



## **Pig Genome Update No. 47 March 1, 2001**

**Another successful Plant and Animal Genome (PAG IX) meeting was held in San Diego this last January.** The meeting was attended by over 1,700 individuals and featured invited papers on technology, advances in our understanding of different genomes and a large number of animal, plant, microbe and technology workshops. Plans are already underway for the PAG X meeting. The meeting will run from Saturday to Wednesday (January 12-16, 2002). At this point organizers may consider scheduling a few workshops on Friday night (11 January). The microbe sessions (lectures and workshops) will be fitted into the current time slots from Sunday to Wednesday. Plans for speakers are now being made. If you have suggestions, please pass them along to the organizers.

**The fifth annual Swine Workshop for the NRSP-8 Swine Genome Committee** and other attendees was held in conjunction with the Plant and Animal Genome IX conference in San Diego on January 14, 2001 and was organized by Cathy Ernst. Invited presentations were given by Max Rothschild from Iowa State University ("A complete genome scan for growth and meat quality traits in the pig"), Jon Beaver from the University of Illinois ("Monitoring gene expression throughout skeletal muscle development in swine"), Chris Tuggle from Iowa State University ("Update on development of resources for functional genomics in the pig") and Scott Fahrenkrug from USDA-MARC ("Pig genetic comparative mapping with EST-associated SNPs"). Nearly 100 attendees were present for the speaker portion of the workshop. During the remainder of the workshop, station reports were presented by the NRSP-8 Swine Genome Committee members. Significant progress was reported in the areas of comparative mapping, EST development and QTL identification. The new officers for the NRSP-8 Swine Genome Committee are Jon Beaver (chair) and Max Rothschild (secretary). Ideas for speakers for next year's meeting should be sent to them (kindly provided by Cathy Ernst).

**Congratulations.** This year's winner of the Neal A. Jorgensen Genome Travel Award for swine was Charles Farber, previously from Michigan State University and now a new student at the University of California at Davis. He received a \$300 travel award and complementary registration from US Pig Genome Coordination Program.

**The 2001 Gordon Research Conference On Quantitative Genetics and Genomics was recently held in Ventura, California.** The meeting was attended by nearly 150 people and featured speakers with bioinformatics, plant, human and animal research interests. A number of cutting edge projects were presented. The conference does not allow participants to publish about meeting but speakers are encourage to add materials to the web site. For details on the program and speakers please see the Gordon Conference www site at: [WWW.GRC.URI.EDU](http://WWW.GRC.URI.EDU) . This site should have several items that will likely be posted in the next few weeks from the speakers.

**Where are we headed ??** This continues to be one of the questions asked often by scientists and administrators in the field of genomics. Certainly a lot has happened in the past year, including dramatic gene discoveries, advances in human genomics and bioinformatics. This newsletter has tried to keep up with cutting edge developments. If you have interesting ideas to add in the field of animal genetics and want some "press" please let me know. There is usually room to add your topics.

**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](mailto: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.

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

Midwestern American Society of Animal Science Annual Meeting, March 19-21, 2001 at the Polk County Convention Center, Des Moines, Iowa. For information please contact Dr. Alan L. Grant, Purdue University at [agrant@purdue.edu](mailto:agrant@purdue.edu)

GM2001: Human Genome Meeting April 19-22, 2001 at Edinburgh, Scotland. For information please contact HGM2001 at [hgm2001@hgu.mrc.ac.uk](mailto:hgm2001@hgu.mrc.ac.uk)

The Sixth International Conference on Pig Reproduction, June 3-6, 2001 at the University of Missouri-Columbia. For information please contact Dr. Randall S. Prather at [PratherR@Missouri.Edu](mailto:PratherR@Missouri.Edu)

The Sixth International Veterinary Immunology Symposium, July 15-20, 2001 at Uppsala, Sweden. For information please contact: [ivis@slu.se](mailto:ivis@slu.se)

12th North American Colloquium on Animal Cytogenetics and Gene Mapping, July 15-19, 2001 at the University of California, Davis CA. For information please contact: [animalcyto@vgl.ucdavis.edu](mailto:animalcyto@vgl.ucdavis.edu) or <http://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu/research/cytoconf/>

International Animal Agriculture and Food Science Conference July 24-28, 2001, Indianapolis, Indiana. This is the Joint Annual Meeting of the American Dairy Science Association, American Society of Animal Science, Poultry Science Association, Reciprocal Meat Conference of the American Meat Science. For information please contact Federation of Animal Science Societies at [fass01@assochq.org](mailto:fass01@assochq.org)

The 14th Conference of the Association for the Advancement of Animal Breeding and Genetics, July 30 - August 2, 2001, Queenstown, New Zealand. For information please contact Dr. Ken Dodds at [doddsk@agresearch.cri.nz](mailto:doddsk@agresearch.cri.nz)

Plant and Animal Genome X January 12-16, 2002 at the Town and Country Convention Center, San Diego, CA. For information please contact D. Sherago, Sherago International at [darrins@scherago.com](mailto:darrins@scherago.com)

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

**Items for *Pig Genome Update 48*** can be sent to me by no later than April 10 please.

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