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*MEETING ABSTRACT*

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**A2.2**

**Using core competencies to develop a bioinformatics training programme**

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H3ABioNet [1] is a Pan-African Bioinformatics Network which aims to build bioinformatics capacity to enable genomics research on the continent. One of the activities of H3ABioNet is the development of education and training programs to build the next generation of bioinformatics users and bioinformatics scientists. Since bioinformatics degree programs on the continent are still rare, an African Bioinformatics Education Committee was established during a degree development workshop in Botswana in 2014, which sought to provide guidance on the development of such programs, including recommended curricula and outline processes for establishing and costing new degrees. We started by defining the core subjects bioinformaticians should be exposed to, based on several publications by the ISCB and others. We then developed a set of core and elective modules with suggested content, contact hours, assessment method, etc. These are being mapped to a core competency framework developed by international groups, such as the ISCB. Our curriculum has been implemented in two new Masters degree programs in Mali and Malawi. Using a similar method, but starting from the core competencies and using the Edison framework, we are currently developing a new curriculum for genomic medicine appropriate for African institutions.

**Link**

1. <http://www.h3abionet.org>

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