



BEATING HEART DISEASE TOGETHER



Cardiovascular GO Annotation Initiative

providing full GO annotation to genes associated with cardiovascular processes

Newsletter October 2009

Gene annotation

We are now approaching the end of the second year of this initiative and can report that to date we have annotated 1333 proteins with over 10,000 GO terms, over half of these annotations are to human proteins.

Gene Ontology development

The BHF-UCL team hosted a Heart Development Ontology Workshop at UCL in September. This was the first ontology workshop hosted by the BHF-UCL team and proved to be highly successful. Varsha had identified a lack of ontology terms in the heart development earlier in the year, while annotating genes involved in this process. Consequently, she invited 4 heart development experts, Peter Scambler, Paul Riley, Shoumo Bhattacharya and Ross Breckenridge as well as several GO curators from Cambridge and the US. 29 new heart development GO terms are now live in the GO and around 100 more are due to appear in the next few weeks. More information about this event is available through the [agenda](#) wiki page.

Meetings attended

Following a quiet summer, September has been a busy month, Ruth and Emily Dimmer, the GOA team coordinator at the EBI, gave an overview of 'Gene Ontology' at the [British Atherosclerosis Society](#) meeting in Cambridge. This was an excellent meeting and the session discussing Gene Ontology lasted almost an hour. The current limitations to the breadth of information that can be described using GO were discussed and the need to annotate genes with tissue and cell type specific information was highlighted by the participants. The following week Ruth and Varsha attended a three-day GO Consortium meeting, in Cambridge. At this meeting Varsha presented a summary of the Heart Development Ontology Workshop and Ruth summarised an ongoing discussion about how to best represent 'binding' in GO.

Publications

The Gene Ontology's Reference Genome Project: a unified framework for functional annotation across species. Reference Genome Group of the Gene Ontology Consortium. *PLoS Comput Biol.* 2009 Jul;5(7):e1000431. PMID: [19578431](#).

MSc - Genetics of Human Diseases

This term the BHF-UCL team will be teaching a Gene Ontology module in this new [MSc course](#). Other than teaching the students about GO and online genomic resources we hope that the students will identify suitable papers for annotation and provide the GO project with good quality GO annotations.

