

Michele Magrane

European Bioinformatics Institute
Wellcome Trust Genome Campus
Hinxton, Cambridge UK.

Biographical sketch:

I have extensive biocuration experience as part of the UniProt team at the European Bioinformatics Institute and I have coordinated the curation group there since 2001. As such, I have a clear understanding of the opportunities and challenges of biocuration and recognise the importance of a forum to promote this field and to further discussion of common goals. I am an active and enthusiastic supporter of international biocuration efforts. As a member of the Biocurator Society Planning Committee, I helped to oversee the establishment of the International Society for Biocuration. I appreciate the importance of collaboration and communication between resources as facilitated by efforts such as the regular Biocuration Conferences. I have attended and presented at all three meetings so far and will also be attending the Japan meeting in October.

Motivation:

Following my involvement in the planning committee which led to the establishment of the International Society for Biocuration, I would welcome the opportunity to further this work by representing the biocurator community as a member of the executive board and helping to shape the future direction of the society. Curated resources are central to the work of many scientists and biocuration plays a vital role in advancing scientific research. Its importance needs to be highlighted to the scientific community, to the public at large and also to funding bodies to ensure the continued and sustained long-term funding of the resources upon which so many researchers depend. I would like to continue the work already started in creating a strong and respected society which advocates as a unified voice on behalf of its members to highlight the role of biocuration to the scientific community and to funding agencies. I am committed to promoting biocuration as an exciting and stimulating scientific career path to ensure that good scientists are attracted to this field which is essential for the continued production of high-quality curated resources. I am interested in furthering collaborations with journals to improve access to and organisation of biological data in the scientific literature which will aid data capture by curators. I also believe that the society has an important role to play in promoting gold standards and best practices in curation. If elected, I look forward to working on these issues on behalf of the biocurator community.

Conflicts of interest: None declared.