



Pig Genome Update

No. 44 September 1, 2000

The 27th International Conference on Animal Genetics met in Minneapolis July 22-26, amid fears of problems from protesters. The meetings were attended by over 600 scientists and featured many excellent workshops, presentations and posters. Of special note were the comparative gene mapping workshop, the individual species workshops and the invited speakers' presentations. Presentations at the workshops featured advances in EST discovery, QTL and individual gene discoveries affecting several traits, bioinformatics advances and methodology related to new discoveries. In many of the presentations it was clear that emphasis has now centered on not only the genetics but also the physiology of individual traits and disorders. The large number of excellent posters demonstrated the incredible progress that researchers in the Society have made since the last meeting. Amid all this science was the threat of disruption by local protesters who appeared to be unhappy with some aspects of the reported research. Thanks to tight security and a massive effort by local law enforcement the meetings themselves were not disrupted and problems caused by the protesters were kept to a minimum. We extend a special thanks to our hosts from the University of Minnesota and the City of Minneapolis for their efforts to make this a successful conference.

The joint meeting of the American Society of Animal Science and the American Dairy Science Association also recently met. The meeting was attended by over 3,000 scientists and their families in Baltimore. One of the outstanding sessions was a joint symposium entitled "From Genome to Function: Application of Genomics/Functional Genomics to Animal Agriculture" which featured talks on genomic techniques, database management, transgenics and cloning, genomics related to several species, industry perspectives and commercialization of technology and products. Additional oral and poster sessions included excellent posters and talks on new gene discoveries and QTL methodology and results. Abstracts for the talks have been published and are available through the Journal of Animal Science.

The European Animal Production Conference had its annual meeting in The Hague, the Netherlands in late August. The meeting was attended by over 600 scientists including about 25 individuals from the US. The sessions featured a number of sessions devoted to gene identification results, gene mapping and QTL methodology and results. The quality of the presented papers, especially those on swine QTL and those devoted to molecular genetics was excellent. Abstracts have been published in a volume of proceedings. Next year's meeting will be in Hungary followed by the EAAP meeting in 2002 in Cairo.

New projects or ideas for projects that can be supported by the Pig Genome Coordinator funds are always being considered. If you have an idea that will benefit the pig genome community, then drop me an email (mfrothsc@iastate.edu) to discuss your proposed ideas. These can include support of conferences, preparation of mapping or genomics materials or funds to support worthwhile travel.

Updating Web Pages! Like any information we generate, it sometimes becomes old. If you find information that is out of date on our Pig Genome Web pages, please send us a note so that we can work to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the web page.

You need to be a member. Everyone must please subscribe to ANGENMAP prior to posting a message to the discussion group. This is because we want to eliminate junk mail that comes from non-subscribers. To join please see <http://www.genome.iastate.edu/community/angenmap-info.html>.

The Plant & Animal Genome IX (PAG-IX) and the NRSP-8 meetings are only 4 months away. Early registration deadline is November 3, 2000 and can be found at <http://www.intl-pag.org> . The abstract deadline is October 13, 2000 and abstracts can be submitted at <http://www.intl-pag.org/pag/abstracts.html> . Some funds may exist to support travel of qualified US pig genome participants so please contact me at mfrothsc@iastate.edu if you are in need of some support. All questions on the conference can be directed towards Scherago International at pag@schherago.com .

Upcoming meetings (for more details see: <http://www.genome.iastate.edu/community/meetings.html>)

Animal Biotechnology Workshop, October 11-13, 2000, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China. Contact Ning Li at nlingbau@public3.bta.net.cn

Cambridge Healthtech Institute's 2nd Annual Application of Genomics to Animal Models for Pharmaceutical Studies, November 15-16, 2000, Boston, Massachusetts, Contact Jennifer Laakso at jlaakso@healthtech.com

Plant and Animal Genome IX, joint with the NAGRP annual meetings, January 14-17, 2001, Town & Country Convention Center, San Diego, CA. See: <http://www.intl-pag.org/>

Additional items can be found at: <http://www.agbiotechnet.com/calendar/index.asp>

Items for *Pig Genome Update 45* can be sent to me by no later than October 10 please.

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