Alliance of Genome Resources

A Lesson in Resource Integration and Sustainability



Kimberly M. Van Auken, PhD
Alliance of Genome Resources
ACKnowledge
Gene Ontology Consortium
WormBase

Thursday, May 15th, 2025



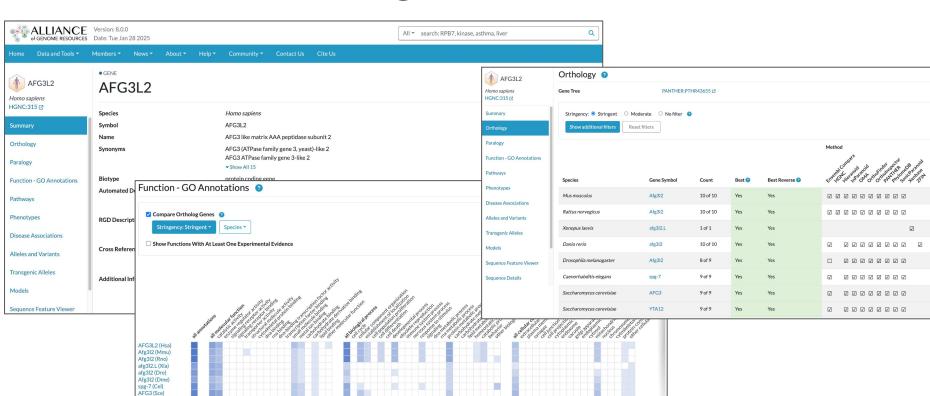
Alliance of Genome Resources:

a consortium of seven model organism knowledgebases and the Gene Ontology





Common, extensible platform for unified model organism and human data



Cell color indicative of annotation volume

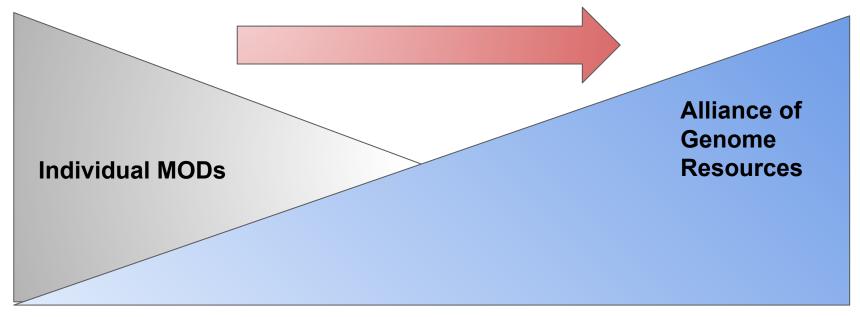
Why did the Alliance form?

- Changes to funding priorities
- Desire for shared user experience (website, programmatic)
- Promote further data standardization
- Reduce redundant infrastructure, introduce new efficiencies

When and how did the Alliance form?

- NHGRI urged MODs and GOC to restructure organization, management, infrastructure - early 2016
- Initial concept from MODs and GOC presented to NHGRI -May 2016
- Formal proposal funded for first steps of integration work -September 2016

Approach: systematic harmonization and migration of data and software infrastructure

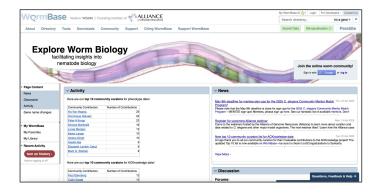


Core infrastructure of a model organism knowledgebase

Data store

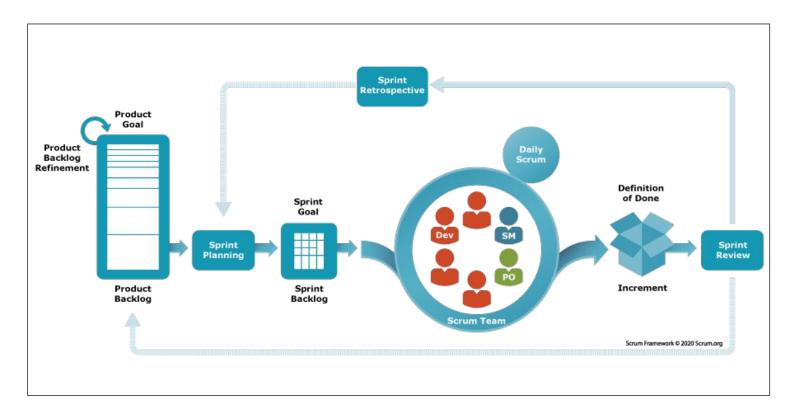


- API
- Website
 - data pages
 - analysis tools
 - file downloads
- Curation pipelines and tools

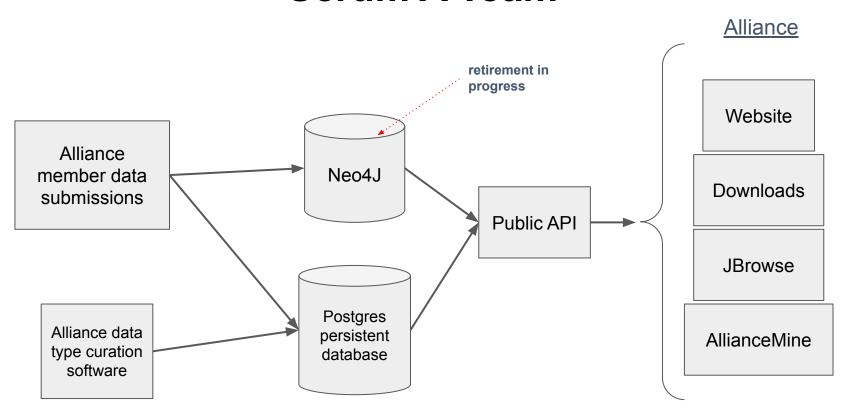


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57761	Chris	WBPaper00033064	sick	NOT	flp-18(db99) meta	flp-18(db99) mutants were viable, developed normally, and appeared healthy.		db99		Predicted_null_via_sequent
57762	Chris	WBPaper00033064	fat content increased		flp-18(db99) mutant animals exhibited 1.5- to 2-fold higher intestinal fat staining compared		• d199		Predicted_null_via_sequent	
57763	Chris	WBPaper00033064	pharyngeal pumping rate variant	NOT	Increased intestinal fat in flp-18 mutants was not associated with changes in the rates of		• db99		Predicted_null_vis_sequence	
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57765	Chris	WBPaper00033064	brood size variant	NOT	flp-18 mutants also had wild-type brood sizes and were not sluggish (data not shown; s		sluggish (data not shown; see	• d199		Predicted_null_via_sequence
57766	Chris	WBPaper00033064	fewer oggs had	NOT	Increased intestina	Increased intestinal fat in flp-18 matants was not associated with changes		• db99		Predicted_null_vis_sequent
57767	Chris	WBPaper00033064	sleggish	NOT	flp-18 mutants also had wild-type brood sizes and were not sluggish (data not shown; see		- d169		Predicted null via segreno	

Approach: Agile and Scrum methodologies

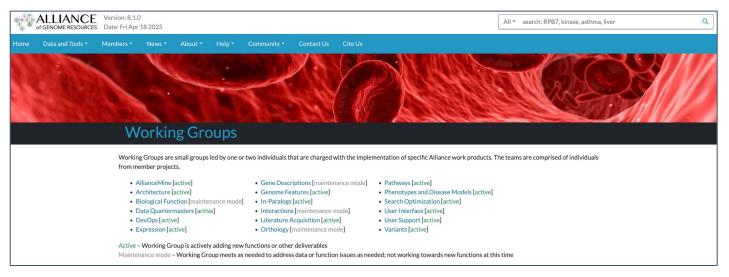


Database, Website, Data Curation: Scrum A Team



Alliance member data submissions

- Identify what types of data to include
- Understand how each member group curates that data
- Design and implement a harmonized data model
- Submit data to the central data store using that model



https://www.alliancegenome.org/working-groups

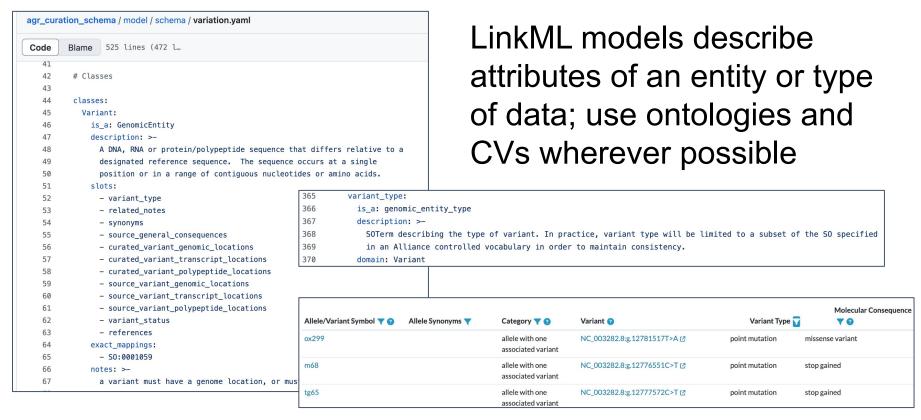
Alliance data models: LinkML

- Linked Data Modeling Language (LinkML)
- Data submitted in JSON format by MOD data quarter masters (DQMs)
- Validation and consistency checks upon loading



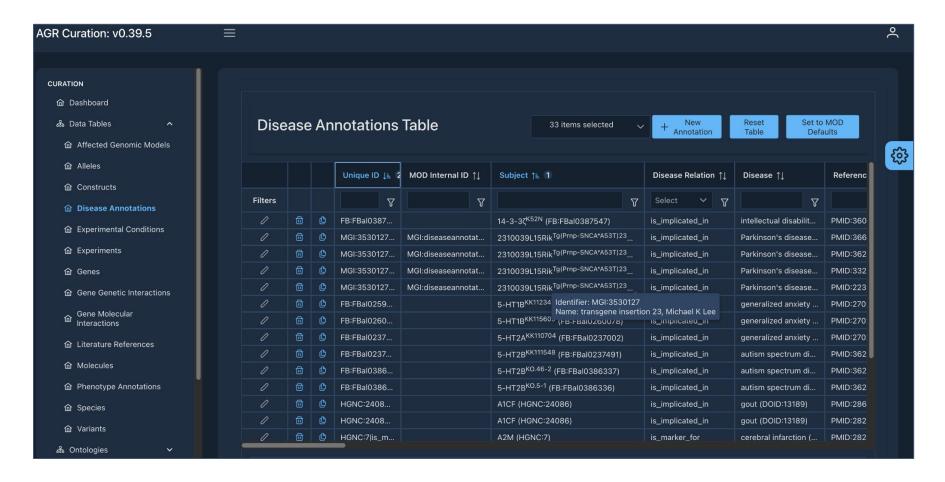
https://linkml.io/linkml/intro/overview.html

Alliance LinkML model for variants

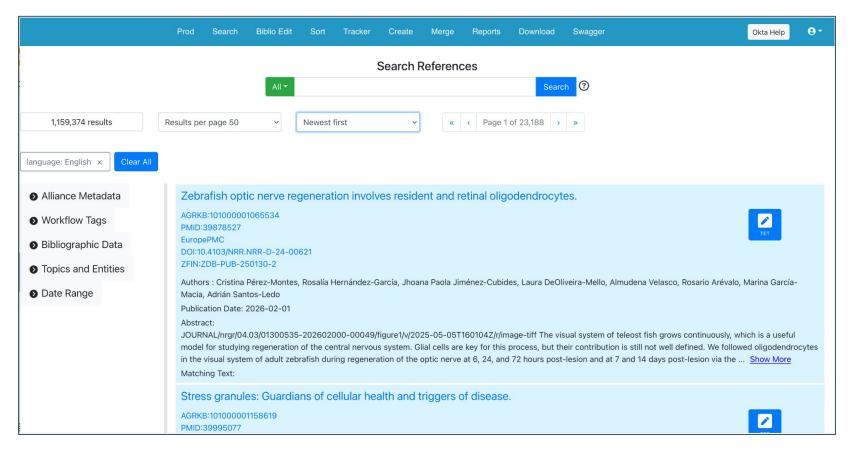


https://github.com/alliance-genome/agr_curation_schema

Alliance Data Curation Tools



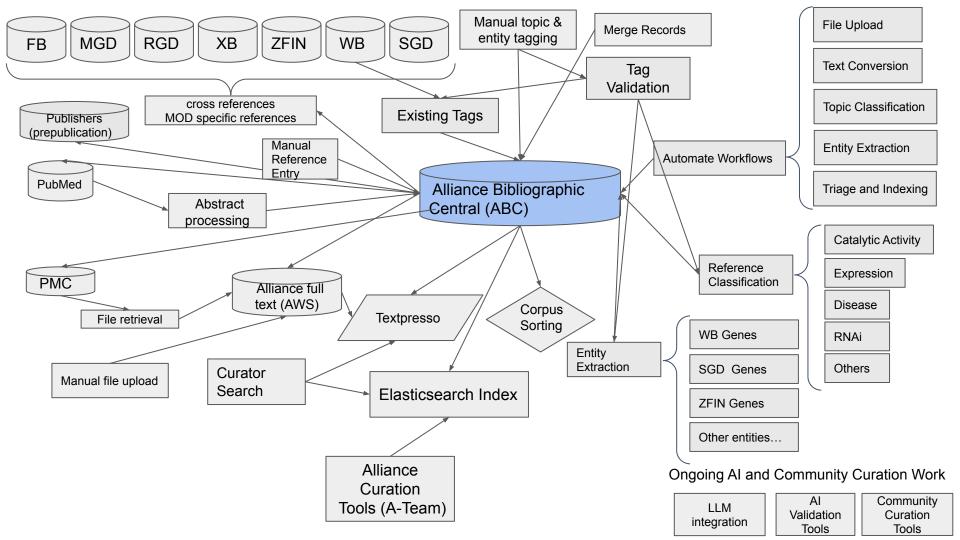
Alliance Bibliography Central: Scrum Blue Team

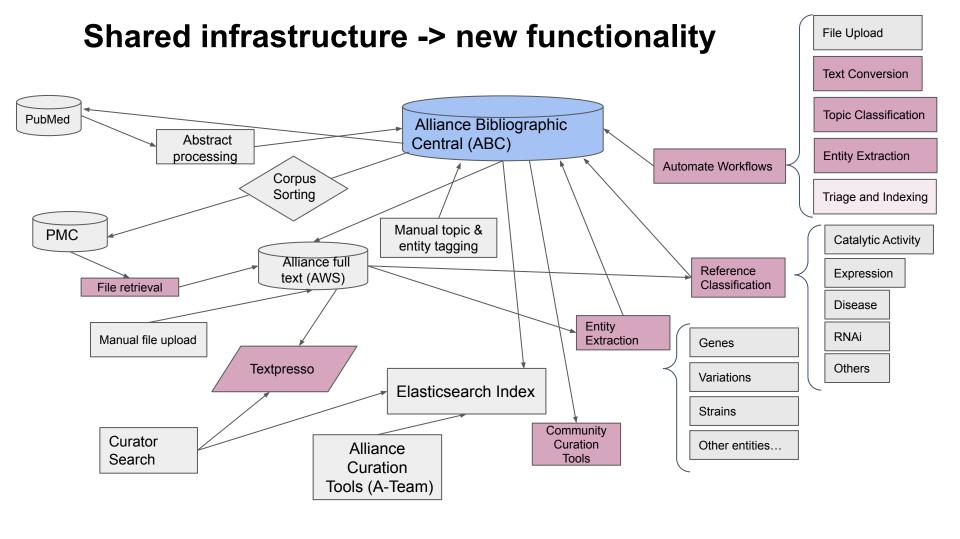


Alliance Bibliography Central: multiple working groups contribute to development

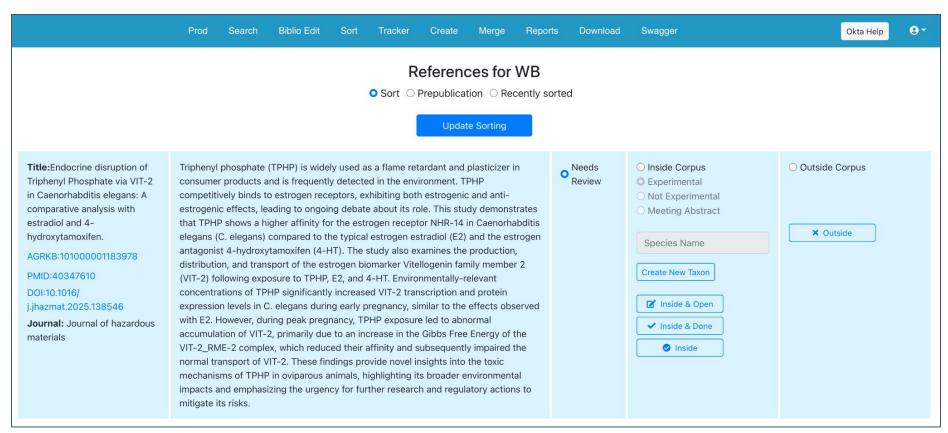
Requirements Gathering:

- Literature Acquisition Working Group (LAWG) curators and developers representing MODs, meets every other week
- Metadata Modeling Group subset of LAWG, meets weekly
- Search Working Group subset of LAWG, meets every other week
- Al Working Group curators and developers who are interested in LLM/ML/NLP, meets weekly

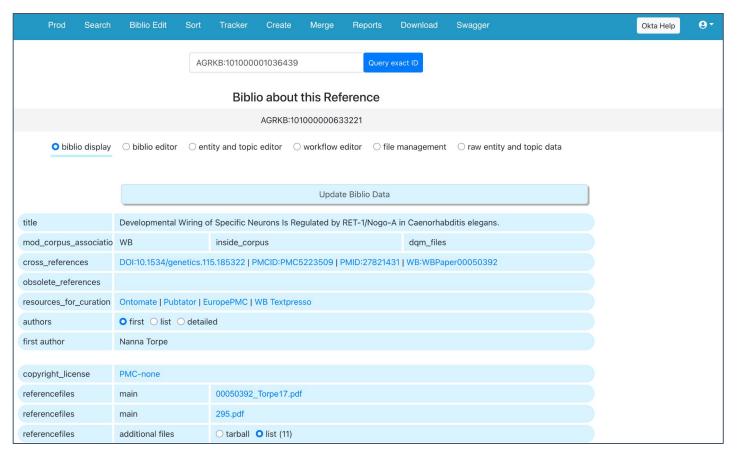




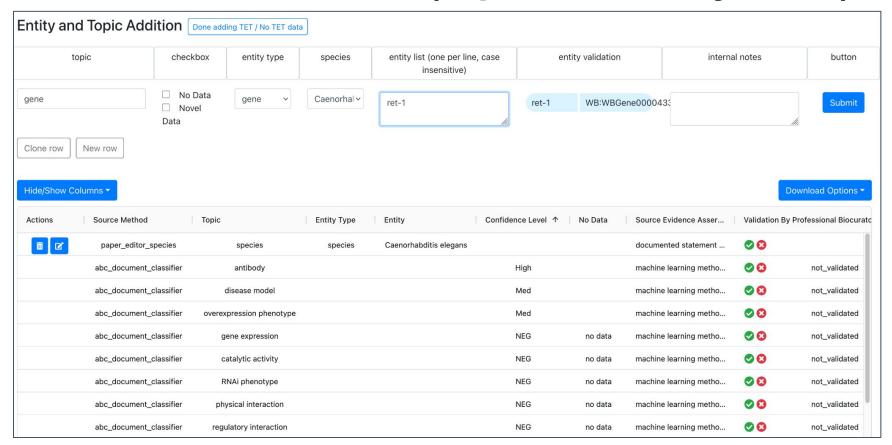
Sorting inside corpus: automated PubMed searches and metadata addition



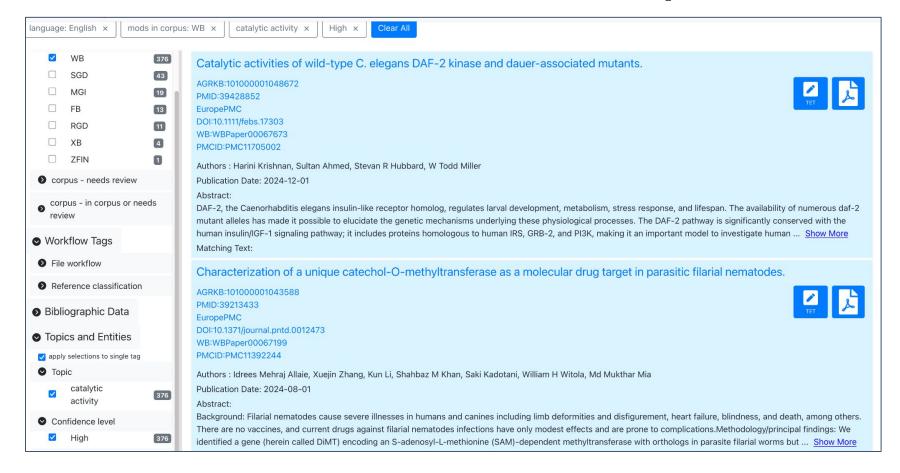
Each paper has links to external resources and access to full text when available



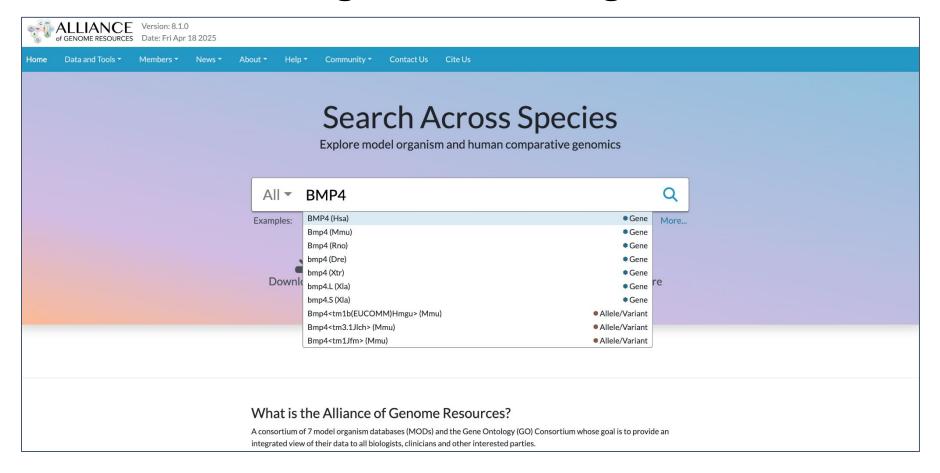
Manual and automated flagging methods are collected in the TET (topic and entity table)



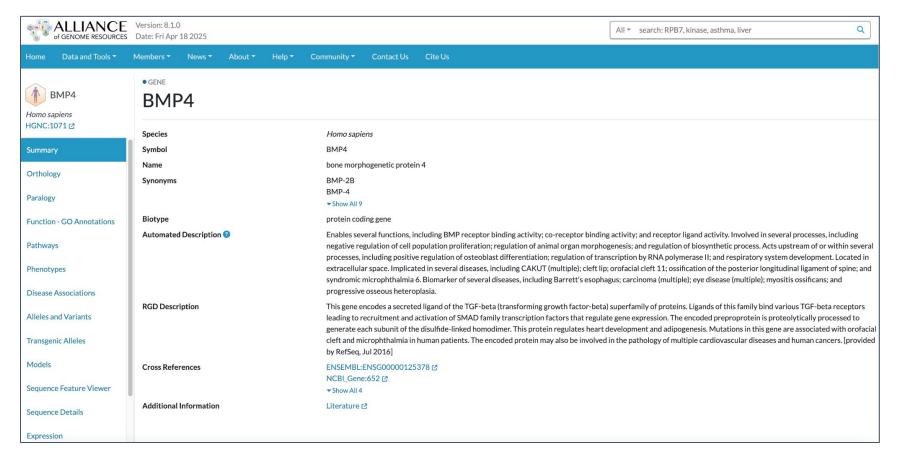
Faceted search allows for curation prioritization

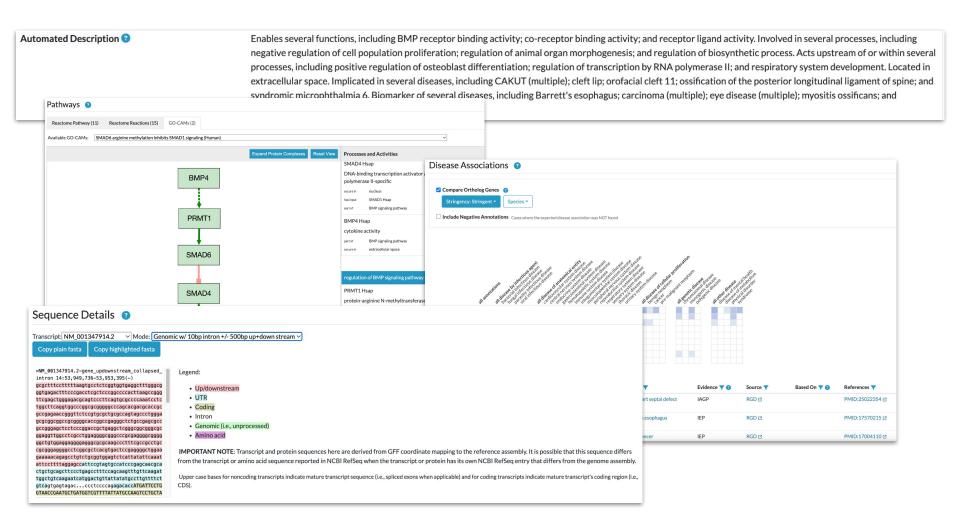


Putting it all back together

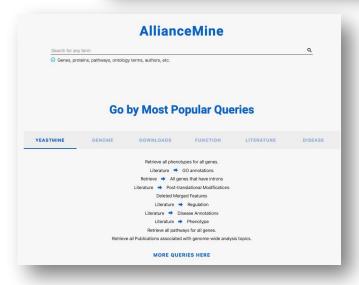


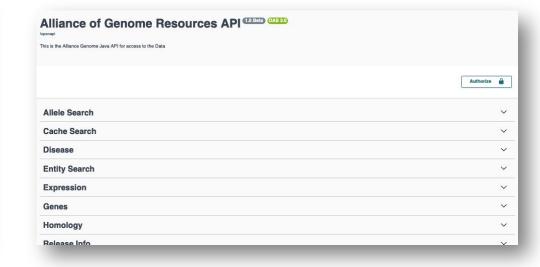
Gene pages are the information hub of the Alliance

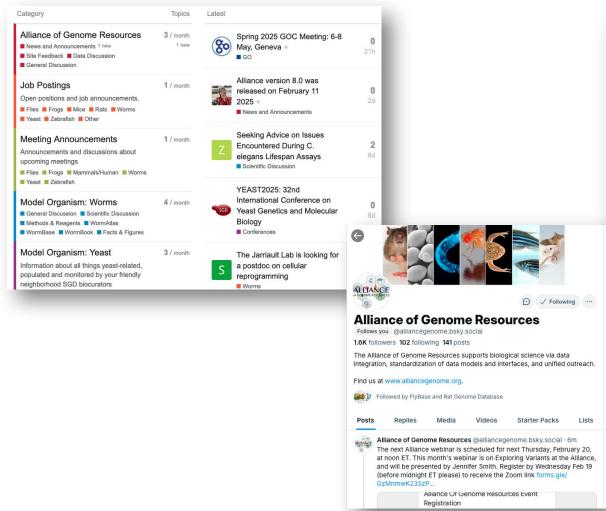




Downloads	Downloads					
Disease	Disease					
Expression	Disease					
Gene Descriptions	Description	Download				
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Molecular Interactions	Caenorhabditis elegans associations	JSON TSV				
Genetic Interactions	Danio rerio associations	JSON TSV				
	Drosophila melanogaster associations	JSON TSV				
Orthology	Homo sapiens associations	JSON TSV				
Variants (VCF)	Mus musculus associations	JSON TSV				
/ariants/Alleles	Rattus norvegicus associations	JSON TSV				
di la	Saccharomyces cerevisiae associations	JSON TSV				
	Xenopus laevis associations	JSON TSV				
	Xenopus tropicalis associations	JSON TSV				







Alliance of Genome Resources Office Hours

The Alliance of Genome Resources hosts webinars and other events for the genomic research community

Most events will be approximately 30 minutes, including time for questions.

Links to recordings of past events are listed below.

Scheduled Events

February 20, 2025. Noon EST.

Webinar: Exploring Variants at the Alliance

Presenter, Jennifer Smith.

This webinar will cover searching for variants, the variant information on gene and variant detail pages, and viewing variants in JBrowse 2 at the Alliance.

Register by February 19 to receive the Zoom URL.

March 20, 2025. Noon EDT.

Webinar: Disease annotations at the Alliance

Presenter, Yvonne Bradford, Co-host, Sue Bello.

This will cover...

Register by March 19 to receive the Zoom URL.

April 17, 2025, Noon EDT.

Webinar: How Al informs literature curation

Presenter, Kimberly Van Auken.

This will cover...

Register by April 16 to receive the Zoom URL.

May 15, 2025. Noon EDT.

Webinar: JBrowse2 at the Alliance

Presenter, Jeff De Pons. Co-host, Anne Kwitek.

This will cover...

Register by May 14 to receive the Zoom URL.

June 12, 2025. Noon EDT.

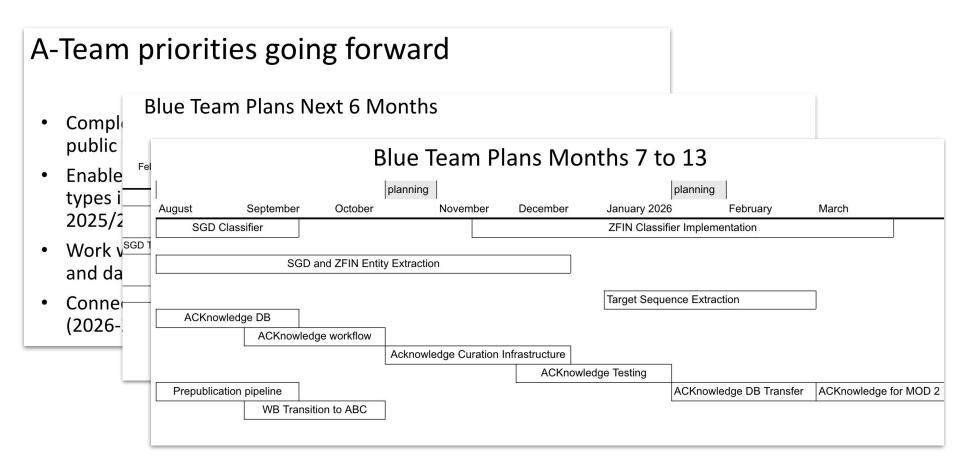
Webinar: Orthology and Paralogy at the Alliance

Presenter, Chris Tabone,

This will cover...

Register by June 11 to receive the Zoom URL.

Where are we on the roadmap?



A-Team members

- Carol Bult (PI)
- Chris Grove (Product Owner)
- Jeff De Pons (Scrum Master)
- Olin Blodgett
- Mark Quinton-Tulloch
- Andrés Becerra Sandoval
- Adam Gibson
- Christian Pich
- Varun Reddy Gollapally

Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)

- Sue Bello
- Yvonne Bradford

Blue Team members

- Paul Sternberg (PI)
- Ceri Van Slyke (Product Owner)
- Valerio Arnaboldi
- Juancarlos Chan
- Paul Hale
- Ian Longden
- Shuai Weng
- Pinglei Zhou

Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)

- Kimberly Van Auken
- Gillian Millburn

Alliance Software Specialist Team

David Shaw (now retired)	User Support
Sian Gramates	User Support / Social Outreach
Sierra Moxon	LinkML/Modelling
Dustin Ebert	Pathway Viewer
Hans-Michael Mueller	Textpresso
Seth Carbon	GO Software Coordinator
Paulo Nuin	AllianceMine, BLAST
Stuart Miyasato	AWS, DevOps
Paul Hale	JBrowse
Manuel Luypaert	Proteins, Annotations, and Variants Inspector
Tremayne Mushayahama	Pathway Viewer, GO Software
Adam Wright	BLAST, DevOps
Christopher Tabone	Coordinator, DevOps, DIOPT

Thanks to all!

The Alliance of Genome Resources Consortium:

Suzanne A Aleksander, Anna V Anagnostopoulos, Giulia Antonazzo, Valerio Arnaboldi, Helen Attrill, Andrés Becerra, Susan M Bello, Olin Blodgett, Yvonne M Bradford, Carol J Bult, Scott Cain, Brian R Calvi, Seth Carbon, Juancarlos Chan, Wen J Chen, J Michael Cherry, Jaehyoung Cho, Madeline A Crosby, Jeffrey L De Pons, Peter D'Eustachio, Stavros Diamantakis, Mary E Dolan, Gilberto dos Santos, Sarah Dyer, Dustin Ebert, Stacia R Engel, David Fashena, Malcolm Fisher, Saoirse Foley, Adam C Gibson, Varun R Gollapally, L Sian Gramates, Christian A Grove, Paul Hale, Todd Harris, G Thomas Hayman, Yanhui Hu, Christina James-Zorn, Kamran Karimi, Kalpana Karra, Ranjana Kishore, Anne E Kwitek, Stanley J F Laulederkind, Raymond Lee, Ian Longden, Manuel Luypaert, Nicholas Markarian, Steven J Marygold, Beverley Matthews, Monica S McAndrews, Gillian Millburn, Stuart Miyasato, Howie Motenko, Sierra Moxon, Hans-Michael Muller, Christopher J Mungall, Anushya Muruganujan, Tremayne Mushayahama, Robert S Nash, Paulo Nuin, Holly Paddock, Troy Pells, Norbert Perrimon, Christian Pich, Mark Ouinton-Tulloch, Daniela Raciti, Sridhar Ramachandran, Joel E Richardson, Susan Russo Gelbart, Levla Ruzicka, Gary Schindelman, David R Shaw, Gavin Sherlock, Ajay Shrivatsay, Amy Singer, Constance M Smith, Cynthia L Smith, Jennifer R Smith, Lincoln Stein, Paul W Sternberg, Christopher J Tabone, Paul D Thomas, Ketaki Thorat, Jyothi Thota, Monika Tomczuk, Vitor Trovisco, Marek A Tutaj, Jose-Maria Urbano, Kimberly Van Auken, Ceri E Van Slyke, Peter D Vize, Qinghua Wang, Shuai Weng, Monte Westerfield, Laurens G Wilming, Edith D Wong, Adam Wright, Karen Yook, Pinglei Zhou, Aaron Zorn, and Mark Zytkovicz



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- NIH NHGRI U41HG000739 (FlyBase)
- NIH NHGRI HG000330 (MGD)
- NIH NHLBI HL64541 (RGD)
- NIH NHGRI U24HG001315 (SGD)
- NIH NHGRI U24HG002223 (WormBase)
- NIH NICHD P41HD064556 (Xenbase)
- NIH NHGRI P41HG002659 (ZFIN)
- NIH NHGRI HG012212 (GOC, which also provides funding to WB, MGD, SGD)