

**Protein Data Bank Japan (PDBj) Advisory Committee (PDBj-AC)
Report of 28th Feb 2018 Meeting**

PDBj, Institute for Protein Research (IPR), Osaka University, Osaka, Japan

Chair: Prof. Genji Kurisu (IPR)

PDBj member: Prof. Toshimichi Fujiwara (IPR)

Committee members (present): Prof. Tsuyoshi Inoue (Faculty of Engineering, Osaka University), Prof. Daisuke Kohda (Medical Institute of Bioregulation, Kyushu University), Prof. Kei Yura (Graduate School of Humanities and Science, Ochanomizu University), Dr. Masaki Yamamoto (SPring-8, RIKEN), Prof. Toshiya Senda (Photon Factory, KEK), Dr. Midori Kamimura (Teijin Pharma Ltd.)

Committee members (absent): Prof. Haruki Nakamura (IPR)

The advisory committee of PDBj (PDBj-AC) met with PDBj leadership and staff, at the Institute for Protein Research (IPR), Osaka University on 28th Feb 2018.

1. Current PDBj program

- The PDBj has been funded by the Database Integration Coordination Program from JST (Japan Science and Technology Agency) – NBDC (National Bioscience Database Center) for five years from April 2017 – March 2022 and the BINDS program (Basis for Supporting Innovative Drug Discovery and Life Science Research) from AMED (Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development) from April 2017 – March 2022.
- The JST-NBDC budget in the FY 2017 (from April 2017 to March 2018) is 30 MY (direct) and 9 MY (indirect), the AMED-BINDS budget in the FY 2017 (from April 2017 to March 2018) is 35 MY (direct and indirect), and the other additional costs are paid from the University budget for IPR as the Joint-usage activity.
- The Data-in activity of PDBj was reported with the statistics in the Asian countries: Japan, China, India, Korea and others.
- The 14th wwPDB AC meeting held on 13th Oct, 2017, at Rutgers University was reported.
- Development, deployment and operation of the OneDep system were reported.
- Current situation of PDBj-BMRB was reported.
- Outreaches of the PDBj including Newsletter Vol. 19, the training courses of PDBj-mine, and the NHK special TV program, were reported.

2. Change of the member of the PDBj-AC

- In the end of fiscal year 2018, Prof. Haruki Nakamura, the founder of PDBj, is stepping down as a PDBj head. This plan was approved by all the committee members with sincere thanks to Prof. Nakamura.

3. Discussion about the activity for 2018 and the future of PDBj

- The current plan of wwPDB Data-in projects for 2018 was reported.

- The current plan of the PDBj's Data-out activity for 2018 was reported.
- Several discussions were made about the PDBj activities and their contribution to the wwPDB.
 - a) To keep enough FTE for annotators, processing more deposited data from Asia. A possibility of founding PDB in China or PDB in India was discussed.
 - b) To contribute the Data-out activities, for example: developing a semantic web search tool, and so on. There was a comment that most of the PDBj users rarely use PDBx/mmCIF, but still use the conventional PDB format files. More and more promotions for PDBx/mmCIF were highly recommended.
 - c) A possibility for PDBj to participate in archiving the X-ray diffraction images from Japan. A possibility to obtain another grant from the government was discussed. It will be under discussion until the next PDBj AC meeting.
- Other discussions were made about the financial stability of PDBj and wwPDB foundation, in particular how to obtain supports from industries:
 - a) When industries use service tools, which are developed by PDBj, it may be possible to ask them to pay some support money.
 - b) It may be possible to ask the support by showing their logo on the PDBj server as a supporter of PDBj.
- A difficulty to recruit a new PDBj biocurator was discussed. Genji told that it was a common problem in the wwPDB. A possibility to open an outstation of PDBj in the other place was discussed, which may help this problem.
- Prof. Tsuyoshi Inoue and Dr. Masaki Yamamoto will attend the wwPDB AC meeting, which will be held at Cambridge, UK, hosted by PDBe, on 1st November 2018, in addition to Prof. Genji Kurisu.

4. PDBj-AC meeting in 2019.

A request to have a TV meeting of PDBj-AC in 2019 was discussed. It will be considered to have a TV PDBj-AC meeting between OU Tokyo office and IPR in 2019.