

Specific Activity on STRENDA

“Making Biochemistry Work for Life”

Workshop in Seville 2012

- Discussion minuted real time by Athel Cornish-Bowden
- Additional notes from Carsten Kettner
- Integrated by Hans Westerhoff (discussion chair)
- Prepared for presentation by Carsten Kettner

- Chaired by Hans Westerhoff (Amsterdam)
- Speakers:
- Luis Serrano (Barcelona)
- Chris Whitman (Austin, TX, USA)
- Richard Perham (Cambridge, UK; FEBS J.)
- Aleksander Benjak (Heidelberg; FEBS Lett.)
- Carsten Kettner (Frankfurt)

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Standards

- yes,
 - standards are important
 - standards are appreciated by the journals
 - provided that guidelines are understandable and short but sufficient for the improvement of data quality
 - provided that they can be handled by journals (see high number of guidelines)
 - but STRENDA should also be concerned with the naming of enzymes (this is in fact to the EC nomenclature commission!)
- no,
 - if a big collection of guidelines is overwhelming for authors, editors and reviewers (see. *Nat. Chem. Biol.* references)

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„Database“ vs. Repository

- repository preferred if data from STRENDA database is flagged as STRENDA compliant data in BRENDA or SABIO-RK
- one-stop-shopping preferred by community when searching for enzymology data
- however, at the beginning of the STRENDA database it also should provide a user interface for querying and retrieving entered data
- xml as data exchange format is fine

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Copyright Issues

- is there a legal conflict if data provided by authors will be freely available in a STRENDA database?
- from the view of journals: no
- from the view of publishers: no
- since only a subset of data from the manuscript appear in the database
- would the journals be happy with this? The data will then lead their own life outside the journal . The citations will thereby not befall the journal article but the data base. The journals would lose citations in this way.
- no problem: the journals are for interpreted data, not just data. "you need the full paper - whole story - to understand the experiments"
- the database is not a danger for the business model of the publishers (reason: see above)
- however, a formal agreement with the publishers of the participating journals should be made
- publishers accepted the PDB model without seeing any legal conflict

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Perspectives

- eForm can be a repository for enzymology data as PDB is for structural data
- editorial board meeting of *FEBS J.* end of October, R.P. will discuss the eForm at this meeting!
- Suggestion: seek for strong support from the systems biology community rather from the enzymology community since the latter one is fragmented and small