



Bioconductor Award 2020

Certificate

Gordon Smyth

For outstanding contributions to the Bioconductor project and community

Gordon Smyth has been a cornerstone of Bioconductor for more than 15 years and serves as a model for how to contribute to the project and its community. He leads the development of limma and edgeR, two fundamental Bioconductor packages for the analysis of gene expression data. These are the two most downloaded non-infrastructure software packages, and have been cited over 11,000 and 15,000 times, respectively. The documentation for these packages has been developed such that they can be utilised by both experienced R users and novices, with detailed explanation of all major components. Via the support site, Gordon has helped “generations” of scientists to analyze microarray and RNA-seq data. His expertise in developing statistically rigorous methods and computationally efficient software is matched by his dedication to writing thorough technical documentation that is paired with user-friendly case studies and workflows. This documentation is augmented by his patient answering of more than 4,000 questions from users via the support site and other forums. He was the first Bioconductor developer to publish packages with book length User’s Guides. Gordon’s Lab has contributed Bioconductor packages and pipelines for analyzing two-color microarrays, Illumina microarrays, Agilent microarrays, RT-PCR, RNA-seq, ChIP-seq, Hi-C, shRNA-seq, CRISPR, RRBS-seq, proteomics and other technologies. He has instilled in his students and colleagues an appreciation of Bioconductor as a software project and as a community that they feel welcome in and want to be part of.

Boston, July 2020

Simone Bell

Charlotte Soneson

on behalf of the Bioconductor Awards Evaluation Committee