



BAT 1K NEWSLETTER



MAIN TOPICS

1. Bat1K at the IBRC 2019
2. Bat1K at the G10K-VGP meeting
3. Update on sequencing process and pilot study

Hello and welcome to the Bat1K newsletter for October 2019!

We are happy to share with you what Bat1K has been doing since its last newsletter has been published. Bat1K was represented at a number of conferences including the International Bat Research Conference (IBRC) and the Genome 10K (G10K)-Vertebrate Genomes Project (VGP) meeting. We will also give you an update on our sequencing progress and our pilot study. And last but not least, we also came up with a new idea to increase our community engagement... Keep on reading for further details!

-With best wishes from the Bat1K directors and Steering Committee.

Bat1K AT THE IBRC 2019 IN PHUKET, THAILAND

In July, Bat1K attended the [IBRC](#). Emma Teeling one of the founding co-directors, kicked off the conference with the first keynote speech entitled "Growing old yet staying young: could bats hold the secret of extended longevity?", which highlighted some of the reasons that bats are so special to study.

Bat1K also held a **workshop** here, presenting how Bat1K operates and what it can do for the bat research community and how people can get involved with Bat1K.

During the workshop, to understand the needs and expectations of the bat research community for Bat1K, a short survey was conducted. Results show

- the mission of Bat1K to sequence the genomes of all extant bat species was clear
- people know what Bat1K can do for them and the community
- suggestions for what Bat1K needs to do to move forward

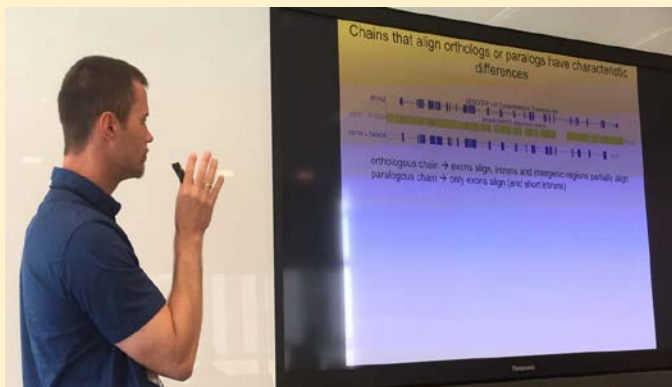


Emma Teeling holding the Bat1K workshop. Photo: M. Power

Would you like to see more photos to get an impression of the IBRC 2019? Then click [here](#).

THE G10K-VGP MEETING IN NEW YORK, USA

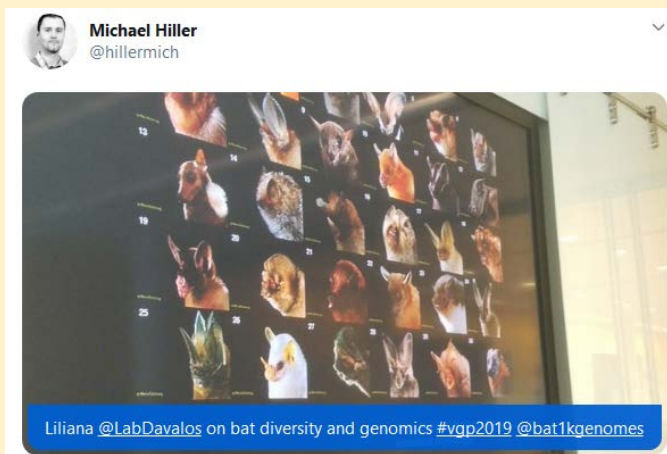
In August the annual G10-VGP meeting at the Rockefeller University in NY took place. This meeting is all about advancing the missions of the VGP, the Earth Biogenome Project, and other genome projects, such as Bat1K. The meeting consists of talks, breakout sessions and networking events.



Michael Hiller, photo: L.M. Dávalos

Bat1K hosted a **breakout session**, led by two members of the Bat1K steering committee, Michael Hiller and Liliana M. Dávalos. Bat1K member, David Jebb also gave a talk in this session.

On the left you can see Hiller talking about our Bat1K genomes, alignment and annotations. Hiller and Jebb also presented results from the Bat1K pilot study, discussed the workflow of Bat1K, successful methods for genome annotation and comparison and challenges in obtaining high-quality gene annotations.



Liliana Dávalos gave a talk elaborating on the genomic underpinnings of bat diversity.

The bat research and genomics community tweeted quite a lot about the conferences they attended. You can use the hashtags #vgp2019 and for the IBRC #IBRC2019 to see more.

UPDATE ON SEQUENCING PROGRESS AND PILOT STUDY

It is done! Some of the best news in this letter is that we can report that Bat1K successfully completed its pilot study to sequence the first 6 bat genomes: *Myotis Myotis*, *Pipistrellus kuhlii*, *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*, *Phyllostomus discolor*, *Rousettus aegyptiacus* and *Molossus molossus*. These 6 genomes are now completed in terms of sequencing, assembly, alignment and annotation and will be released to the public soon.

We are also working hard on Phase 1 of Bat1K, which has the goal to sequence one representative from each of the 21 families of bats. We are making a call out to the community for help obtaining tissue for five out of the 21 bat families. Namely: Cistugidae, Mystacinidae, Myzopodidae, Rhinonycteridae and Rhinopomotidae.

For an overview of our newsletters visit our member area at bat1k.ucd.ie



You did not receive access to this area yet? Our sincere apologies! Please send a mail to our Bat1K assistant bat1kconsortium@gmail.com and we will give you access as soon as possible. We are currently improving our sign up procedure to avoid any problems in the future.