From: Scott Allen Jackson
To: John M. Burke

Cc: <u>Jeremy Schmutz; Peggy Ozias-Akins; Deborah Powell</u>

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

Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2014 7:20:20 PM

John, If you've responded, we somehow lost it. Would you be able to participate in this meeting as a speaker? Lauren suggested you as someone that could speak about using ecological/evolutionary approaches to inform breeding. We would love to have you join.

Thanks, Scott

On Nov 21, 2014, at 9:01 AM, Deborah Powell < dpowell@hudsonalpha.org > wrote:

Dear Dr. Burke,

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

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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