Executive Summary

The fourth annual VitisGen meeting of Project Directors, Collaborators, and Industry Advisory Panel Members was held January 8-9, 2015 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in San Diego, California. Over the span of the two-day meeting, a total of 33 VitisGen participants attended in person (including 13 Project Directors and 9 Industry Advisory Panel Members). The purpose of the meeting was to review the previous year’s progress; to identify and prioritize action plans for the coming year; to begin delineating VitisGen 2 plans; and to encourage continued industry collaborations and dialogue.

On the first day of the meeting, Project Directors, Collaborators, and the Industry Advisory Panel reviewed project accomplishments, discussed future goals, and learned about the endeavors by the international community to provide open data in grapevine breeding as well as French and European projects in grapevine breeding and genetics. Team reports (in breeding, genotyping, phenotyping, trait economics, and extension) focused on major accomplishments to date; underscored applied and scientific impacts; and summarized immediate future goals. Question and discussion sessions were held after each team presentation to facilitate and encourage continued dialogue within the project and with the Industry Advisory Panel. In addition to team reports, guest speaker Dr. Anne-Françoise Adam-Blondon (INRA) presented on Open Data in Grapevine Breeding. To conclude the afternoon, an outline of VitisGen 2 plans was presented.

On the second day of the meeting, breakout sessions were held to discuss VitisGen 2 plans. The purpose of these sessions were to help delineate potential objectives and to further facilitate open doors of communication with the Industry Advisory Panel. After the breakout sessions, each facilitator presented the key points from the discussions to the entire group. This was followed by an open discussion for the Industry Advisory Panel to provide feedback. To conclude the meeting, Jean-Mari Peltier (National Wine and Grape Initiative) and Bruce Reisch (Cornell University) summarized the key points from discussions held throughout the two-day meeting. A workshop on GBS data analysis was held during the afternoon of January 9. Twelve meeting attendees participated in the workshop, which was facilitated by Jonathan Fresnedo and Shanshan Yang.

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