



Welcome to the first Network Newsletter. Network News is dedicated to informing partners about the progression of tasks, and passing on scientific news related to the project (references, websites, etc.).

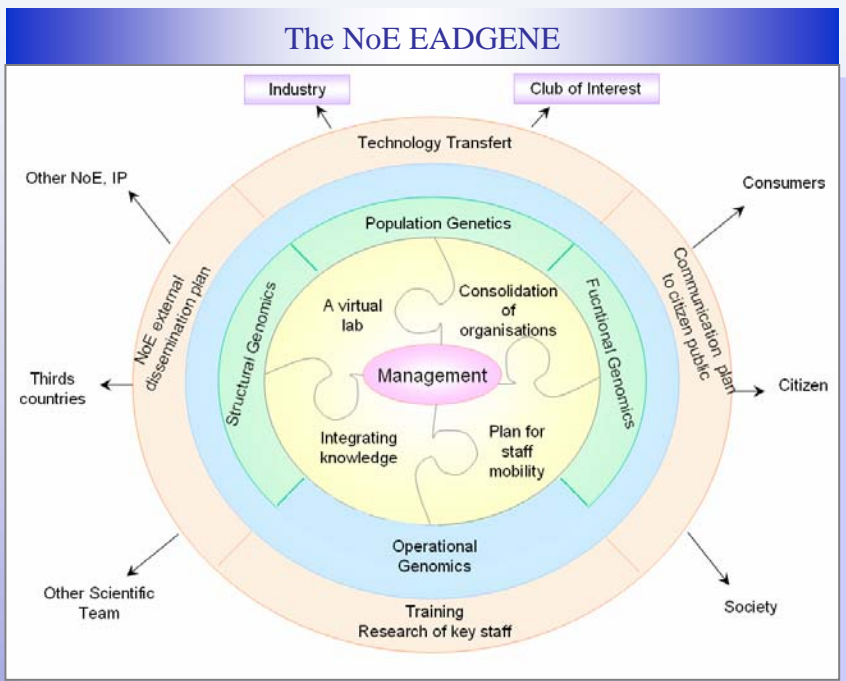
# Network News

It will provide details of the agendas and organization of coming meetings and information on other collaborative opportunities (IP, NoE).

Volume 1, Issue 1

Ideas, suggestions and contributions for the newsletter are very welcome !!!

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## Integrating activities

EADGENE started on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2004. The launch took place on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2004 at INRA's site at Jouy-en-Josas, in the presence of Mr F.d'Aubert (French Minister for Research), Mr A.Mitsos (Director-General of the Research DG European Commission), Mrs M.Guillou (INRA's President), and the scientific partners of EADGENE.

### Inventories

During the first 6 months many workpackages have produced questionnaires and sent them to all involved partners. These inquiries are essential and useful in order to ensure durable integration. We need to know what resources (biological, technological, bioinformatics) are available to share within the network, and what resources are missing. This integration will be a vital requirement for the success of the Joint Research of Activities.

For WP1.1, WP1.2, WP1.4, and WP2.2 the replies from each institute involved in the WP were to be sent to the workpackage leader by the end of February at the latest. The synthesis of the data is now taking place. A questionnaire for WP1.3 will be issued soon.





## Joint Research Activities

WP5 : Structural Genomics, WP6: Population Genetics, WP7: Functional Genomics started on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2004 (M+3).

### WP5.1

A workshop was organized for 17<sup>th</sup> December 2004 in Wageningen (in conjunction with the WP1.3: Bioinformatics facilities).

An important conclusion of the discussion was that many different open-source visualisation tools are already available that can be used within the project. A web-portal or an FTP site will be created soon. It will be accessible to the different partners within the network.

### WP6.1

An inventory of genetic models of host resistance is being compiled by a survey of available animal resources and knowledge of phenotypic traits

Reply to the questionnaire before 15<sup>th</sup> March !

### WP7.1

The first working group has started on Mastitis: early host-pathogen interactions in cattle, goats, sheep.



A second working group on E.Coli infections is proposed.

## Mobility opportunities

### Short term:

Workpackage leader, Mr Hans-Martin Seyfert ([seyfert@fhn-dummerstorf.de](mailto:seyfert@fhn-dummerstorf.de)), received 2 applications by the end of February. Both were approved: Miss B.Ask will go to Roslin Institute, and Mr A.Rebl will go to NSVS.

A page on the website has been created in order to increase the mobility of scientists. All partners are also asked to communicate these opportunities within their institute and to their contacts !!

## Spreading of Excellence

### Technology Transfer (WP10.1)

After open calls, two working parties were set up: - **Knowledge Management (KM)** with 5 participants (DK, UK, NL, FR, IT)

- **Technology Transfer (TT)** with 4 participants (FR, NL, DE, UK).

All information and descriptions are on [www.eadgene.org](http://www.eadgene.org) (page: Technology Transfer).

### Citizens' newsletter

The first newsletters aimed at the general public "EADGENE News" was issued in January. You can find it on our other website (specifically for citizens and society) at [www.eadgene.info](http://www.eadgene.info)

## Communications

### Private website

With specific access rights, each member can have access to all files which are circulating within the network. You can find the contact list of all participants, minutes, and also the agenda which you will be able to complete. Go on!!

### Budget Flexibility

An institute can move money between several types of costs in the same workpackage. You have only to record it and to inform the Management Team. Keep your written proof !!





## Structure of the Management Team



## Management Team : MT

The MT is composed of :

- 3 Activity Leaders (nominated for 18months)
- Steve Bishop** (Roslin): Integrating activities
- Mari Smits** (ID-Lelystad) : JPA
- Anne-Marie Neeteson** (EFFAB): Spreading of excellence
- one representative of the partners (for 6 months)
- the chairperson of the IPUDC (to be nominated)
- the coordinator **Marie-Hélène Pinard** (INRA)
- the project manager **Sandrine Ayuso** (INRA)
- the administrator **Thu Bizat** (INRA)

The role of the MT is to implement the scientific orientations decided by the Governing Council.

The MT will prepare the Programme of the Activities and make progress reports on the state of advancement of the project. The MT will propose the budget and the allocation of funding between the partners. The MT will establish the project deliverables.

The MT shall more generally take any and all decisions required for the proper conduct of the project. Decisions shall be taken upon a majority of 4/5 of the members present or represented.

## Upcoming Events

### Management Team meeting

The Management Team will meet on **1<sup>st</sup> April 2004** at Roslin Institute, to discuss the progress of activities and the management of the project.

### EADGENE Days

The first EADGENE Days will take place on the **18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> May 2004** at the Tulip Inn, Brussels. Many of the scientists involved in EADGENE have been invited to the meeting.

The theme of the presentations on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May afternoon is: **EADGENE - its possibilities and its potential applications.**

Workpackage meetings will be planned for the Wednesday or Thursday mornings.

The **1<sup>st</sup> Governing Council** meeting will take place on **19<sup>th</sup> May** from **8.30 to 10.30**. The **IPUDC committee** will meet at the same time.



Left to right : S.Bishop, S.Ayuso, MH.Pinard, E.Giuffra, M.Smits, AM.Neeteson





## New Staff Welcome !!

**Helena Motaln** was appointed to WP11.1 at Ljubljana University (Slovenia) on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2004.

**Thu Bizat** was recruited by EADGENE as Administrator starting 31st January 2004 at INRA.



Mrs Thu Bizat

## Congratulations...

To **Martien Groenen** (WU-WP5 leader) for the Chicken sequencing ChickAce that you can see at.....

To **Diego Llanes** (UCO-WP9.1 leader) who has agreed to take charge of WP9: Joint programme of training research or key staff.

## Contact us

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Contributions & suggestions are welcome!

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## Discussion microarrays cDNA / Oligos

### Scientific

-cDNAs: original approach, with identified limitations, but also with a lot of valuable results and publications.

-Oligos: Better hybridisation conditions as, within limits. Thus signal/background ratio is increased. Possibility to discriminate alternative transcripts, as far as they have been previously identified...[...]

### Technical

-cDNAs: simple and straightforward in its principle, but you have to build up, control and manage collections of clones, amplify (real difficulties, not trivial) and control amplification product.

-Oligos: Design is not a simple task, what about cross hybridisation? Oligoarray2 is not the best software[...]. Anyway, once you get your oligo sequences, you don't need to manage collections and you can rely on quality controls from the producer.[...]

### Economical

-cDNAs: not so expensive, even taking into account staff costs, for both production and utilisation. the radioactive labelling is cheaper than the fluorescent one and the membranes can be reused.

-Oligos: Affymetrix is highly expensive, (only bovine chips on their catalog); Illumina prices seem very attractive, being cheaper than Operon, and including a mass spectrometry quality control, which is randomly done by Operon [...]

Discussion with F.Hatey, WP1.2 leader : [hatey@toulouse.inra.fr](mailto:hatey@toulouse.inra.fr)

## Links with other European projects.

### SABRE

A second-stage application for another major EU Integrated Project, **SABRE** (Cutting-edge genomics for Sustainable Animal **BR**eeding) was lodged with the EU in February 2005. SABRE has 33 partners across Europe, China and Brazil, including twelve of the thirteen participants in EADGENE. SABRE will concentrate on three main areas: development of underpinning technologies and knowledge; understanding the genomics of key biological systems (fertility, mammary function, and the intestine); and tackling focused breeding goals (including meat quality, reducing incidence of zoonotic infections and improving animal well-being).

