Content Development by Meeting Attendance
Background

• Sourceforge requests
• Focus meetings: experts come to us
• An alternative way to expand areas of the GO and to check the accuracy of current areas
• We go to the experts
Method

- Identify meetings covering broad areas of biological processes
- Pre-meeting
  - Review sessions
  - Review GO
  - Identify sessions that cover areas that GO does not cover extensively
- Have GO loaded and ready to review during talks
- Take notes
- Add terms/make modifications as soon as possible after talks, confirm current GO structure
- Revisions consisted of improved definitions, added synonyms, and re-placement in the graph.
2009 Annual Meeting of the Society for Developmental Biology

- Total number of terms affected: 151
- New terms added: 143
- Existing terms modified: 9
- Talks attended: 20
- Areas of biology covered:
  - Leaf morphogenesis
  - Ear morphogenesis
  - Blood vessel development
  - Abscission
  - Epidermis development
  - Patterning
  - Signaling involved in developmental processes
  - Eye development
2009 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Cell Biology

• Total number of terms affected: 235
• New terms added: 185
• Existing terms modified: 45
• Talks attended: 30
• Areas of biology covered:
  – ER to Golgi vesicle-mediated transport (GO:0006888)
  – cholesterol transport (GO:0030301)
  – cell-cell signaling (GO:0007267)
  – Golgi organization (GO:0007030)
  – mitochondrial fission (GO:0000266)
  – mitochondrial fusion (GO:0008053)
  – sphingolipid biosynthetic process (GO:0030148)
  – establishment or maintenance of cell polarity (GO:0007163)
  – meiosis (GO:0007126)
  – mitosis (GO:0007067)
  – areas of RNA metabolism and localization
Pros and Cons

- GO reflects the leading edge of research
- Review and verification of existing ontology
- Average cost per term: $13
- 2 curators going to meeting vs. 6 experts coming to GO
- Interaction with ‘real’ users
- No internet connection at convention center (SDB)
- Emphasis on no ‘tweeting’, reporting of unpublished results during the ASCB meeting
- Some terms are ahead of the curve and won’t be used for annotation right away