

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Chandler, Larry
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2014 7:41 AM
To: Bretting, Peter
Cc: McGuire, Michael (Mickey); Walters, Christina; McMurtry, John; Simmons, Kay; Richards, Chris
Subject: Re: Approval for DivSeek interview

Thanks Peter. Interesting about development of a potentially legally binding charter. Guess we'll watch this closely.

Larry

Sent from my iPad

On Nov 18, 2014, at 1:20 PM, "Bretting, Peter" <Peter.Bretting@ARS.USDA.GOV> wrote:

Hi Larry—FYI, ARS signed the non-binding expression of interest for participating in the DivSeek Initiative. Apparently the next phase in the Initiative involves a meeting of the signatory institutions, scheduled right before the Plant and Animal Genome meeting in San Diego in Jan. 2015. The Initiative is also drafting a Charter that might be legally-binding. If so, a more extensive (and lengthy!) review by State Department and USDA attorneys would be required to decide whether ARS could continue to participate.

Thanks for your interest,

Peter

Peter Bretting
USDA/ARS Office of National Programs
Room 4-2212, Mailstop 5139
5601 Sunnyside Avenue
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Phone 1.301.504.5541
Fax 1.301.504.6191
Mobile Phone [REDACTED]
E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov
Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Chandler, Larry
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 8:20 AM
To: Bretting, Peter; McGuire, Michael (Mickey); Richards, Chris
Cc: Walters, Christina; McMurtry, John; Simmons, Kay
Subject: RE: Approval for DivSeek interview

Peter and others,

Thanks for the info and broader clarification on Chris's role in this interview as well as on the interactions in the DivSeek Initiative. I have no concerns regarding the interview. We would be

interested in knowing the final decision regarding the statement of interest in participating in the Initiative.

Thanks,
Larry

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Sunday, November 16, 2014 9:55 AM
To: McGuire, Michael (Mickey); Richards, Chris; Chandler, Larry
Cc: Walters, Christina; McMurtry, John; Simmons, Kay
Subject: RE: Approval for DivSeek interview

Thanks, Mickey. I asked Chris to send this to the PA Office to keep y'all up-to-date.

I also have no concerns about Chris's articulate statements during the interview, because he speaks generally to the challenges of optimally conserving and using plant genetic diversity, rather than specifically endorses an initiative. It was indeed well-done.

Here's more background about this topic. Chris, several other ARS scientists, and I were invited by the Global Crop Diversity Trust to sign a non-binding expression of interest for participating in the DivSeek Initiative. This is a result of our participation in earlier planning sessions for a potential research consortium that has evolved into DivSeek.

Kay and I are working to determine whether or not the Agency could sign the non-binding expression of interest. One complication is that the document mentions the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, a treaty for which the US is not yet a Party. Attorneys at State Department felt that it was OK for a US Agency to sign the document because it was non-binding, and especially if we simply strike-out the text regarding the treaty. Brian Nakanishi, an attorney with ARS OTT, also felt that that was acceptable for a US Agency to sign, again, if the text regarding the treaty were struck-out.

Kay and I are currently consulting with Agency personnel to try to determine whether the Agency could sign it and, if so, whom. The document is somewhat unusual not only because of the mention of the Treaty, but because elements of it read much like a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Thanks,

Peter

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E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov
Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: McGuire, Michael (Mickey)
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 5:19 PM
To: Richards, Chris; Chandler, Larry
Cc: Bretting, Peter; Walters, Christina; McMurtry, John
Subject: RE: Approval for DivSeek interview

Chris:

I thought this was well done. I have no concerns with the material in the video.

Mickey

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 1:16 PM
To: Chandler, Larry; McGuire, Michael (Mickey)
Subject: Approval for DivSeek interview

As per Dr Bretting's request, I'm sending you this (rather large) video file that was assembled last April at a strategy meeting in Bonn for an initiative to sequence (broadly) the world's gene bank collections called DivSeek. They interviewed me and now are asking approval to release the assembled video to the public (after further editing).

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 12:40 PM
To: Richards, Chris
Subject: RE: More about the Fluidigm genotyping system

Probably a good idea to have them review it, too.

Thanks!

Peter

Peter Bretting
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E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov
Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 2:39 PM
To: Bretting, Peter
Subject: RE: More about the Fluidigm genotyping system

No, I thought I'd begin with you. Maybe I should send it to our AO?

C.

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 12:23 PM
To: Richards, Chris
Cc: WeaverMissick, Tara; Walters, Christina
Subject: FW: More about the Fluidigm genotyping system

Thanks for this, Chris. I've copied it to Tara Weaver-Missick, who is Acting Head of Info Staff for her input and approval. Has it gone to the Plains Area Office for review and approval?

Much appreciated,

Peter

Peter Bretting
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Mobile Phone [REDACTED]
E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov
Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 2:17 PM
To: Bretting, Peter
Subject: RE: More about the Fluidigm genotyping system

I hate to clog your Outlook but this came to me today for review. It's the interview the Trust did at the meeting in Bonn this April. Pretty generic narrative, but it needs approval before they make this public. Kinda feel like I'm doing free advertising for the Trust....not sure how I feel about that....

Cheers,
C.

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 11:55 AM
To: Richards, Chris
Subject: RE: More about the Fluidigm genotyping system

Well, it depends if you've been naughty or nice.

Still working on the signature for the DivSeek initiative,

Peter

Peter Bretting
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Fax 1.301.504.6191
Mobile Phone [REDACTED]
E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov
Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 1:54 PM
To: Bretting, Peter
Subject: RE: More about the Fluidigm genotyping system

I want one for Christmas!

C.

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 4:18 AM
To: Irish, Brian; Scheffler, Brian; Richards, Chris; Walters, Christina; Zhang, Dapeng; Kuhn, David; Volk, Gayle; Hanes, Glenn; Jenderek, Maria; Keith, Lisa; Meinhardt, Lyndel; Wall, Marisa; Gutierrez, Osman; Teal, Peter; Goenaga, Ricardo; Ayala-Silva, Tomas; Matsumoto, Tracie
Subject: More about the Fluidigm genotyping system

See this popular article at the website
Engadget: http://www.engadget.com/2014/11/14/juno-simplifies-genome-testing/?ncid=rss_truncated

“Genome testing is now easy, fast, and pretty”

Peter

Peter Bretting
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Mobile Phone [REDACTED]
E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov
Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Irish, Brian
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 12:43 PM

To: Scheffler, Brian; Richards, Chris; Walters, Christina; Zhang, Dapeng; Kuhn, David; Volk, Gayle; Hanes, Glenn; Jenderek, Maria; Keith, Lisa; Meinhardt, Lyndel; Wall, Marisa; Gutierrez, Osman; Bretting, Peter; Teal, Peter; Goenaga, Ricardo; Ayala-Silva, Tomas; Matsumoto, Tracie
Subject: Tropical/Subtropical Webinar reminder and materials

Hello to all,

Attached are PowerPoint presentations and a handout from David Kuhn (USDA-ARS Subtropical Horticulture Research Station, Miami, FL) and Gayle Volk (USDA-ARS National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation) as PDF documents (reduced size for email). These are for reference and for those that might need a version if they will not be connecting with the AT&T connect software (e.g., just calling in from a landline).

Talk to you soon (2:30 p.m. EST).

Brian

Brian M. Irish, Ph.D.
Horticulturist/Curator
Tropical Agriculture Research Station
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Mayaguez, PR 00680
USDA-ARS TARS
Phone: 787-831-3435 ext. 258
Mobile: XXXXXXXXXX
Fax: 787-831-3386
Email: Brian.Irish@ars.usda.gov
Skype: brian.irish-may
http://www.ars.usda.gov/main/site_main.htm?modecode=66-35-00-00
<image001.jpg>

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 3:03 PM
To: Chris Richards
Subject: Re: DivSeek video

sounds good!
Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
Scientist and Project Manager
Global Crop Diversity Trust
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 7
53113 Bonn, Germany
Office: +49 228 85427 115
Mobile: [REDACTED]
www.croptrust.org

Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Tue, Nov 18, 2014 at 8:59 PM, Chris Richards <crichard@lamar.colostate.edu> wrote:

OK, I'll try and fly out 24 hours earlier.

Cheers,

C.

From: Hannes Dempewolf [<mailto:hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 12:58 PM

To: Chris Richards
Subject: Re: DivSeek video

The meeting is scheduled for all day on Friday the 9th at the same place as last year's SeedSeq meeting (Hilton Gaslamp District) in downtown San Diego.

Cheers,
Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Tue, Nov 18, 2014 at 8:50 PM, Chris Richards <crichard@lamar.colostate.edu> wrote:

Will do. Am putting together a document now.

I think I can change the ticket. When is the meeting planned on Friday and where? Let me know and I'll adjust my plans.

Cheers,

C.

From: Hannes Dempewolf [mailto:hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org]
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 12:19 PM
To: Chris Richards
Subject: Re: DivSeek video

Hi Chris,

Great - thanks for the approval of the video. We will produce a final version and circulate that again before publication.

I just received the signed DivSeek letter from Peter! They had to strike through the reference to the ITPGRFA... which is unorthodox as this was of course non-binding (as you had rightly pointed out), but I think we should be able to accept it. I will discuss this with the Treaty secretariat tomorrow, but I don't expect it to be a big deal.

The next step is the DivSeek partners assembly and technical meeting, both of which will take place in San Diego on Friday, the 9th of January... Is there any way you could still change your flights? Up to two representatives of each institution that has signed will be invited to attend...

Not sure, Charlotte can give you a lot more details about the metrics at this stage. How about you write something up and we then circulate it to her as well as Tom and Michael for comments?

Cheers,
Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Mon, Nov 17, 2014 at 10:47 PM, Richards, Chris <Chris.Richards@ars.usda.gov> wrote:

Hey Hannes,

I have approval up and down the line for the use of my interview in the video. I was surprised in how much air time I was given! Everyone who has seen it (Peter, my Area Director and Chris Walters) liked it a lot!

FYI: It seems that the (initial) hesitance to sign even an expression of interest stems the language that mentions the FAO ITPGRFA for which the US is not yet a party. Given that the expression of interest is entirely non-binding, we clear that hurdle and now move on to shop around for someone to sign it (sigh...). This being the case, it is well above my pay grade and it's now circulating in Washington.

Assuming we do sign (everyone I've spoken to agrees we must), what would be the focus of the next meeting of DivSeek participants? Would this meeting be tacked on to San Diego? I've already booked my travel there. Will arrive Friday midday.

Metric notes to come shortly. It would be helpful to me if Charlotte could tell me a little more about her thinking of this metric and what it would be used for. I think I get it after hearing Luigi and you discuss it, but it sounds like she has done a lot of the background work on it.

Cheers,

Chris

Christopher Richards, Ph.D.

Population Geneticist

United States Department of Agriculture

National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation

Colorado State University

1111 South Mason Street

Fort Collins, CO 80521

USA

Chris.richards@colostate.edu

970 495 3201

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/pandp/people/people.htm?personid=42033>

<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-9978-6079>

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Hutchison, Stasia

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Tuesday, November 18, 2014 2:03 PM
To: Hannes Dempewolf
Cc: Richards, Chris; Edward Buckler; Buckler, Ed; Ware, Doreen; Ware, Doreen; Simmons, Kay
Subject: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek
Attachments: 2014 USDA-ARS DivSeek expression of interest 20141118.pdf

Hello Hannes—attached is USDA/ARS's signature for the expression of interest in participating in the DivSeek. Apologies for the delayed reply while the text was reviewed here.

Note that the text “under the aegis of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture” was “struck through” on this signed copy. The US is not a Party to the ITPGRFA thus this phrase would not be applicable to USDA/ARS's participation in the Initiative at present.

Thanks so much for your patience; we look forward to further engagement with the DivSeek Initiative.

With all best wishes,

Peter

Peter Bretting
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Phone 1.301.504.5541
Fax 1.301.504.6191
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Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Hannes Dempewolf [mailto:hannes.dempewolf@cropptrust.org]
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 11:01 AM
To: Bretting, Peter; Richards, Chris; Edward Buckler
Cc: Marie Haga; Bhatti, Shakeel (AGDT); Ruth Bastow; Powell, Wayne (CGIAR Consortium)
Subject: DivSeek expression of interest

Dear Drs. Peter Bretting, Christopher Richards and Ed Buckler,

After two scoping meetings in January and April 2014, DivSeek is becoming a reality. We have created a small steering and working group to develop a white paper, to initiate the scoping phase and to develop the plan for launching the initiative. A website includes all our work to date (<http://www.divseek.org>).

A first Partners' Assembly will take place in early 2015, to establish the governance of DivSeek. For your institution to take part in the Assembly, we ask you to return a signed copy of the letter that is attached, by 31 October. Please identify the appropriate person who can sign on behalf of your organization. Signature of the letter constitutes a simple and non-binding expression of interest in DivSeek. Please submit the signed letter to divseek@croptrust.org and pgrfa-treaty@fao.org

A draft Charter, setting forth the principles and institutional mechanisms of DivSeek, will be distributed in advance of the Partners' Assembly.

We continue to promote DivSeek as an open and transparent initiative, and look forward to your further engagement.

Kind regards,

Marie Haga, Shakeel Bhatti, Ruth Bastow and Wayne Powell

On behalf of the joint facilitation unit:

--

Hannes Dempewolf
Scientist and Project Manager
Global Crop Diversity Trust
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Office: +49 228 85427 115
Mobile: [REDACTED]
www.croptrust.org



SUBJECT: Call for non-binding expressions of interest in DivSeek

We are writing to engage you in Diversity Seek (DivSeek), a ground-breaking initiative which we believe will unlock the wealth of crop diversity for global food and nutritional security.

DIVSEEK MISSION AND GOALS

DivSeek's mission is to enable breeders and researchers to mobilize a vast range of plant genetic variation to accelerate the rate of crop improvement and furnish food and agricultural products to the growing human population.

This initiative will work with existing, emerging and future efforts to characterize crop diversity and develop a unified, coordinated and cohesive information management platform to provide easy access to genotypic and phenotypic data associated with genebank germplasm.

DivSeek will help bridge the gap between the information requirements of genebank curators, plant breeders and more targeted upstream biological researchers, to support forward-looking breeding programs, germplasm curation and strategic research.

A white paper describing the initiative in more detail has been developed and is available at www.divseek.org.

This initiative also contributes to on-going efforts for the creation of a global information system on plant genetic resources, ~~under the aegis of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.~~

VALUE PROPOSITIONS

DivSeek will generate the following benefits.

1. DivSeek will unleash the full potential of crop diversity by linking germplasm with data through the promotion of common data standards and best practices. This will:
 - (i) enable interoperability and broaden usability of data;
 - (ii) facilitate exploration by breeders, researchers and other users;
 - (iii) enable managers and curators of genebanks and other collections to better leverage large-scale characterization efforts for effective curation; and
 - (iv) lessen transaction costs and enhance risk management by providing an accepted framework for 'rights management' that enables projects to align with internationally agreed policy frameworks and data sharing principles.

2. DivSeek will promote the open sharing of data, while ensuring transparency and allowing a level of discretion regarding the distribution and use of information and knowledge.
3. DivSeek will support capacity building and training of qualified professionals to implement the DivSeek mission.
4. As DivSeek reaches a critical mass, funding agencies may require their grantees to ensure adherence to best practices for data storage and curation, and thus maximize impact of project outputs.
5. DivSeek will engage with publishers to encourage authors to use the DivSeek framework to make data available for analysis and peer validation.

PRINCIPLES AND ACTIVITIES

DivSeek is founded on a core set of operating principles. This collaborative venture is designed to facilitate sharing, engagement and synergy. Operating in an open, transparent, and inclusive way, the initiative will advance an initial set of activities, including:

- 1) a scoping exercise to map current practices, identify potential partners and extend the dialogue with the community;
- 2) the organization of the first Partners' Assembly to review and approve a Charter for DivSeek, which will establish the governance framework; and
- 3) a kick-off meeting to discuss potential case studies and pilot projects that will build upon current efforts for linking data with germplasm.

In the long term, DivSeek will build a platform that provides access to genotypic, phenotypic, and other types of information linked to physical germplasm.

DivSeek is a community-driven initiative and a facilitation unit has been established to advance the DivSeek initiative. The Global Crop Diversity Trust hosts and implements the facilitation unit jointly with the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and operates it on a day-to-day basis with additional inputs provided by the CGIAR Consortium, the Global Plant Council and other experts/organizations.

INVITATION

We encourage you to help advance this initiative. On behalf of the joint facilitation unit, we invite your organization to become a recognized partner in DivSeek. If you agree, please countersign and return this letter by 31 October, as a non-binding expression of interest. We will then publicly acknowledge your organization as a DivSeek partner, including through the DivSeek website.

We will follow up by circulating a draft Charter for your preliminary review and with further details concerning the first Partners' Assembly, which is tentatively scheduled for early 2015.

Yours sincerely,

Marie Haga

On behalf of the Joint Facilitation Unit
(Marie Haga, Executive Director, Global Crop
Diversity Trust)

Shakeel Bhatti

On behalf of the Joint Facilitation Unit
(Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary, International Treaty
on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and
Agriculture)

Wayne Powell

(Wayne Powell, Chief Science Officer,
Consortium of the Consultative Group on
International Agricultural Research)

Ruth Bastow

(Ruth Bastow, Executive Director, Global Plant
Council)

Countersigned on behalf of USDA / ARS

DATE

NAME, POSITION AND SIGNATURE

Nov. 18, 2014

M. K. SIMMONS
Deputy Administrator,
Crop Production & Protection

MK SIMMONS

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 8:25 AM
To: Chandler, Larry; McGuire, Michael (Mickey); Richards, Chris
Cc: Walters, Christina; McMurtry, John; Simmons, Kay
Subject: RE: Approval for DivSeek interview

Will do,

Peter

Peter Bretting
USDA/ARS Office of National Programs
Room 4-2212, Mailstop 5139
5601 Sunnyside Avenue
Beltsville, MD 20705-5139
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Peter and others,

Thanks for the info and broader clarification on Chris's role in this interview as well as on the interactions in the DivSeek Initiative. I have no concerns regarding the interview. We would be interested in knowing the final decision regarding the statement of interest in participating in the Initiative.

Thanks,
Larry

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Sunday, November 16, 2014 9:55 AM
To: McGuire, Michael (Mickey); Richards, Chris; Chandler, Larry
Cc: Walters, Christina; McMurtry, John; Simmons, Kay
Subject: RE: Approval for DivSeek interview

Thanks, Mickey. I asked Chris to send this to the PA Office to keep y'all up-to-date.

I also have no concerns about Chris's articulate statements during the interview, because he speaks generally to the challenges of optimally conserving and using plant genetic diversity, rather than specifically endorses an initiative. It was indeed well-done.

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Sunday, November 16, 2014 3:46 PM
To: Bretting, Peter
Subject: RE: Approval for DivSeek interview

Thanks, Peter. I intentionally avoided using the word DivSeek! Obviously a number of issues to consider going forward with this initiative, but so far so good.

Cheers,
Chris

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Sunday, November 16, 2014 9:55 AM
To: McGuire, Michael (Mickey); Richards, Chris; Chandler, Larry
Cc: Walters, Christina; McMurtry, John; Simmons, Kay
Subject: RE: Approval for DivSeek interview

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Here's more background about this topic. Chris, several other ARS scientists, and I were invited by the Global Crop Diversity Trust to sign a non-binding expression of interest for participating in the DivSeek Initiative. This is a result of our participation in earlier planning sessions for a potential research consortium that has evolved into DivSeek.

Kay and I are working to determine whether or not the Agency could sign the non-binding expression of interest. One complication is that the document mentions the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, a treaty for which the US is not yet a Party. Attorneys at State Department felt that it was OK for a US Agency to sign the document because it was non-binding, and especially if we simply strike-out the text regarding the treaty. Brian Nakanishi, an attorney with ARS OTT, also felt that was acceptable for a US Agency to sign, again, if the text regarding the treaty were struck-out.

Kay and I are currently consulting with Agency personnel to try to determine whether the Agency could sign it and, if so, whom. The document is somewhat unusual not only because of the mention of the Treaty, but because elements of it read much like a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Thanks,

Peter

**Peter Bretting
USDA/ARS Office of National Programs
Room 4-2212, Mailstop 5139**

duplicate email trail deleted

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 1:35 PM
To: Chris Richards; Susan McCouch; Ruairaidh Hamilton; David Ellis
Subject: Re: DivSeek Video Draft

Dear all,

Just to briefly add to my previous message. Please do not further share the video at this time, since we of course need everyone's consent first before it can be made public.

Thanks for your understanding,
Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
Scientist and Project Manager
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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Fri, Nov 14, 2014 at 6:18 PM, Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org> wrote:
Dear Susan, Chris, Ruairaidh and Dave,

Based on the interviews with the four of you during the Bonn DivSeek meeting, our communications team has now prepared a first draft of the DivSeek video (please see low resolution version attached). It still needs some work, but we wanted to pass this draft by you to see whether you are in principle OK with it?

Please let me know.
Thanks!
Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
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www.croptrust.org

Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 4:42 PM
To: Hannes Dempewolf
Subject: RE: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Thanks Hannes,

Am I to assume they are booking the room under their favorable rate and I will pay upon check in (which I plan to), or that they are covering the costs in-kind? This has consequences in the way I put together my travel voucher. Just to be clear my max lodging in San Diego is \$142, so hopefully the Treaty's rate is less than that.

Cheers,
Chris

From: Hannes Dempewolf [mailto:hannes.dempewolf@divseek.org]
Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 2:28 AM
To: Richards, Chris
Subject: Re: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Hi Chris,

I have now received word from the Treaty secretariat and they recommend booking your hotel room at the Hilton San Diego Gaslamp District directly, since there are favorable rates on offer still.

My apologies for the delay in getting back to you.
Thanks,
Hannes

On Thu, Nov 27, 2014 at 6:34 PM, Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@divseek.org> wrote:
Hi Chris,

No schedule yet, but we are working on it. Yes, there is a contingent of rooms set aside for the DivSeek meeting but I am still waiting to hear from the Treaty what the procedure is for booking them. I believe they are trying to set up some kind of website. I'll be back in touch as soon as I have any news!

Hannes

On Thu, Nov 27, 2014 at 6:23 PM, Richards, Chris <Chris.Richards@ars.usda.gov> wrote:

Dear Hannes-

I will make arrangements at the hotel. Is there some group rate you've negotiated otherwise I'll try a government rate. Is there a provisional schedule set for the meetings?

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@divseek.org>
Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 4:28 AM
To: Richards, Chris
Subject: Re: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Hi Chris,

I have now received word from the Treaty secretariat and they recommend booking your hotel room at the Hilton San Diego Gaslamp District directly, since there are favorable rates on offer still.

My apologies for the delay in getting back to you.
Thanks,
Hannes

On Thu, Nov 27, 2014 at 6:34 PM, Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@divseek.org> wrote:
Hi Chris,

No schedule yet, but we are working on it. Yes, there is a contingent of rooms set aside for the DivSeek meeting but I am still waiting to hear from the Treaty what the procedure is for booking them. I believe they are trying to set up some kind of website. I'll be back in touch as soon as I have any news!

Hannes

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Dear Hannes-

I will make arrangements at the hotel. Is there some group rate you've negotiated otherwise I'll try a government rate. Is there a provisional schedule set for the meetings?

Cheers,

Chris

From: Hannes Dempewolf [<mailto:hannes.dempewolf@divseek.org>]
Sent: Thursday, November 27, 2014 9:16 AM
To: Bretting, Peter
Cc: Richards, Chris; Edward Buckler; Buckler, Ed; Ware, Doreen; Ware, Doreen; Simmons, Kay; Info DivSeek; Daniele Manzella
Subject: Re: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2014 7:45 AM
To: Hannes Dempewolf
Cc: Richards, Chris; Ware, Doreen; Ware, Doreen; Info DivSeek; Daniele Manzella
Subject: RE: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Will do, thanks!

Peter

Peter Bretting
USDA/ARS Office of National Programs
Room 4-2212, Mailstop 5139
5601 Sunnyside Avenue
Beltsville, MD 20705-5139
Phone 1.301.504.5541
Fax 1.301.504.6191
Mobile Phone [REDACTED]
E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov
Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Hannes Dempewolf [mailto:hannes.dempewolf@divseek.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2014 7:44 AM
To: Bretting, Peter
Cc: Richards, Chris; Ware, Doreen; Ware, Doreen; Info DivSeek; Daniele Manzella
Subject: Re: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Hi Peter,

OK, just let me know once her travel plans are clear. At the moment it looks like we still have sufficient space in the venue.

Best,
Hannes

On Wed, Dec 3, 2014 at 1:38 PM, Bretting, Peter <Peter.Bretting@ars.usda.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Hannes. Doreen might also want to attend, but her travel plans haven't been finalized yet.

Peter

Peter Bretting

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Tuesday, December 02, 2014 7:16 AM
To: Ware, Doreen
Cc: Richards, Chris
Subject: FW: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Hi Doreen—Chris Richards and I plan to attend the DivSeek meeting on behalf of ARS. Do you also want to attend?

Thanks,

Peter

Peter Bretting
USDA/ARS Office of National Programs
Room 4-2212, Mailstop 5139
5601 Sunnyside Avenue
Beltsville, MD 20705-5139
Phone 1.301.504.5541
Fax 1.301.504.6191
Mobile Phone [REDACTED]
E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov
Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 2:10 PM
To: 'Hannes Dempewolf'
Cc: Richards, Chris; Ware, Doreen; Ware, Doreen; Info DivSeek; Daniele Manzella
Subject: RE: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Thanks for the note, Hannes. USDA/ARS will be represented at the DivSeek meeting by Chris Richards and me. I'll be at the Hilton San Diego Gaslamp District already for the preceding ITPGREFA-COGIS meeting.

See you about a month from now!

Peter

Peter Bretting
USDA/ARS Office of National Programs
Room 4-2212, Mailstop 5139
5601 Sunnyside Avenue
Beltsville, MD 20705-5139
Phone 1.301.504.5541
Fax 1.301.504.6191
Mobile Phone [REDACTED]

E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov

Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Hannes Dempewolf [mailto:hannes.dempewolf@divseek.org]

Sent: Thursday, November 27, 2014 11:16 AM

To: Bretting, Peter

Cc: Richards, Chris; Edward Buckler; Buckler, Ed; Ware, Doreen; Ware, Doreen; Simmons, Kay; Info DivSeek; Daniele Manzella

Subject: Re: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Dear Dr. Peter Bretting and colleagues at USDA ARS,

We are very happy to learn that the USDA ARS is on board with DivSeek and are looking forward to engaging with you on the further development of the initiative. We are aware of some further ongoing deliberations between USDA ARS and the Treaty secretariat with regards to the Treaty reference in the document.

We have received an overwhelming number of 67 expressions of interests, which we take as a clear testament to the importance and timeliness of the DivSeek initiative! Please find below a list of institutions that have expressed their interest. We are also still pursuing participation by a few additional institutions and representative bodies from both the public and private sectors.

We are also happy to report that several private sector entities have expressed their interest in the DivSeek initiative (see below). The interface of any public/private partnership, such as DivSeek, requires a clear framework and rules of engagement for both public and private partners. We propose that the development of such a framework form part of the first DivSeek program of work and are looking forward to engaging with the private sector in this exercise. In the meanwhile, we will invite representatives of the private sector to attend the partners assembly in an observer role.

Please find attached a formal invitation letter to the first DivSeek Partner Assembly and technical meeting, which will both take place on **Friday, the 9th of January 2015** at the Hilton San Diego Gaslamp District Hotel in San Diego, USA. As indicated in the attached letter, please let us know before December 3rd, who will be attending on behalf of the USDA (please email to: info@divseek.org).

With kind regards and on behalf of the joint facilitation unit,
Hannes Dempewolf

Public

- 1 AfricaRice
- 2 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- 3 Agropolis Resource Center for Crop Conservation, Adaptation and Diversity
- 4 Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics
- 5 Australian National University
- 6 Australian Plant Phenomics Facility
- 7 Australian Society of Plant Scientists
- 8 AVRDC
- 9 BBSRC, United Kingdom
- 10 BGI, China
- 11 Biosciences Eastern and Central Africa (BecA) Hub
- 12 Bioversity International

duplicate email trail deleted

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 2:04 PM
To: Walters, Christina; Richards, Chris
Subject: RE: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Ok, thanks,

Peter

Peter Bretting
USDA/ARS Office of National Programs
Room 4-2212, Mailstop 5139
5601 Sunnyside Avenue
Beltsville, MD 20705-5139
Phone 1.301.504.5541
Fax 1.301.504.6191
Mobile Phone [REDACTED]
E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov
Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Walters, Christina
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 1:59 PM
To: Bretting, Peter; Richards, Chris
Subject: RE: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

I think we will also be able to swing the cost of ChrisR's travel too.

It's gratifying to see us 'at the table.'

ChrisW

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 11:57 AM
To: Walters, Christina; Richards, Chris
Cc: Wiggett, Aaron - ARS
Subject: RE: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Thanks. I will attend this so there will be at least one ARS participant.

Peter

Peter Bretting
USDA/ARS Office of National Programs
Room 4-2212, Mailstop 5139

5601 Sunnyside Avenue
Beltsville, MD 20705-5139
Phone 1.301.504.5541

Fax 1.301.504.6191

Mobile Phone [REDACTED]

E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov

Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Walters, Christina
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 1:56 PM
To: Richards, Chris; Bretting, Peter
Cc: Wiggett, Aaron - ARS
Subject: RE: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Peter and ChrisR,

I would very much like to see ARS participation in this meeting.

ChrisR, Please work with Aaron to find out how we can modify your existing itinerary to fit this in with the lowest cost to unit resources.

Thanks,
ChrisW

Christina Walters, Research Leader
Plant Germplasm Preservation Research
USDA-ARS National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521
USA
970-495-3202

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 11:31 AM
To: Bretting, Peter
Cc: Walters, Christina
Subject: RE: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Need an amendment to cover expenses for January 8th to attend the DivSeek meeting in San Diego. I'll work with the Rinnis Travel agency through PAG to change my flight schedule ahead 24 hours but at this point it may incur a fee and fare increases that go above my \$400 limit. I'll check.

Cheers,
Chris

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 10:18 AM
To: Richards, Chris
Subject: RE: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

OK, thanks. Apparently, ARS is limited to two attendees. Ed won't be in San Diego, and no reply from Doreen. So I'll suggest that we two represent ARS at DivSeek. I'll represent ARS at an earlier ITPGRFA info system meeting on 7-8 Jan.

Peter

Peter Bretting
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Fax 1.301.504.6191
Mobile Phone [REDACTED]
E-mail peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov
Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 12:01 PM
To: Bretting, Peter
Subject: RE: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

I see about rearranging my schedule to attend...Hannes kind of gave us last minute notice and the extra lodging will have to come out of base funds. I have not seen an agenda either. I was hoping to be included in the technical steering committee....but that might not happen if the emphasis in this first round is entirely one of schema design field ontologies and API implementation (database tech that is not my area).

I certainly would like to see what ideas they have for the proof on concept project. I spoke to a Greg Baute (Reiseberg lab) and he said DivSeek was already committed to fund a project like this for Helianthus...perhaps in conjunction with Genome Canada. Sounds like DivSeek has funds to spread around...but I'll bet they won't consider a project with the NPGS (my opinion).

Cheers,
Chris

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 5:35 AM
To: Richards, Chris; Ware, Doreen
Subject: FW: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Hi Chris and Doreen—do either of you plan to attend the DivSeek meeting on 9 Jan.? Ed will not attend PAG this year, nor DivSeek. I do plan to attend the DivSeek meeting, an earlier COGIS-PGRFA meeting on 7-8 Jan., and PAG.

Thanks,

Peter

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Web site: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=301

From: Hannes Dempewolf [<mailto:hannes.dempewolf@divseek.org>]

Sent: Thursday, November 27, 2014 11:16 AM

To: Bretting, Peter

Cc: Richards, Chris; Edward Buckler; Buckler, Ed; Ware, Doreen; Ware, Doreen; Simmons, Kay; Info DivSeek; Daniele Manzella

Subject: Re: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek

Dear Dr. Peter Bretting and colleagues at USDA ARS,

We are very happy to learn that the USDA ARS is on board with DivSeek and are looking forward to engaging with you on the further development of the initiative. We are aware of some further ongoing deliberations between USDA ARS and the Treaty secretariat with regards to the Treaty reference in the document.

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Please find attached a formal invitation letter to the first DivSeek Partner Assembly and technical meeting, which will both take place on **Friday, the 9th of January 2015** at the Hilton San Diego Gaslamp District Hotel in San Diego, USA. As indicated in the attached letter, please let us know before December 3rd, who will be attending on behalf of the USDA (please email to: info@divseek.org).

With kind regards and on behalf of the joint facilitation unit,
Hannes Dempewolf

Public

- 1 AfricaRice
- 2 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- 3 Agropolis Resource Center for Crop Conservation, Adaptation and Diversity
- 4 Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics
- 5 Australian National University
- 6 Australian Plant Phenomics Facility
- 7 Australian Society of Plant Scientists

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 7:35 AM
To: Richards, Chris; Ware, Doreen
Subject: FW: USDA/ARS signature for expression of interest in DivSeek
Attachments: Divseek meetings invitation.pdf

Hi Chris and Doreen—do either of you plan to attend the DivSeek meeting on 9 Jan.? Ed will not attend PAG this year, nor DivSeek. I do plan to attend the DivSeek meeting, an earlier COGIS-PGRFA meeting on 7-8 Jan., and PAG.

Thanks,

Peter

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Cc: Richards, Chris; Edward Buckler; Buckler, Ed; Ware, Doreen; Ware, Doreen; Simmons, Kay; Info DivSeek; Daniele Manzella
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November, 19th 2014

Re: Invitation to First DivSeek Partners Assembly and technical meeting

Dear DivSeek partners,

Following our previous correspondence and the interest expressed by your organization to participate in the DivSeek Initiative, we would like to invite you to nominate up to two representatives to attend the first DivSeek Partner Assembly and technical meeting.

The Partners Assembly will take place from 9am to noon on **Friday, the 9th of January 2015 at the Hilton San Diego Gaslamp District Hotel in San Diego, USA**. It will be followed by a technical meeting in the afternoon, from 1pm to 6pm at the same location.

The main topic of discussion for the Partners Assembly will be the governance structure of the initiative and the adoption of the DivSeek Charter. To facilitate the discussions, we will circulate to you a draft of the DivSeek Charter and other relevant documentation in advance.

The technical meeting will showcase a set of projects and initiatives that have shown interest to be associated with DivSeek and will include a discussion of experiences and perspectives on data management and sharing. A further objective is to agree on the best way to engage the DivSeek community to discuss the scope and nature of a common set of standards as well as guidelines and best practices. The meeting is expected to set the priorities for the first program of work.

Please notify us **before December 3rd** of the name of the representative(s) by email to: info@divseek.org. Please also let us know by that date, if you require a personalized invitation letter for your administration. Partners are kindly requested to cover their own costs. However, if you are unable to do so, please inform us by the same date.

With kind regards and on behalf of the joint facilitation unit,

 

Hannes Dempewolf & Francisco Lopez



Consortium

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 5:58 PM
To: [REDACTED] Hannes Dempewolf (hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org)
Cc: Coyne, Clarice
Subject: Genetics of Genebanks at PAG

Hi Peter,

Could you confirm your PAG registration so we can load your title and abstract in our workshop?

Cheers,
Chris

-----Original Message-----

From: Coyne, Clarice J [mailto:coynec@wsu.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 3:40 PM
To: Richards, Chris
Subject: Peter not registered, can not load RE: Abstract for DivSeek talk at PAG

Hi Chris:

Unable to enter until Peter registers for PAG. I tried using Hannes as the presenting author, he is not registered either.
Clare

-----Original Message-----

From: Richards, Chris [mailto:Chris.Richards@ars.usda.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 9:03 AM
To: Coyne, Clarice; Coyne, Clarice J
Subject: FW: Abstract for DivSeek talk at PAG

Here is the abstract....can you enter it?

Cheers,
C.

-----Original Message-----

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2014 3:46 PM
To: Coyne, Clarice (Clarice.Coyne@ARS.USDA.GOV)
Subject: FW: Abstract for DivSeek talk at PAG

Attached is Peter's abstract for PAG.

C.

-----Original Message-----

From: crichard [mailto:crichard@lamar.colostate.edu]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2014 9:01 AM
To: Richards, Chris

Subject: Fwd: Abstract for DivSeek talk at PAG

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Abstract for DivSeek talk at PAG

Date: Fri, 24 Oct 2014 17:34:36 -0500

From: Peter Wenzl <[REDACTED]>

To: Chris Richards <crichard@lamar.colostate.edu>

Cc: Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>

Hi Chris,

Many thanks for inviting us to give a seminar about DivSeek at PAG - very much appreciated! I'm attaching the abstract for the talk. Please don't hesitate contacting us in case you've any further questions.

Best regards,

Peter

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2014 7:00 AM
To: Chris Richards
Subject: Re: iDiv Call

Hi Chris,

OK, yeah it would have been a bit of a stretch to make it work ahead of the deadline still. [REDACTED] inquiring whether an extension to the deadline is at all possible (and I'll let you know in case this is possible).

I follow your train of thought, but would have hoped that a workshop with some of the key experts could help tackle these questions and come up with a game plan. Do you think this would be worthwhile considering still (with or without iDiv)?

If you get a chance, it would be great if you could still briefly summarize last week's call, so we can share it with Tom and Michael.

Cheers,
Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
Scientist and Project Manager
Global Crop Diversity Trust
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 7
53113 Bonn, Germany
Office: +49 228 85427 115
Mobile: [REDACTED]
www.croptrust.org

Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Mon, Nov 10, 2014 at 10:35 PM, Chris Richards <crichard@lamar.colostate.edu> wrote:

Hey Hannes-

yes the PAG workshop Genomics of Genebanks is Saturday January 10th 10:30-12:30

wrt the iDiv proposal: short answer is we have no hope of preparing a 45 page fleshed out proposal for the third sDiv call by the end of the week! I have no post-doc in mind and have no focused agenda for a workshop with confirmed speakers.

I think the framework they lay out is applicable to this question, I just think that it's a bit premature to craft our ideas into a coherent proposal.

In the course of our conversation on Wednesday, I realized that you guys need a rather short-term proximal answer to a much more complicated theoretical question. The issue revolves around making inferences about sampling coverage and representativeness...but the units of that variation have to be defined...and they are not SNPs! Even the issue of figuring out what fraction of worldwide landraces of a crop are thorny..even defining what a landrace is let along what measures of diversity we are thinking about (quantitative, standard descriptor data, molecular, geographic) needs some focus.

I'll keep thinking about this as a project. My sense is that Tom Paine's idea of Using out Vulnerability Report on Malus as a template would serve as a short term solution to the metric you need. Long term solution that is more conceptually based, however requires some more discussion.

Cheers,

Chris

From: Hannes Dempewolf [mailto:hannes.dempewolf@cropptrust.org]

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2014 8:51 AM

To: crichard

Subject: Re: iDiv Call

Hi Chris,

Attached the two proposals. As I had mentioned, please don't pass them on further.

Note that the "sUMMITDiv" one was NOT successful in getting the postdoc funded because the reviewers said there wasn't enough justification for it. Also it was criticized for being too vague. However, they did manage to get the funding for the workshop.

The Tundra diversity one was fully successful and is in fact the project under which [REDACTED]

Cheers,

Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
Scientist and Project Manager
Global Crop Diversity Trust
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 7
53113 Bonn, Germany
Office: +49 228 85427 115
Mobile: [REDACTED]
www.croptrust.org

Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Mon, Nov 10, 2014 at 4:23 PM, Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org> wrote:

OK, sounds good. Will send those to you asap.

Btw, can you confirm that the Genomics of Genebanks workshop will take place on Saturday, 10th?

Beautiful fall weather at a consistent 10C here!

Cheers,
Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
Scientist and Project Manager
Global Crop Diversity Trust
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 7
53113 Bonn, Germany
Office: +49 228 85427 115
Mobile: [REDACTED]
www.croptrust.org

Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Mon, Nov 10, 2014 at 4:15 PM, crichard <crichard@lamar.colostate.edu> wrote:

Great.

I'm also going to work up my notes and pull together some text.

C.

Whacky mid continent weather here...hi yesterday was 21 C high tomorrow is -10C!

On Sun, 9 Nov 2014 18:25:16 +0100, Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org> wrote:

Hi Chris,

OK, sounds good. [REDACTED] can also share with us (confidentially) some previously successful proposals, so we can have a look at what would be required. Let me know if you think this would be useful.

Cheers,
Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
Scientist and Project Manager
Global Crop Diversity Trust
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 7
53113 Bonn, Germany
Office: +49 228 85427 115
Mobile: [REDACTED]
www.croptrust.org [1]

Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Sun, Nov 9, 2014 at 4:44 PM, crichard wrote:

Hey Hannes-

Let me have a look and see what would be entailed. Nothing like a deadline to get ya hopping!

Cheers,
Chris

On Sun, 9 Nov 2014 09:39:42 +0100, Hannes Dempewolf wrote:
Hi Chris,

Thanks for the call last week! I think I mentioned the NCEAS type structure in Germany, called iDiv (in Leipzig). I just checked out their website and they have an open call for proposals for workshops and project ideas for biodiversity related questions. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] thinks we would have good chances to get funding for a crop diversity project. IPK is part of iDiv btw, so we would probably be well advised to bring someone like Nils Stein or Andreas

Graner on board. Unfortunately the deadline is at the end of this week.... <http://www.idiv-biodiversity.de/sdiv/calls> [4] [1]

Your thoughts?

Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
Scientist and Project Manager
Global Crop Diversity Trust
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 7
53113 Bonn, Germany
Office: +49 228 85427 115 [5]
Mobile: [REDACTED] [6]
www.croptrust.org [7] [2]

Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

Links:

- [1] <http://www.idiv-biodiversity.de/sdiv/calls> [8]
- [2] <http://www.croptrust.org> [9]

Links:

- [1] <http://www.croptrust.org>
- [2] <mailto:crichard@lamar.colostate.edu>
- [3] <mailto:hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>
- [4] <http://www.idiv-biodiversity.de/sdiv/calls>
- [5] <http://acnsmail.colostate.edu/tel:%2B49%20228%2085427%20115>
- [6] <http://acnsmail.colostate.edu/tel:%2B49%20171%201839227>
- [7] <http://www.croptrust.org>
- [8] <http://www.idiv-biodiversity.de/sdiv/calls>
- [9] <http://www.croptrust.org>

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2014 3:44 PM
To: Richards, Chris
Subject: Re: DivSeek

Hi Chris,

Thanks for your note. I have heard from Peter at the beginning of the week, where he also told me that they were still trying to figure out who should sign... I think it'll be fine if it still gets signed in mid November, though the USDA won't be listed in the first announcement that we'll be sending out mid next week. Btw, we have now cracked the 60 mark! BGI and EMBRAPA just both joined today.

Charlotte just told me that she was called to attend an urgent meeting in Brussels on Wednesday. I hope we'll still be able to go ahead with the call, but there is chance we may have to reschedule again. Either way, I'll let you know.

Have a good weekend and 'enjoy' Halloween....!
Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
Scientist and Project Manager
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53113 Bonn, Germany
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Mobile: [REDACTED]
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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Fri, Oct 31, 2014 at 7:00 PM, Richards, Chris <Chris.Richards@ars.usda.gov> wrote:

Dear Hannes-

It appears the Dr. Bretting is still trying to determine who should sign DivSeek's non-binding expression of interest. He has told me that he won't have time to deal with it until he's back in the office November 10th. Have you gotten any correspondence from him on this matter? I'm not sure why this is so difficult, but I thought I'd pass along this information even though today is the deadline for signing.

I'll speak to you next Wednesday via Skype.

Cheers,

Chris

Christopher Richards, Ph.D.

Population Geneticist

United States Department of Agriculture

National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation

Colorado State University

1111 South Mason Street

Fort Collins, CO 80521

USA

Chris.richards@colostate.edu

970 495 3201

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/pandp/people/people.htm?personid=42033>

<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-9978-6079>

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Hutchison, Stasia

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2014 2:25 PM
To: Richards, Chris
Subject: Re: DivSeek

Exactly, thanks. I communicated that to Hannes.

Peter

Peter Bretting
National Program Leader
USDA/ARS Office of National Programs
George Washington Carver Center
4-2212, Mailstop 5139
Beltsville, MD 20705-5139
301-504-5541
Cell [REDACTED]
peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov

On Oct 31, 2014, at 11:04 AM, Richards, Chris <Chris.Richards@ars.usda.gov> wrote:

Hi Peter-

For the record, Dr. Walters only said that there will be no signing of the document by their deadline (today). I misspoke in my earlier email.

C.

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2014 11:06 AM
To: Richards, Chris
Cc: Buckler, Ed
Subject: Re: DivSeek

No, that's incorrect. We are simply trying to identify whom should sign for ARS. Kay and I are both traveling until the week after next so cannot make much progress on it until we're back in the office.

Peter (at PGO in Davis)

Peter Bretting
National Program Leader
USDA/ARS Office of National Programs
George Washington Carver Center
4-2212, Mailstop 5139
Beltsville, MD 20705-5139
301-504-5541
Cell [REDACTED]
peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov

On Oct 31, 2014, at 9:10 AM, Richards, Chris <Chris.Richards@ars.usda.gov> wrote:

Hi Peter

I have heard indirectly from Chris Walters that there will be no signature on the non-binding expression of interest in DivSeek from the USDA.

I assume this has to do with the numerous IP and litigious aspects of the initiative rather than the scientific merit. Does this decision affect in any way how individual USDA researchers interact or contribute to this initiative in the future (e.g. case studies proposed in the initiative)?

Do you envision any USDA led initiative that could provide an alternative strategy to link the physical holdings of NPGS to digital genomic data soon to arrive across a number of non-model taxa in the NPGS?

I'm especially interested in how collections can prepare for this kind of genetic characterization by creating research lines (reducing intra accession heterogeneity) from wild accessions. This is a tough issue and hinges on decisions about sampling diverse materials.

Cheers,
Chris

Christopher Richards, Ph.D.

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<http://orcid.org/0000-0002-9978-6079>

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2014 2:00 PM
To: Hannes Dempewolf (hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org)
Subject: DivSeek

Dear Hannes-

It appears the Dr. Bretting is still trying to determine who should sign DivSeek's non-binding expression of interest. He has told me that he won't have time to deal with it until he's back in the office November 10th. Have you gotten any correspondence from him on this matter? I'm not sure why this is so difficult, but I thought I'd pass along this information even though today is the deadline for signing.

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Hutchison, Stasia

From: Richards, Chris
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2014 1:17 PM
To: Bretting, Peter
Subject: RE: DivSeek

Oh, OK. Obviously there's more to this than I thought.

Enjoy the Curator's meeting and CSSA.

Cheers,
C.

From: Bretting, Peter
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2014 11:06 AM
To: Richards, Chris
Cc: Buckler, Ed
Subject: Re: DivSeek

No, that's incorrect. We are simply trying to identify whom should sign for ARS. Kay and I are both traveling until the week after next so cannot make much progress on it until we're back in the office.

Peter (at PGOC in Davis)

Peter Bretting
National Program Leader
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4-2212, Mailstop 5139
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301-504-5541
Cell [REDACTED]
peter.bretting@ars.usda.gov

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I assume this has to do with the numerous IP and litigious aspects of the initiative rather than the scientific merit. Does this decision affect in any way how individual USDA researchers interact or contribute to this initiative in the future (e.g. case studies proposed in the initiative)?

Do you envision any USDA led initiative that could provide an alternative strategy to link the physical holdings of NPGS to digital genomic data soon to arrive across a number of non-model taxa in the NPGS? I'm especially interested in how collections can prepare for this kind of genetic characterization by creating research lines (reducing intra accession heterogeneity) from wild accessions. This is a tough issue and hinges on decisions about sampling diverse materials.

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2014 11:59 AM
To: Richards, Chris
Subject: Re: DivSeek LOI

well, that would be great! We are now at 45 signatories! :-)

Hannes

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On Mon, Oct 27, 2014 at 4:58 PM, Richards, Chris <Chris.Richards@ars.usda.gov> wrote:

OK, Just talked to Cary Fowler who is here about it. I working on plan B here, but it WILL be signed☺

C.

From: Hannes Dempewolf [<mailto:hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2014 9:47 AM
To: Richards, Chris
Subject: Re: DivSeek LOI

Hi Chris,

No, we have not yet received a letter from the USDA. I was planning to follow up with Peter the next couple of days...

Hannes

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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Mon, Oct 27, 2014 at 4:36 PM, Richards, Chris <Chris.Richards@ars.usda.gov> wrote:

Hey Hannes-

Has USDA signed this non-binding letter of interest yet?

I'm wondering since the deadline is Friday and Dr. Bretting is off the Davis, CA for the annual Plant Germplasm Operations Committee meeting which will consume all of his attention.

Cheers,

C.

Christopher Richards, Ph.D.

Population Geneticist

United States Department of Agriculture

National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation

Colorado State University

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Fort Collins, CO 80521

USA

Chris.richards@colostate.edu

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Hutchison, Stasia

From: crichard <crichard@lamar.colostate.edu>
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2014 11:01 AM
To: Richards, Chris
Subject: Fwd: Abstract for DivSeek talk at PAG
Attachments: DivSeek abstract for San Diego (final).docx

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Abstract for DivSeek talk at PAG

Date: Fri, 24 Oct 2014 17:34:36 -0500

From: Peter Wenzl <[REDACTED]>

To: Chris Richards <crichard@lamar.colostate.edu>

Cc: Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>

Hi Chris,

Many thanks for inviting us to give a seminar about DivSeek at PAG - very much appreciated! I'm attaching the abstract for the talk. Please don't hesitate contacting us in case you've any further questions.

Best regards,

Peter

Diversity Seek (DivSeek): Towards a concerted effort to harness the genetic potential of the world's genebanks

Peter Wenzl¹, Ruth Bastow², Hannes Dempewolf¹, Daniele Manzella³, Francisco Lopez³ and Wayne Powell⁴

¹ Global Crop Diversity Trust, ² Global Plant Council, ³ International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, ⁴ CGIAR Consortium Office

Global genebanks hold approximately seven million different crop accessions. Crop improvement ultimately depends on the genetic variation contained in these accessions. To this date, efforts to mobilize some of this variation into breeding programs have been limited when compared to the size of this global resource. Yet over the last several years it has become clear that novel diversity from genetic resources will be required to develop climate-ready, high-yielding and nutritious varieties to feed growing populations. In parallel, game-changing next-generation sequencing technologies and large-scale phenotyping techniques have become broadly available. The Diversity Seek initiative (DivSeek; <http://divseek.org>) started as a community-driven movement aiming at leveraging these technologies alongside big-data approaches to unlock the genetic potential of crop diversity. DivSeek is intended to operate as an 'umbrella platform' supporting a network of like-minded crop-specific projects harnessing genetic resources. As such, DivSeek proposes to (a) stimulate common data standards that enable interoperability of data repositories and information integration; (b) provide networking and cross-crop learning opportunities to rapidly incorporate lessons learned; (c) facilitate access to a portfolio of genomics and software platforms for those who otherwise do not have easy access; and (d) promote a broadly accepted framework for 'rights management' which helps individual projects comply with data access and sharing principles, and incentivize the development of derivative materials and knowledge.

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 12:28 PM
To: Chris Richards
Subject: Re: skype call on genepool coverage of ex situ collections

cool. thanks!

Hannes Dempewolf
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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Wed, Oct 22, 2014 at 5:57 PM, Chris Richards <crichard@lamar.colostate.edu> wrote:

<http://www.centerforplantconservation.org/>

North American native plants, mostly.

C.

From: Hannes Dempewolf [<mailto:hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 9:49 AM

To: Chris Richards
Subject: Re: skype call on genepool coverage of ex situ collections

who are they?

Hannes Dempewolf
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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Wed, Oct 22, 2014 at 5:45 PM, Chris Richards <crichard@lamar.colostate.edu> wrote:

The Center for Plant Conservation.

C.

From: Hannes Dempewolf [<mailto:hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 9:43 AM
To: Chris Richards

Subject: Re: skype call on genepool coverage of ex situ collections

Ok, great! Ex situ genetics meeting sounds interesting! Who is organizing it?

H

Hannes Dempewolf
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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Wed, Oct 22, 2014 at 5:33 PM, Chris Richards <crichard@lamar.colostate.edu> wrote:

Hey Hannes-

OK, Wednesday I'll be in San Diego (San Diego Zoo ex situ genetics meeting). I can Skype therefore at 7:00 PDT.

Cheers,

C.

From: Hannes Dempewolf [<mailto:hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 8:23 AM

To: crichard

Subject: Re: skype call on genepool coverage of ex situ collections

We can't do Monday since it's our donor council meeting. The suggestion now is Wednesday...?

H

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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Wed, Oct 22, 2014 at 4:21 PM, crichard <crichard@lamar.colostate.edu> wrote:

On Wed, 22 Oct 2014 12:29:24 +0200, Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org> wrote:

Good on Monday....traveling on Tuesday

Dear all,

It seems like not all of us can make the proposed date and time. I therefore suggest we reschedule to the same time (4pm Bonn time (3pm Ibadan, 9am Mexico City, 8am Fort Collins)) either on Tuesday, the 4th of November or Wednesday, the 5th of November.

Please let me know if you would be available then.
Thanks,

Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

On Tue, Oct 21, 2014 at 10:16 AM, Hannes Dempewolf wrote:

Dear Michael, Tom and Chris,

Charlotte mentioned that at the AGM you had some interesting discussions around the question of what could be a reasonable target for genepool coverage of ex situ collections? We had also been discussing related issues with Chris Richards (USDA) and were thinking it would make sense to have a bit of a discussion via skype to explore some of the ways that this question could be tackled.

It seems like Friday the 31st of October would be a good date for a call, since we are all in office then. Would this also work for you? Say 4pm Bonn time (3pm Ibadan, 9am Mexico City, 8am Fort Collins)?

Please let me know.

Thanks,
Hannes

Hannes Dempewolf
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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

Links:

-
- [1] <http://www.croptrust.org>
 - [2] <mailto:hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>
 - [3] <http://acnsmail.colostate.edu/tel:%2B49%20228%2085427%20115>
 - [4] <http://acnsmail.colostate.edu/tel:%2B49%20171%201839227>
 - [5] <http://www.croptrust.org>

Hutchison, Stasia

From: Hannes Dempewolf <hannes.dempewolf@croptrust.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 11:49 AM
To: Chris Richards
Subject: Re: skype call on genepool coverage of ex situ collections

who are they?

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Conserving Crop Diversity, Forever

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The Center for Plant Conservation.

C.

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Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 9:43 AM
To: Chris Richards

Subject: Re: skype call on genepool coverage of ex situ collections

Ok, great! Ex situ genetics meeting sounds interesting! Who is organizing it?

H

duplicate email trail deleted