

Panel discussion on the role of on-line training to motivate and support learning in quantitative genetics and genomics

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Summary

There is a global need for advanced training in quantitative genetics and genomics. An approach for achieving that aim is to share resources and capacities across-institutions to develop and deliver high-quality instruction to traditional and non-traditional students alike. Such cohesion can only be achieved through an international initiative able to connect with and synchronize students and instructors dispersed over vast distances. It also should bridge diverse cultural and traditional ways of learning and instructing. Key considerations for establishing a framework for such a partnership include i) program infrastructure and administration ii) curriculum content, quality and accreditation, and iii) personal mentoring. This panel discussion will draw together individuals with expertise in on-line training, reflecting diverse global perspectives. The objective will be to encourage input and dialog among those attending the session regarding the suitability and relevance of distance-delivery programs within their educational environment. A goal of the session will be to establish a consortium of individuals wishing to combine their expertise, and existing and new distance-delivered course work, in a manner accessible to an international audience.

Keywords: global partnership, on-line training, panel discussion, infrastructure, mentoring