



Indigenous Genomics Platform (IGP) update

We are delighted to announce the first IGP project.

Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou: Sharing the benefits of genomics

Led by Andy Elliot, Aroha Mead, Charles Eason and Jackie Stephens (Wakatū Incorporation) and Nathan Kenny (University of Otago), the project aims to better understand the genomic basis of productivity traits of high-value marine species and ensure the ownership of this research is assigned to the right people.

In an increasingly globalised world, where genomic sequencing is becoming more routine, mana whenua run the danger of losing control of the whakapapa of taonga. The Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou work programme focusses on how the commercial benefits of genomics can be vested long-term in the kaitiaki of the original sample.

Read more about the project [here](#).

Additional projects will be announced over the coming months.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) participation

Digital Sequence Information (DSI) for genetic resources has been an important topic for the CBD this year. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) has established a group of stakeholders for discussion on this issue, and invite all interested parties to join. Please contact [Liese Galvin at MFAT](#) for more information

What's next?

The Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework is to be adopted at the next CBD Conference of the Parties (COP) on 5-17 December 2022, in Montreal Canada.

How can you provide input?

MFAT welcome your views on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework [via email](#). Feedback before 14 October 2022 would be most helpful to inform MFAT's approach at the COP.

Why should you take part?

The discussion around CBD's Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing is highly relevant to the work of genomics researchers in Aotearoa.

Sadly we still have a legacy of taonga DSI data that are held offshore and were not acquired, held or used in accordance with Māori Data Sovereignty principles. Many of our projects are working to ensure these abuses are not repeated, and all our projects are expected to honour expectations around data sovereignty.

So we encourage you to take up Liese's invitation to contribute, and make sure you are closely familiar with the expectations around genomic data sovereignty in Aotearoa.

Call for contributions to Molecular Ecology Resources special issue

Molecular Ecology Resources is running a special issue on ***Indigenous Contributions to Molecular Ecology***.

The issue aims to: 1) highlight and promote the work of Indigenous scientists in the field of molecular ecology in a major scientific journal, supporting career advancement by alleviating potential hurdles such as unconscious bias in the publication process; 2) spotlight Indigenous role models from around the world for people of all backgrounds, education levels, and career levels, especially Indigenous peoples pursuing science degrees and careers; 3) contribute to the scientific literature on molecular ecology; 4) place explicit value on Indigenous Research Methodologies and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) as important to Indigenous communities and scientists in the research process.

The special issue's editors are Seafha Ramos, Andrew Kinziger, and Alana Alexander. Well

done and thank you Alana!

Details are available on the [journal's website](#). The deadline for initial submission of full papers is **September 9 2022**.

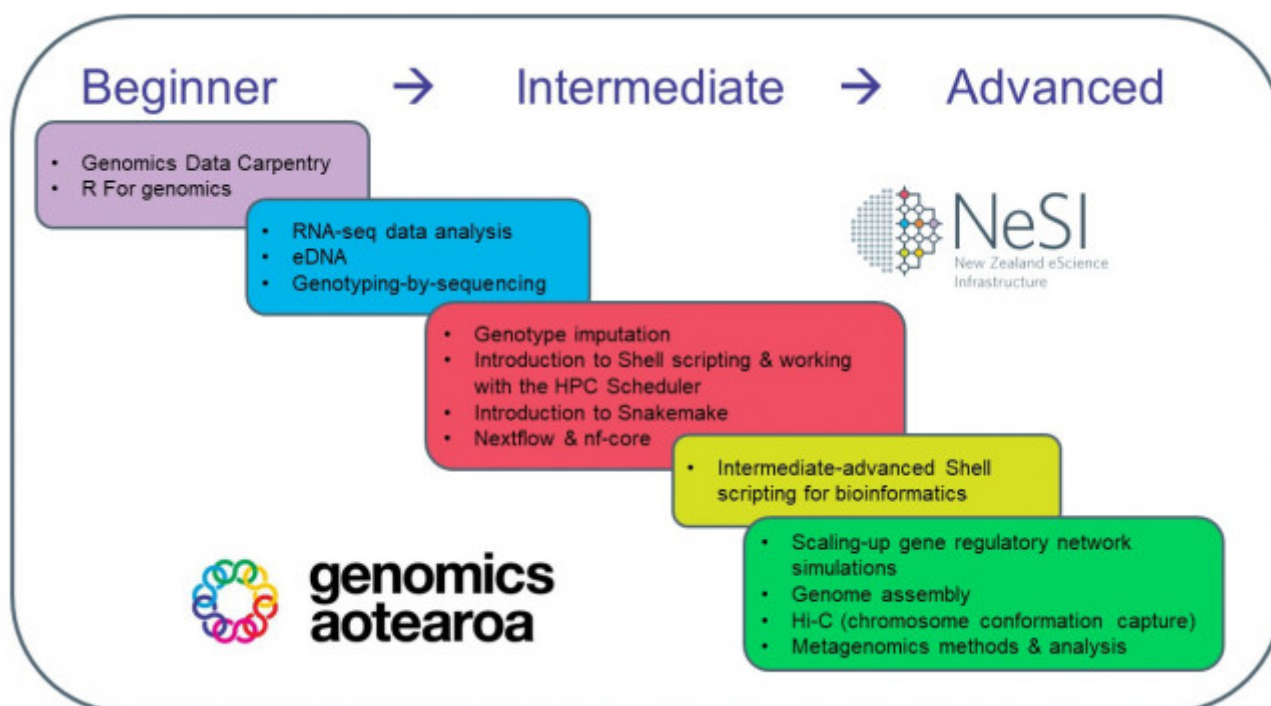
Training news

We introduced Dr Tyler McInnes, our new Training Coordinator, in our May newsletter, and you might have met him at the annual meeting. We are pleased to finally have Tyler officially on board.

Tyler is working on the programme for upcoming bioinformatics training, and he is happy for you to [contact him](#) with your training queries.



We've added a page to the Training section of the website to describe the GA/NeSI training programme and link to the training resources for each course. Please [check it out here](#).



Vacancies

Five genomics research positions at Bragato Research Institute

Bragato Research Institute's grape and wine research enhances Aotearoa's reputation for exceptional wine.

Several positions are available in Bragato's grapevine improvement team. Genomics and wine, what's not to love?

All positions are Lincoln-based, with competitive starting salaries.

- Bioinformatician (\$115-130k pa)
- Research scientist – plant genetics (\$100-\$115k pa)
- Lab technician (\$65-75k pa)
- Two postdoctoral researchers (\$100k pa)

Research includes transposon genotyping, PromethION sequencing, methylation profiling, sprayable sRNA development & plant phenotyping.

Visit [Bragato's website for more information](#). **Applications close 18 August.**

Website updates

Introducing postdoctoral researchers Elahe (Eli) Parvizi and Nuzla Ismail

Eli is working at the University of Waikato on the Invasomics project. [Read about Eli's work](#).



Nuzla is working on the Genome graphs project at the University of Otago. [Find out about Nuzla's work.](#)



Genomics Aotearoa seminar series

Last month we had two seminars from the Plant & Food Research team.

On July 15 Richard Espley and Chen Wu told us about **Bilberry genome assembly** and Cecilia Deng talked about **Long Read Sequencing: Options, Applications and Bioinformatics** on July 29. If you missed them, these seminars will be posted to the web in due course.

This month, on **August 12** April Jauhal will be presenting her work on whale genomics, in a seminar provisionally titled **Baleen whale olfaction: Do whales smell?** April is a PhD candidate at the **University of Auckland** who has recently submitted her thesis. Congratulations April!

Human Pangenome Reference Consortium (HPRC) seminars

This month we also have the first of our two seminar "mini-series" on the [HPRC](#).

On **August 26** Ann McCartney and Karen Miga will be talking about **The goals of the HPRC, and broader application of the methods to other species.**

An important note - this seminar is presented by researchers based in the United States, so will take place at **10 am** instead of the usual 3 pm.

A reminder that the [zoom link](#) for seminars is always the same.

Please [let us know](#) if you have suggestions for future presenters or topics.

Genomics Aotearoa YouTube channel



Genomics Aotearoa YouTube Channel

We welcome suggestions for linking to content that aligns with Genomics Aotearoa's vision, and that our community would find useful. Please contact [Jess McLean](#) with suggestions.

Have some news to share?

If you have items to share in future newsletters, please [get in touch](#).

Contact Genomics Aotearoa

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