:** [Scott Allen Jackson](#)  
**To:** [Greg May](#)  
**Subject:** Re: DivSeek - updates and next steps  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 24, 2015 2:09:02 PM

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that would be helpful. very helpful.

On Feb 24, 2015, at 1:59 PM, May, Gregory <[gregory.may@pioneer.com](mailto:gregory.may@pioneer.com)> wrote:

I read further down in the original email. It makes more sense now. But they shouldn't wait too long before determining how they will engage the private sector - interest will begin to wane. Perhaps I should sit tight on Peter. ?

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**From:** Scott Allen Jackson [<mailto:sjackson@uga.edu>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 24, 2015 12:55 PM  
**To:** May, Gregory  
**Subject:** Re: DivSeek - updates and next steps

are you going to email Peter?

On Feb 24, 2015, at 1:53 PM, May, Gregory  
<[gregory.may@pioneer.com](mailto:gregory.may@pioneer.com)> wrote:

Thanks. I think the data (and seed!) from private companies would be free and clear, otherwise they would not want it under limited release in the first place. Not to mention the cash that could (likely still would) come DivSeek's way. Feels like a missed opportunity on DivSeek's part and a waste of time to date on the companies part.

Yeah, AND the FCC internet thingy...

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**From:** Scott Allen Jackson [<mailto:sjackson@uga.edu>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 24, 2015 12:46 PM  
**To:** May, Gregory  
**Subject:** Re: DivSeek - updates and next steps

I agree, re DIVSEEK. The reservation by some is that data from private companies may be constrained and the ideal for DIVSEEK is much like GenBank--everything available. However, being a Partner doesn't mean that you are necessarily contributing data. You should email Peter your thoughts and the other publications. Copy me as I'll be happy to endorse your thoughts.

I'm on the edge of my seat waiting for the Keystone veto...

-scott

On Feb 24, 2015, at 1:41 PM, May, Gregory

<[gregory.may@pioneer.com](mailto:gregory.may@pioneer.com)> wrote:

Scott, It is a mistake not to include the companies as partners in DivSeek. They would certainly be in a position to contribute as much or more than most of the current partners. See you in AL! (HudsonAlpha should have their CROPS check from Pioneer by now. I know it went out last week.) - Greg

**From:** Daniele Manzella [<mailto:daniele.manzella@divseek.org>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 24, 2015 9:49 AM

**Subject:** DivSeek - updates and next steps

Dear colleagues,

With this email, we would like to provide you with some updates on DivSeek.

The Assembly in San Diego on January 9<sup>th</sup> approved a Charter for DivSeek, which is attached together with an updated list of Partners for your reference. Susan McCouch from Cornell University was elected as the Chairperson of the Assembly.

The presentations and discussions during the technical meeting that followed the Assembly, are summarized in the attached report, which also includes an analysis of feedback received to a questionnaire distributed during the meeting. The presentations are downloadable at this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/vubswuoqor0hddk/Presentations.zip?dl=0>

Following the Assembly and the technical meeting, the initiative is moving forward with:

- the appointment of the Steering Committee;
- the preparation of DivSeek's first annual programme of work;
- the publicizing of the initiative.

Partner organizations are in the process of electing members of the Steering Committee by electronic nominations and voting. Once in place, the Committee

will prepare, with assistance of the Joint Facilitation Unit, the first programme of work.

Based on the feedback received through the questionnaire distributed in San Diego, this programme of work is likely to revolve around:

- Information management;
- Community-building & networking;
- Research strategies;
- PGR-related rights.

As you may recall, private-sector organizations are currently considered as observers, pending the elaboration of rules for their engagement. This is a task that will certainly be one of DivSeek's priorities and we will come back to you with more information. In the meantime, the Steering Committee and the Joint Facilitation Unit will explore ways to have interested private sector stakeholders contribute to the preparation of the programme of work.

You may have noticed that a recent article in Nature Genetics (attached) has referred to DivSeek. In the coming months, the Joint Facilitation Unit will be presenting DivSeek at:

- the Global Forum for Innovations in Agriculture (Abu Dhabi, UAE, 9-11 March);
- the CROPS 2015 conference (Huntsville, USA, 18-20 May);
- the COST conference on phenotyping platforms (IPK, Germany, 22-24 June);
- the annual meeting of the CSSA (Minnesota, USA, 16-18 Nov).

Thanks for your continuous interest in DivSeek, and we will be in contact soon.

Kind regards,

Daniele Manzella

(on behalf of the Joint Facilitation Unit)

[www.divseek.org](http://www.divseek.org)

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<DivSeek technical meeting - Summary.pdf><DivSeek technical meeting- Annexes.pdf><2015 DivSeek note in Nature Genetics.pdf><DivSeek Charter & list of partners February 2015.pdf>

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