

From: [Scott Allen Jackson](#)
To: [Aitken, Sally](#)
Cc: [Deborah Powell](#); [Jeremy Schmutz](#); [Peggy Ozias-Akins](#)
Subject: Re: Invitation to Speak at CROPS 2015 - Reply by 11/25/14
Date: Friday, November 28, 2014 10:18:38 AM

Great, Sally. I think Deborah will follow up with more information.
scott

On Nov 27, 2014, at 3:28 PM, Aitken, Sally <sally.aitken@ubc.ca> wrote:

Dear Deborah

I am sorry to be late in responding to your invitation. I've been travelling and had my cell phone stolen in Paris, so have fallen behind on email.

I would be very pleased to accept your invitation if it is not too late. This sounds like a very interesting conference and I stand to learn a great deal about the current state of crop breeding and use of genomic tools from the other attendees. I can speak about our use of genomics in understanding local adaptation to climate and response to climate change in forest tree species.

Sincerely,
Sally

Sally Aitken | Professor

Wall Scholar 2014-15 | [Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies](#)

Director | [Centre for Forest Conservation Genetics](#)

Co-Project Leader | [AdapTree Project](#)

Department of Forest and Conservation Sciences

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From: Deborah Powell <dpowell@hudsonalpha.org>

Date: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 1:15 PM

To: Sally Aitken <sally.aitken@ubc.ca>

Cc: Scott Allen Jackson <sjackson@uga.edu>, Jeremy Schmutz <jschmutz@hudsonalpha.org>, Peggy Ozias-Akins <pozias@uga.edu>

Subject: Invitation to Speak at CROPS 2015 - Reply by 11/25/14

Dear Dr. Aitken,

On behalf of the scientific organizing committee for The University of Georgia/HudsonAlpha 2015 CROPS Genomics Enabled Crop Breeding & Improvement conference, we would like to invite you to be a speaker at the 2015 CROPS event.

This international conference is planned for Monday, May 18- 21, 2015 and will be held on the HudsonAlpha biotechnology campus in Huntsville, Alabama. We expect an estimated 300 attendees at the event.

The committee believes strongly that you are one of the leading researchers in emerging genomic technologies and their application to crop improvement and that your talk will be a compelling example of applying new genomic technology to crop improvement.

The CROPS program will feature presentations on topics including: Integrated breeding platforms, large scale GWAS, applications, genomic selection strategies, systems biology approaches, identifying markers for breeding, functional validation of targets, applications to developing world germplasm, high throughput phenotyping, and targeted genome modification.

While we know there are many competing demands on your time, we hope you will seriously consider making room for this important event in your busy schedule this spring. A copy of the tentative conference agenda is attached along with some information about HudsonAlpha and the city of Huntsville, Alabama.

HudsonAlpha will cover your round-trip airfare, and travel expenses for this event. We would be most grateful if you could reply with your acceptance by Tuesday, November 25, 2014.

Sincerely,

Deborah Powell
CROPS Scientific Organizing Committee Coordinator
HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology
Cell: 256.810.2047 Office 256.327.5218
Email: dpowell@hudsonalpha.org

CROPS Scientific Organizing Committee

- Co-Chair: Jeremy Schmutz, HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology, AL, USA
- Co-Chair: Scott Allen Jackson, University of Georgia, GA, USA
- Co-Chair: Peggy Ozias-Akins, University of Georgia, GA, US
- Hannes Dempewolf, Global Crop Diversity Trust, Germany
- Jeff Ehlers, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, WA, USA
- Todd Mockler, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, MO, USA
- Jesse Poland, Kansas State University, KS, USA
- Jean-Marcel Ribaut, CGIAR, Mexico
- Loren Rieseberg, University of British Columbia, Canada
- Robert Stupar, University of Minnesota, MN, USA
- Gerald Tuskan, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, TN, USA
- Esther van der Knaap, The Ohio State University, OH, USA
- Rajeev Varshney, The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), India
- Jianming Yu, Iowa State University, IA, USA

