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Martien Groenen has played a prominent role in animal genomics since the early 1990s, resulting in an extensive international network and collaborations in this research area. This is evident from his role in the steering committees of several international consortia toward sequencing and SNP

discovery in a wide variety of species (chicken, pig, duck, turkey, great tit) and more recently in steering committees of international consortia to further functionally characterize these genomes (FAANG, Functional Annotation of Animal Genomes). In 2009 he was awarded an advanced ERC research grant for his research project “Molecular Characterization of Genetic Factors in the Pig Under Selection During Speciation, Domestication and Breeding.” Many of the identified signatures of selection are located within non-coding regions of the genome. His current research activities focus on the further characterization of these regions, to provide deeper insight into the interplay of the selected variants within gene networks and the genomic context, using a range of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS)-based studies (whole-genome methylation, histone modification using ChIP-seq). In April 2017 Groenen became chair of the Animal Breeding and Genetics Group of Wageningen University, one of the top groups within the university.

Groenen has been a member of ISAG since 1988, when he joined the Animal Breeding and Genetics Group at Wageningen University, and in 1994 he became a member of ISAG’s Poultry Genome Mapping Committee. Between 2005 and 2010 he served as an editorial board member for *Animal Genetics*. In 2016 he was elected as a member of the ISAG Executive Committee.