

1st WG-9 Planning & Funding meeting

17th September 2020

Minutes compiled by Alex Laude

Agenda

1. Agree on recording of the meeting
2. Very brief virtual round-table introduction (background) from participants
3. Agree on chair, co-chair, group participants and minute taking
4. Outline a group mission statement
5. Define how we want to work, formation of WG-9 sub-groups, shared documents, etc.
6. Decide timelines for reporting & frequency of meetings
7. Other items to discuss / agenda items for second WG-9 meeting

Participants

First name	Last name	email	Organisation Affiliation	Lab Affiliation	Country	17/09	Other WGs?
Steve	Bagley	steven.bagley-2@manchester.ac.uk	Univ. Manch.	Univ.	GB		
Johanna	Bischof	johanna.bischof@embl.de	Euro-Biomed	EU-Org	D	Y	8
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Ian	Dobbie	ian.dobbie@bioch.ox.ac.uk	UK Biomed	Univ.	GB	Y	8, 5
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Susanne	Kunis	sukunis@uos.de	GerBi	Univ.	D	Y	7
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Josh	Moore	j.a.moore@dundee.ac.uk	Univ. of Dundee	Univ.	GB		
Glyn	Nelson	glyn.nelson@newcastle.ac.uk	UK Biomed	Univ.	GB	Y	5,8
Roland	Nitschke	Roland.Nitschke@biologie.uni-freiburg.de	GerBi-GMB WG 1	Univ.	D	Y	
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Jason Swedlow	j.r.swedlow@dundee.ac.uk	Univ. of Dundee	Univ.	GB	Y	
Alison North	northa@mail.rockefeller.edu	BINA	Univ	USA	Y	8
Graham Wright	graham_wright@rsc.a-star.edu.sg	SingaScope / A*	Univ	Sgp	Y	
Liz Lim	Liz_Lim@rsc.a-star.edu.sg	A*	Univ	Sgp	Y	

Apologies

Claire Brown

Latecomers

Orestis Faklaris

Jason Swedlow

2. Very brief virtual round-table introduction (background) from participants (start- +10:00min)

3. Agree on chair, co-chair, group participants and minute taking (10:38 -

Roland has been instrumental in establishing QUAREP-LiMi, the proposal is that he leads WG-9 with Alex Laude and / or another person as his deputy.

Roland agrees to take on the chairperson role for WG9.

Alex Laude as vice chair.

Discussion: proposal to have participation certainly within WG9 from all national and regional microscopy communities.

Accepted that this would be a good move, politically and to help communicate the output of QUAREP-LiMi. The representative from the national group / organization would feed in / report back to that community. The person representing that community may change depending on other commitments.

Need to involve other communities: S America, Africa, Australia, China, Arabia, India, Israel, Portugal

ACTION: Nominate individuals from other communities to contact, compose and send an email on behalf of QUAREP to them.

Johanna: to coordinate with Global Bioimaging to reach out to different communities represented in that group.

Our new industry board coordinator, **Claudia Pfander**, joined the Euro-BioImaging team last Thursday and I have already briefly talked to her about this, and will have

further discussions going forward. Overall she is open to joining this group and building a bridge between this group and various industry members. Once I have had a more in-depth discussion with her, I will let you know and will ask Claudia to join the group.

ACTION: Johanna to contact Federica Paina to ask for nominations for persons representing various regional communities.

Johanna has contacted Federica Paina regarding nominations from various regional communities right after the meeting, she is working on it, but so far hasn't had a chance to complete a list.

Alex to speak to facilities in Australia / Chris Wood.

Caterina will represent BINA

Discussion: proposal is to have formal representation of all working groups in WG9 (eg. chairs / vice chairs from each WG).

Accepted that this would help to coordinate QUAREP-LiMi and to get an overview of progress made within each working groups. It would also allow 'pressure' to be put on those groups that are falling behind any set milestones.

Discussion: should industry be involved in WG9? (26:27)

Alex: industry should absolutely be involved in QUAREP from a scientific and technical point of view. BUT we should not be seen to favour or endorse a particular company or product. Glyn: It is hard to find an impartial role for an individual company in WG9 without seeming to favour one company.

Roland: we could overcome this by seeking representation from the Industry board of EuroBioImaging.

It was accepted that this would be a good idea. A person will soon be taking up this formal role (Jan).

ACTION: Roland to contact Martin Twinkel (Olympus) who is the current industry board coordinator.

Agreed that we would not request funding from industry. We need to make sure that we operate independently of any manufacturer. But we do need to interact with companies and maintain good relationships with them.

Orestis: how do we make make sure that industry is kept up to date?

Roland: through meeting minutes, website and white papers. The industry board should communicate this information to its members.

Roland: industry can help or may connect us with independent funding sources [Germany].

4. Outline a group mission statement

Alex proposes a four-part mission statement for WG9

The work of WG-9 will:

i) Ensure that the output of QUAREP receives maximum impact within the imaging community to increase awareness of the need for quality control in microscopy [white paper, website, publications]

ii a) Seek to obtain support from industrial partners [microscope / technology companies].

Alison: Remove funding from (industry) from this point. We need their participation to help us to incorporate QC into their instruments, but they will be reluctant to give us money.

ii b) Obtain funding and support from national bodies, Journals and learned societies to help cover the activities of QUAREP [allow us to stage physical meetings, cover publication costs, help with organisation and impact]

Discussion: Alison: should we have representation from the scientific publishing community / journals?

Agreed: this would be good.

Roland: Nature methods would be interested in our vision and possible publications.

Caterina: we could contact medRxiv / bioRxiv. Would also be good to communicate to journals standards in publication regarding microscopy data.

Roland: do Journals have a standards body overseeing data quality?

Alex: they do it is: Council of Science Editors [offline information]

<https://customer.councilscienceeditors.org/cse/Committees/cse/Committees.aspx?cid=editorial>

There is a sub-committee that discusses publication ethics and standards 'Editorial Policy Committee' with wide representation from many journals.

Ian Dobbie: EBI – Hinxton / EMBL biological imaging archive, would be good to involve them (when they've a head appointed). Could also put pressure on the publishing industry.

Alison: will contact JCB and Research Data Alliance in US.

Jason: several journals are driving engagement with quality of data deeper evaluation of the technical aspects of published work.

Roland: could involve Jana Christopher an advocate of image quality [<https://image-integrity.com>]. works freelance for a number of journals to check the integrity of published images.

Graham / Caterina: David Grunwald has spoken to journals in the past. Caterina will ask David to see if traction has been made with any journals.

Jason [chat]: API – academic publishing in Europe. Discuss future policy within publishing industry.

iii) Keep stakeholders informed and share information through a regularly updated website and tools database [internal and external communication & impact]

iv) Coordinate QUAREP WGs and future QUAREP meetings (virtual and physical)

Alex: the RMS in the UK will be happy to help with the administrative organisation of physical meetings. Possibly tag onto ELMI, MMC, EMC.

5. Define how we want to work, formation of WG-9 sub-groups, shared documents, etc.

Key WG9 activities & outputs:

1. Update Quarep.org website: Roland, Orestis, Glyn, Alex + open call for other participants

Discussion regarding support for website:

Alison: CZI are interested in funding setting up a quality control website within BINA, they may work on a QUAREP website. Would it be preferred to have QUAREP separate from BINA or linked to it?

Roland: QUAREP has been established outside of BINA and existing national organisations. Not a good idea to be linked to BINA or any organisation [agreement from all].

Alison: We may be able to approach CZI to fund QUAREP or website development.

Caterina / Alison: as CZI funds global bioimaging would they look to fund QUAREP?

Alex: the time-consuming aspect of website development is setting up the structure and populating it with information. Once this has been established, it should be possible for a small group of people (eg. WG leads) from QUAREP to maintain.

Roland: German research foundation would be receptive to fund QUAREP or aspects of QUAREP. May require German Biolmaging to lead. Could be 10 months away.

Roland: QC is not high up on the agenda of each organisation so they are happy for us to drive that and for them to link to us.

Caterina: would be good to interlink QUAREP website with Eurobioimaging and Global Bioimaging websites and organisations

Alison: We could invite John Erikson? [Roland agrees] to WG9.

ACTION: Johanna & Alison to contact John Erikson. [I think that Roland has now done this and John has joined QUAREP]

2. Maintain the tools database – input required from individual working groups to update and maintain.

Glyn / Orestis: We should encourage other working groups to regularly update this resource.

3. Internal and external communications/ coordination with other WGs

Discussion regarding meeting frequency and times:

Roland / Alison : need to be mindful of other WG meetings and not to have meetings too often. Need to find a way to coordinate meetings and display when they are taking place.

Roland: We need to know accommodate country-specific holidays and childcare commitments as well as time zones.

Meeting times: it was accepted that given the global nature of WG9 and QUAREP, it will be difficult to arrange a convenient time for all.

Roland Suggested that communities with similar time zones could meet up and feedback into the WGs

ACTION: establish guidelines for meetings so as to avoid inconvenient times / holidays / commitments for WG members. Circulate to WG heads.

Discussion regarding coordinating WG meetings:

Roland: QUAREP Google calendar live on QUAREP website.

Roland: Coordination of QUAREP members will be done via main QUAREP member list not individual WG lists. Will aid communication.

Caterina: automatic sign up via website?

Roland: yes this is possible, we could also ask them also to choose which WG(s) they want to attend. They also get added to the mailing list and cloud server.

4. Promotion of QUAREP LiMi

Publication opportunities: White Paper, short overview (Nature Methods) & open-access publication.

Roland: contact with Springer about publishing a book. We did not get the option for free access. We need to find 16,000 Euro for 400pg book. Could source this from internal members or crowd funding.

Social media: LinkedIn, Twitter

Roland: QUAREP does have a LinkedIn profile

Discussion regarding Twitter account and who should maintain this:

Marco: Twitter address / account for QUAREP?

[offline Marco has offered to help to set this up]

Additional Twitter support: Johanna / BINA / open call for other persons to help to maintain the account. It will be possible to have multiple persons maintaining the account. Content should be driven by QUAREP members.

5. Organisation of main QUAREP virtual and physical meetings

Alex: RMS has offered to support QUAREP with administrative help to put on physical meetings run alongside existing meeting such as MMC, EMS, ELMI.

ACTION: i) email chairs of other working groups to emphasise the need to maintain the tools database. ii) feed output / relevant material into the twitter account coordinator(s).

6. Working Group 9 – decide timelines, milestones and meeting frequency

Discussion: how often should WG9 meet?

Alison: White paper required and will kickstart other activities (eg. contact with publishers, companies etc.) with that in place.

Glyn: fist draft of white paper ready by 2nd Oct.

Roland: coordinate with other WGs - meeting of WG chairs / vice chairs mid-end Oct. WG9 should meet after the meeting with the WG chairs / vice chairs.

7. Working Group 9 – other discussion points and future agenda items

None discussed

List of action points

- **ACTION:** nominate individuals from other communities to contact, compose and send an email on behalf of QUAREP to them.

Johanna: to coordinate with Global Bioimaging to reach out to different communities represented in that group.

Johanna to contact Frederica Paina to ask for nominations for persons representing various regional communities.

Alex to speak to facilities in Australia / Chris Wood.

- **ACTION:** Roland to contact Martin Twinkel (Olympus) who is the current industry board coordinator.

- **ACTION: Roland / Alex** to email WG chairs / vice chairs to:
 - i. Circulate guidelines for WG meetings so as to avoid inconvenient times / holidays / commitments for WG members.
 - ii. Emphasise the need to maintain the tools database.
 - iii. Feed output / relevant material into the twitter account coordinator(s).
 - iv. Inform them of the WG chair / Vice chair meeting (October).