



Summary of the MAQC **December-15-2005** Teleconference

**The MAQC Project: Calibrated RNA Samples, Reference Datasets, and QC Metrics/Thresholds for Microarray Quality Control**

Teleconference Date: December 15, 2005 (9 am PST/11 am CST/12 pm EST/17:00 GMT)  
Summary Date: December 19, 2005  
Author: Leming Shi, +1-870-543-7387, [Leming.Shi@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Leming.Shi@fda.hhs.gov)  
MAQC Website: <http://edkb.fda.gov/MAQC/>

1. **Summary of Palo Alto Meeting:** Over 100 people from more than 50 organizations representing industry, academia, government agencies, and other stakeholders attended the meeting.
2. **Distribution of Palo Alto Presentations:** More than 30 speakers presented their results in Palo Alto. At the request of meeting participants and after confirmation from individual speakers, the presentations have been distributed to the 102 participants in the hope of stimulating scientific discussions. Each recipient is required to agree to the confidentiality terms for accessing the presentations.
3. **Boston Meeting on Feb. 3-4, 2006** (Rick Jensen and Leming Shi): Based on the availability of meeting facilities at the University of Massachusetts at Boston and the responses received after the Dec-15-05 TC, a decision has been made to hold the Boston meeting on Feb. 3 and 4, 2006. The main focus of the Boston meeting will be to discuss the detailed outlines for each manuscript and to decide on various data analysis options. In order to facilitate efficient discussion and decision-making, we intend to keep the meeting as small as possible. The meeting will be by invitation only; representatives from platform providers, official data analysis sites, and manuscript-drafting teams will be invited.
4. **“Early Access” to MAQC Datasets:** Rafael Irizarry of John Hopkins University requested access to the MAQC datasets. Leming Shi again emphasized that the success of the MAQC project would depend on the use of the MAQC datasets (and the RNA samples) by the large scientific community outside of the MAQC team. It was generally agreed that people like Rafael should be given “early access” to the datasets after signing a “confidentiality agreement” (*e.g.*, without presenting, submitting, or publishing anything until the MAQC supplemental issue is published). Leming Shi will be working on the “confidentiality agreement”.
5. **Nature Biotechnology:** *N.B.* was consulted and agreed to the arrangements on the distribution of presentations and the mechanism of “early access” to the MAQC datasets. *N.B.* emphasized the importance of not disclosing any MAQC results/data to other journal(s). *N.B.* also requested (and Leming Shi agreed) that any MAQC results should not be published elsewhere until the supplemental issue is published.

Next Teleconference:

**Thursday, December 29, 2005** (9 am PST / 11 am CST / 12 pm EST / 17:00 GMT)  
USA Toll Free Number: **888-566-5020**; International caller: +1-210-795-9594  
PASSCODE: **79451**