



Network News

Volume 1, Issue 2

This second Newsletter is mainly focused on the first major event for the Network : the EADGENE days in Brussels.

It was a great success, allowing network partners to meet their EADGENE colleagues and learn about the possibilities of EADGENE involvement in their future research.

The next important events will be the Periodic Report (in September) and the Industry days (in October) !!

Contents

Governing Council	1
EADGENE days	2
WP1.4: Analytical tools	3
WP9.1: Training Research....	3
Communications	3
Who is Genesis Faraday	4
Coming Events	4
New Staff Welcome !!	4
Congratulations	4

Governing council : GC

The Governing Council is composed of high-level representatives of the partners of the Network (appointed by each partner.) The Governing Council also consists of the members of the Management Team (MT).

The chairperson and the vice-chairperson of the Governing Council were elected by unanimous decision of the representatives of the Governing Council, (possibly on a rotational basis of 18 months) during the EADGENE days in Brussels the 19th of May.

The chairperson is [Pierre Lekeux](#) (FMV-Ulg) from Liège and the vice-chairperson is [Johan van Arendonk](#) (ID-Lelystad /WU) The Committee will meet a minimum of once a year, with the MT and a minimum of 1/3 representation of the partners.

The role

The role of the GC is to act as a decision-making and arbitration body for all of the decisions of the MT.

-The GC will decide the political and strategic orientation of the project (in regular contact with the coordinator & the members of the MT)

-The GC may vote for the inclusion of a new participant or exclusion of one partner.

-The GC will validate modifications of the “Programme of activities” and “Plan for using and disseminating the knowledge”.

- The Governing Council will approve the budget and financial allocations.



P. Lekeux
Chairperson of the GC



J. van Arendonk
vice-Chairperson





EADGENE days in Brussels...



The EADGENE Days was the first major event organized by the EADGENE network. Over 100 delegates took part in a busy programme of presentations, short talks, poster sessions and work package meetings.

The main focus of the event was the **afternoon of 18th May**, with a series of presentations aimed at explaining EADGENE, **its possibilities and its possible applications**. Mari Smits (WU) gave an overview of the EADGENE Joint Research Programme, which was followed by presentations on the latest developments in pathogen-genome research by Paul Barrow (IAH), and host-genome research by Martien Groenen (WU). André Jestin, of MedVetNet, gave an informative presentation of this NoE dedicated at the Prevention and Control of Zoonoses.

The next talk was perhaps the most controversial and certainly ended with a lively discussion - no doubt the intention of the speaker. Peter Sandøe (CEBRA), presented his preliminary observations of the **ethical relationship** between scientists in host-pathogen research and the general public. John Woolliams (Roslin) gave a clear explanation of the concept and potential applications of **operational genomics**, and John Bastiaansen (PIC/Sygen) described the possible benefits of host-pathogen genomics for the animal breeding industry. The afternoon closed with a discussion of the role of the scientist regarding society and industry led by Andrea Rosati (ICAR).

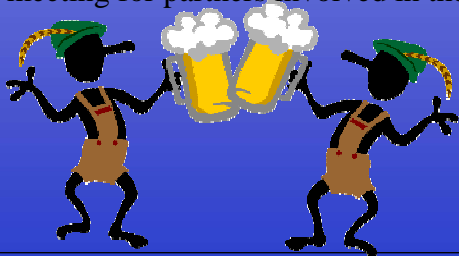


The scientist in host-pathogens and the wider public

Gitte Meyer, Christian Gamborg & Peter Sandøe
Danish Centre for Bioethics and Risk Assessment (CeBRA)

The evening of 18th May was dedicated to letting scientists get to know each other's area of work and expertise, through a series of short presentations. The chairperson, Alan Archibald (Roslin), ensured that the time limit of 5 minutes was strictly adhered to and over 20 scientists were able to present their work in less than two hours. This strategy proved highly effective as an introduction to other scientist's research interests, and during the dining event and poster session that followed there were many instances of **scientists discussing possible collaborations**.

The EADGENE Days also provided an opportunity for EADGENE committees and working parties to meet. The **Governing Council** and the Industrial Property Use and Dissemination Committee (**IPUDC**) both had their **first meetings** on the **morning of 19th May**. Other meetings held during the EADGENE Days included the Technology Transfer and the Knowledge Management working parties, the working groups on *Mastitis*, *E. coli*, *Salmonella* and Population Genetics, the training group, and a meeting for partners involved in the Integrating Activities inquiries.



The city of Brussels provided a beautiful location for the meeting, and the networking continued after the meeting officially ended, with scientists from different countries observed meeting up for lunch and Belgium beer at the pavement cafes on the Grand Place before catching their flights home.





WP9 : Training Research & key staff

An overview of training programmes already existing among EADGENE partners, including those available from relevant external institutions is one of the main tasks of the WP9.1. This overview will also establish an **integrated programme of workshops and courses** to allow the dissemination of skills and knowledge among researchers and professional teams involved, or not, in the Network.

Following is a summary that points out the most important characteristics of the different courses offered by the partners.

Among the 24 courses offered, there is only one new and specific for EADGENE objectives, so only this one will be proposed to **be granted this year by EADGENE**. This course is a workshop presented by the Danish Institute of Agricultural Sciences (DIAS) and it will be offered next autumn. The title is “**cDNA microarrays: Experimental procedures and data analysis**”.

More information about EADGENE courses, please contact Eva Perez (b72perree@uco.es) or Diego Llanes (diego.llanes@uco.es)

WP1.4 Analytical tools

The **1st objective** of WP1.4 was to make a survey of analytical tools and resources in the network so as to initiate integration in this field. The review has been completed and the results of this questionnaire are summarized on the EADGENE website. Three main areas emerged from this survey as needing extra attention, ideally through the provision of workshops. For further information see: www.eadgene.org.

The **highest priority** amongst partners was for the provision of a **microarray course** aimed at sharing experiences and expertise in the application of microarrays to the study of livestock. Methods for statistical analysis of gene expression will make up the bulk of the course. This course is being planned in collaboration with Ark-Genomics and should take place towards the end of the year. Two further **workshops** on cross-fostering (dedicated to **the statistical analyses** of disease data) and the comparison of analytical tools, are also being planned for 2006

TABLE 2a. COURSES COVER FOLLOWING AREAS.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Genomics.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Genetic improvement of Livestock.• Comparative Immunology and Immunotechnology.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quantitative Genetics and Genome Analysis.• Aquatic Medicine. Fish immunology.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Animal cell culture.• Statistical analysis of Genomics data.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• cDNA microarrays.• Conservation Livestock Breeds.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Veterinary Medicine• Resistance Mechanisms in Animal Infectious Diseases

Education and Training

Communications

31th August 2005!!!

- The **periodic Management report** : detailed justification of the costs incurred and of the resources deployed by each contractor in each WP, the financial statement (Form C), and the Audit certificate.
- The **periodic Activity report** : overview of the activities carried out during the year, WP progress of the period (achievements, deviations...).
- The **draft planning for the next 18 months** : description of the work (technical Annex, and the estimated budget)

Please contact **Thu Bizat** and **Sandrine Ayuso** for more information!!!

Newsletter N°2
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New Staff Welcome !!

Eva Perez was recruited for WP09.1 at UCO (Spain) in April 2005.

Jan Izaks was appointed as assistant of AM Neeteson for spreading activities and he will be involved especially for the WP2.1, 4.1, 4.2 (since April 2005 at EFFAB).



Mrs Eva Perez

Congratulations...

To **SABRE** (IP-Cutting-edge genomics for **Sustainable Animal BREeding**) accepted for negotiation

To **Jacques Mainil** (FMV-Ulg) who agreed to take charge of WP11.2: Cross-linking with other NoE.

Contact us

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Contributions & suggestions are welcome!

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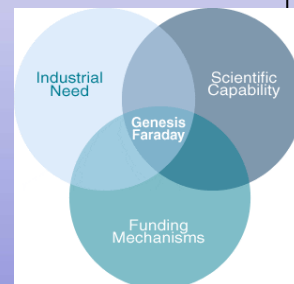
Who is **genesisfaraday**

Genesis Faraday is a **UK Government sponsored** partnership aiming to improve the coordination between the research community and industry in the area of farm animal genetics and genomics for animal health and animal breeding. Through a strong team of Technology Translators, Genesis Faraday **seeks to bring scientific solutions, business opportunities and funding together**. The team is highly experienced in funding mechanisms and has an exemplary record of successful applications.

The partnership has a broad membership base of over 100 organisations, including veterinary schools, universities, research institutes, leading pharmaceutical and animal breeding companies, technology based SMEs, livestock breeding societies and intermediate organisations representing the livestock industry. Although primarily aimed at UK organisations, Genesis Faraday has recently received its first membership application from a non-UK university. Members benefit from access to Genesis Faraday's expert advice and support, access to Faraday studentships, assistance with finding partners and funding, and the latest information on genetic, genomic and bioinformatics tools and technologies from across the world.

The next EADGENE Event, the Industry – Academia Days is being jointly organised with Genesis Faraday and EFFAB. For further information on Genesis Faraday please visit their website:

<http://www.genesis-faraday.org>,



Coming events

ARK Genomics

1st European Farm Animal Functional Genomics Workshop

Sunday 18th September to Tuesday 20th September

2005. Edinburgh Conference Centre Herio-Watt, Edinburgh, UK.

(www.ark-genomics.org/workshops/EFAFG2005/)

Industry Academia Days 2005

The next EADGENE event, Genetics and Genomics for Animal Health: Industry-Academia Days 2005 is being held jointly with EFFAB, the Genesis Faraday Partnership and EADGENE.

Genetics & Genomics for Animal Health **20 & 21 October 2005**, Wellcome Trust Genome Campus, Hinxton, near Cambridge, UK (update on the website www.eadgene.org)

