

Making Sequences Matter: Collecting, Comparing, Computing

Yale University, June 20-21, 2008

Organized by

Bruno J. Strasser (Yale University) & Marianne Somme (ETH Zurich)

Friday, June 20:

- 8.30-9.00 Welcome and coffee
- 9.00-9.15 Introduction: Bruno J. Strasser & Marianne Sommer
- 9.15-10.15 **Michael Dietrich** (Dartmouth College): *Modeling molecular evolution: DNA and the rise of nucleotide substitution models*; Commentator: S. Ross
- 10.15-11.15 **Sage Ross** (Yale University): *How sequences became simple: From biochemical evolution to molecular evolution*; Commentator: W. Summers
- 11.15-11.45 Coffee break
- 11.45-12.45 **William C. Summers** (Yale University): *Doing things with DNA: The helix-coil transition and the first sequence comparisons*; Commentator: E. Suárez Diaz
- 12.45-2.00 Lunch
- 2.00-3.00 **Bruno J. Strasser** (Yale University): *Computing without computers: Margaret Dayhoff's natural history of protein sequences*; Commentator: M. Dietrich
- 3.00-4.00 **Miguel García-Sancho** (University of Manchester): *Towards a long history of sequencing: The emergence of data gathering and its impact on biomedical research (1965-1996)*; Commentator: B.J. Strasser
- 4.00-4.30 Coffee break
- 4.30-5.30 **Vincent Ramillon** (MPI History of Science, Berlin): *Managing the laboratory, collecting gene sequences, transforming genomics. The case of EST sequencing, 1991-1995*; Commentator: M. Garcia-Sancho
- 5.30-6.30 Witness testimonies and discussion: **Temple F. Smith** (Boston University), **Walter Fitch** (UC Irvine, *to be confirmed*)
- 7.30- Dinner

Saturday, June 21:

- 8.30-9.00 Coffee
- 9.00-10.00 **Edna Suárez Díaz** (MPI History of Science, Berlin): *Sequences, quantification and objectivity in the construction of phylogenies*; Commentator: M. Sommer
- 10.00-11.00 **Joel B. Hagen** (Radford University): *Morris Goodman and the use of molecular sequences to study primate evolution and classification*; Commentator: J. Marks
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee break
- 11.30-12.30 **Jon Marks** (UNC-Charlotte): *The rise and fall of DNA hybridization, ca. 1980-1995; Or, how I got interested in science studies*; Commentator: V. Ramillon
- 12.30-1.30 Lunch buffet
- 1.30-2.30 **Marianne Sommer** (ETH Zurich): *'It is a living history, told by the real survivors of the times: the DNA' - Anthropological genetics in the tradition of biology as applied history*; Commentator: J. Hagen
- 2.30-3.00 Coffee break
- 3.00-4.30 General commentaries and discussion: **Angela Creager** (Princeton University), **Alondra Nelson** (Yale University)