Galaxy Training Network

Introducing the Galaxy Training Network

Scalability is a recurring challenge in all aspects of high-throughput biology, including training. There is far more demand for training than can be met by just in-person training by the core Galaxy Team. To help address this scalability challenge, we are introducing the Galaxy Training Network (GTN).

The GTN unifies core project & community training efforts under one umbrella. This means that training resources are more readily and widely available, and makes it easier for new arrivals to get up to speed with locally-run training. The GTN aims to leverage community efforts to make training materials more available to both trainers and those learning independently.

Platform Recommendations

Just as there are many platform choices for using Galaxy (bit.ly/gxychoices), there are many platform choices for teaching with Galaxy. The GTN Platforms page covers eight distinct infrastructure options to support teaching, and offers guidance on each option for different types of course material.

Training Resources

A key goal of the GTN is to encourage and facilitate the reuse of training resources. This includes slides, datasets and worked exercises, as well as compute resources such as Amazon Machine Images and other types of virtual machines.

The GTN supports a directory of reusable training resources that have been created and shared by the Galaxy Community. The directory features a summary of each resource and describes its domain, authors, and other information. Resource entries can also include links and information for instructors.

Best Practices

Another key goal of the Galaxy Training Network is to document and share best practices that have been established through experience. Some practices are general to teaching bioinformatics and others are Galaxy-centric. Others, such as using Galaxy Pages, leverage Galaxy’s strengths.

Trainer Directory

The network exists to help the researcher training community find training resources, also to help people find qualified trainers. The GTN includes a trainer directory with contact information, geographical region, and what topics they are most qualified to cover.