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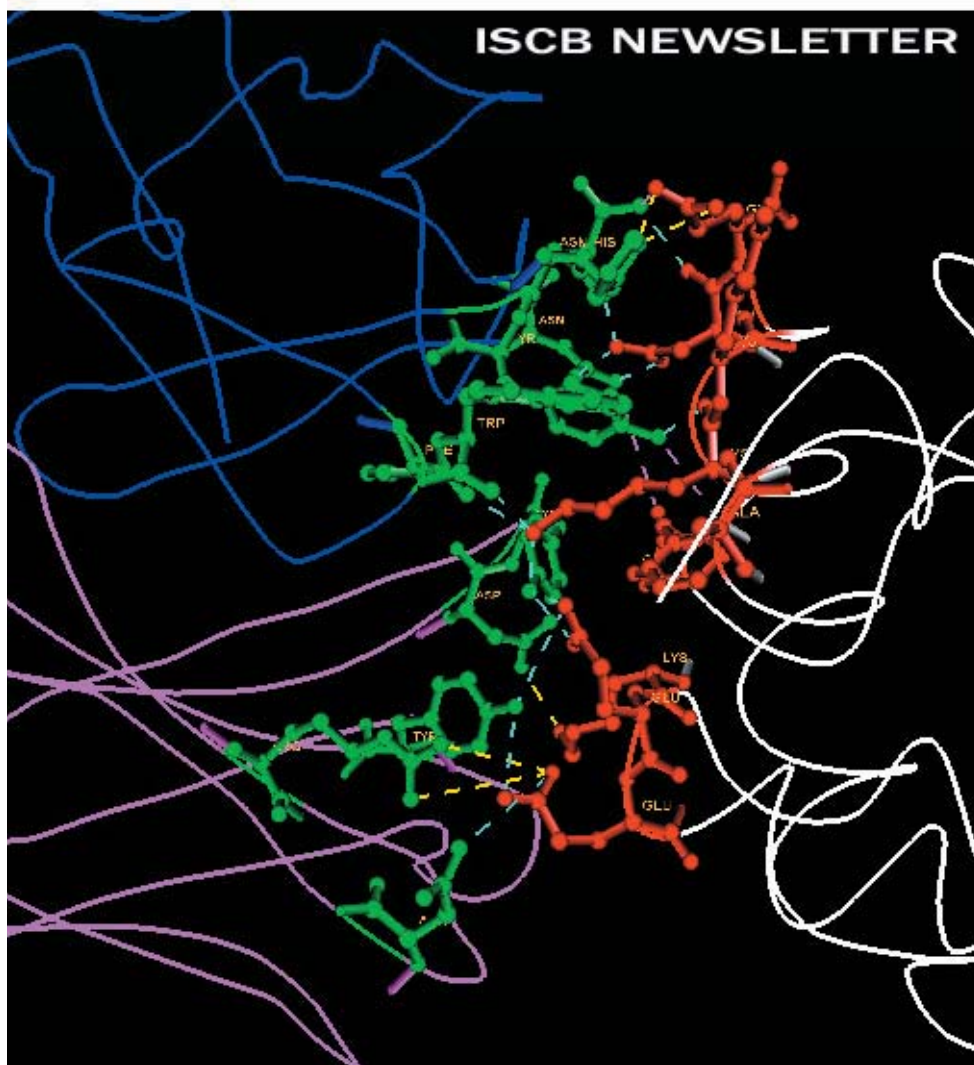
ECCB 2005

SCCB Computational Biology
Hebrew University of Jerusalem

News from the Field

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EpitopeViewer: Epitope (red) and paratope (green) atom-atom interactions between the antibody (blue, magenta) and antigen (white) in the structure with pdb id 1wej, as shown by the EpitopeViewer program. Hydrogen Bonds are light blue, Salt Bridges are yellow, and Water-mediated Hydrogen Bonds are magenta.

Look for EpitopeViewer on <http://mbt.sdsc.edu/apps/index.html> for more information.

Image courtesy of John Beaver, La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology (www.liai.org). He built the application using the Molecular Biology Toolkit (mbt.sdsc.edu) from San Diego Supercomputer Center.

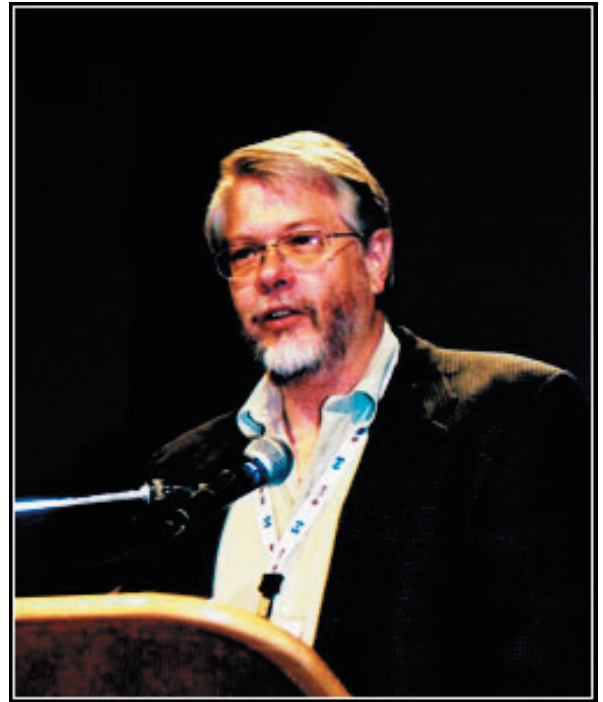
A NOTE FROM ISCB PRESIDENT MICHAEL GRIBSKOV

As I start the second of my two-year terms as ISCB President I can assure that I look forward to the upcoming election of my successor. While I never seem to have enough time to tend to both my paid job and that of president, and I truly enjoy working with colleagues from around the world to grow ISCB, it is definitely time for new blood. Nevertheless, there remains much to be done, and I expect to continue to make progress on the changes we have begun to make in the society and the way it is run. I welcome the chance to mentor the new president during his or her year as president-elect, and look forward to ultimately passing on the torch.

Nominations are now being accepted for a variety of ISCB leadership positions, from the Student Council, to the Board of Directors, to President-Elect; there are ample opportunities for any of our members to help lead us into the future. I encourage you to feel free to nominate yourself or a respected colleague for any of the open positions. Personally I have been on this journey for more than seven years, having served as a Board member, co-chair of ISMB 2000, co-Chair of both the Conferences and Education Committees, Vice President, and for the past two years as President. Each role has had its share of frustrations, but at the end of the day I have found it rewarding, and furthermore a wonderful opportunity to meet a great group of people drawn from all parts of the world. Full details on the nominations process can be found in the "Calling All Leaders!" article of this newsletter.

After several years of discussion of society journals, I am pleased to announce our partnership with the Public Library of Science in the launch of a new open access journal, PLoS Computational Biology. Our Past President/Past Publications Committee Chair, Philip Bourne, has taken on the role of Editor-in-Chief, and reports that developing a new journal, with a relatively new publishing model, is extremely exciting. The emphasis of PLoS Computational Biology will be on computational studies with real biological outcomes that can be appreciated by experimentalists. We are all looking forward to the June, 2005 launch of the first issue, coinciding with ISMB in Detroit, and hope you will consider submitting your best research work for publication in this, our new society journal.

As we begin to count down the months to ISMB 2005, I commend the dozens of people who are working to put on a scientifically exceptional and logistically creative conference. A review of the committee members listed on the ISMB website gives a view of just the tip of the iceberg, as much of the heavy lifting goes on beneath the surface. ISCB is heavily reliant on volunteers at every level of the organizational structure, and this is especially true of the ISMB conference. I could fill pages of this newsletter naming them all,



but instead simply extend my appreciation for all the work already done, and yet to be done, by each and every one of our volunteers. I promise that on the last day of ISMB it will all feel worthwhile.

I also want to extend my thanks to Sun Microsystems for their loyalty in supporting the ISMB conference series through the years. Attendee registration fees would need to more than double in order to truly cover the full costs of producing ISMB were it not for our corporate sponsors and exhibitors. Sun Microsystems has been there since we first started seeking sponsorships in the 1990s, and has supported the conference for over ten years now. We are happy to present an article from Sun in this newsletter describing their contributions to computational biology.

All roads now seem to lead to Detroit for ISMB 2005; I hope I can count on seeing all of you there.

DON'T DELAY YOUR 2005 ISCB MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION ANY LONGER

2005 ISCB membership registration has been live at www.iscb.org/membership.shtml for a few months now. If you have not yet registered for the current year, now is the time to take full advantage of the many member benefits available to you throughout this year. The benefits include the following and much more...

2005 CONFERENCE DISCOUNTS

In all cases the below represents discounts for professional members by ordering through ISCB as compared to individual subscriber rates offered directly through the publishers; student/trainee discounts are typically even greater than those listed below. See http://www.iscb.org/events/event_board.php for more details:

- Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing (PSB) - \$50 off
- Int'l Conference on Research in Computational Molecular Biology (RECOMB) - \$40 off
- Bio-IT World conference - NEW for 2005! - 25% off
- Beyond Genome and select Cambridge Healthtech Institute conferences - minimum of 10% off
- Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB) \$100 off
- European Conference on Computational Biology (ECCB) - 30% off

2005 TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP AWARDS FUNDS FOR STUDENTS AND POST DOCS

- PSB, January 4-8, Big Island, Hawaii, USA
- RECOMB, May 14-18, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA
- ISMB, June 25-29, Detroit, Michigan, USA
- ECCB, September 28-October 1, Madrid, SPAIN

2005 JOURNAL DISCOUNTS

In all cases the below represents discounts for professional members by ordering through ISCB as compared to individual subscriber rates offered directly through the publishers; student/trainee discounts are typically even greater than those listed below:

- Bioinformatics - *minimum of \$375 savings*
- Briefings in Bioinformatics - minimum of \$31 savings
- Briefings in Functional Genomics & Proteomics - *minimum of \$31 savings*
- Combination BIB and FGP when ordered together - *minimum of \$94 savings*

- Comparative & Functional Genomics - minimum of \$11 savings
- Computers in Biology and Medicine - **NEW for 2005!** - *minimum of \$143 savings*
- Computer Methods and Programs in Biomedicine **NEW for 2005!** - *minimum of \$133 savings*
- Human Genomics **NEW for 2005!** - \$16 savings
- Human Molecular Genetics - minimum of \$94 savings
- Journal of Biomedical Informatics - **NEW for 2005!** - *minimum of \$151 savings*
- Journal of Computational Biology - minimum of \$234 savings
- OMICS – A Journal of Integrative Biology - *minimum of \$141 savings*

(If there is a journal you would like to see added for 2006, please let us know at admin@iscb.org)

ADDED-VALUE MEMBER BENEFITS:

- Complimentary job postings of positions available at your institution/company
- Membership in the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) for a voice in their US public affairs and funding initiatives
- A Board of Directors, Student Council, and several active committees working on your behalf to raise the level of membership excellence and the awareness of our science among other scientists, governments across the globe, and the world community.
- Access to post degree programs, upcoming events, news/press releases (not exclusive to members)
- Access to current developments in the field via the Website, quarterly newsletter and letters from the ISCB President (not exclusive to members)

Do the math and you will easily recognize that an ISCB membership can pay for itself by taking advantage of just one or two of the membership benefits above. The more you take advantage of your membership benefits the more your membership gives back to you. So, delay no more in registering for an ISCB 2005 membership.

THE WORLD'S LARGEST BIOINFORMATICS CONFERENCE: ISMB 2005

Submitted By Yuri Ikeda Santos on behalf of the ISMB 2005 Logistical Organizing Committee

Registration for ISMB 2005 is now open at: <http://www.iscb.org/ismb2005/reg.html>. Space is limited for this year's conference, so register early to ensure your attendance!

This year's ISMB 2005 promises to be a very dynamic and exciting conference. Held at Detroit's Renaissance Center from June 25 – 29, ISMB will host a diverse group of keynote speakers including:

- Ewan Birney (The European Molecular Biology Laboratory-EBI), ISCB Overton Prize Winner
- Howard Cash (Gene Codes Corp)
- Peter Hunter (Bioengineering Institute – Auckland, New Zealand)
- Jill Mesirov (The Broad Institute-Massachusetts Institute of Technology)
- Satoru Miyano (University of Tokyo)
- Pavel Pevzner (University of California at San Diego)
- Janet Thornton (European Bioinformatics Institute), ISCB Senior Scientist Accomplishment Award Winner
- Gunnar von Heijne (Stockholm Bioinformatics Center)

Along with these fantastic keynote speakers, ISMB 2005, as in previous years, features an exciting week-long series of specialized scientific sessions – some of which are offered for the first time in ISMB history.

PAPERS

The Program Committee received 426 paper submissions this year, and selected 56 exceptional papers to be presented during the ISMB 2005 main conference.



POSTERS/ABSTRACTS

Out of the 631 posters submitted, 50-60 outstanding posters will be selected for an oral platform presentation (to accompany the standard poster session). These “elevated poster presentations” are new for this year, and will follow a parallel track to the paper presentations for the length of the conference. Additionally, there are still available spaces for industry posters; see http://www.iscb.org/ismb2005/sponsor_ops5.html for more details.

SOFTWARE DEMONSTRATIONS

Our Software Demos allow participants to demonstrate novel software and/or hardware relevant to the bioinformatics community. These 1-hour demonstrations will be scheduled throughout the conference. The application deadline for presenting an academic demonstration has closed. There are still available spaces for industry demonstrations, see http://www.iscb.org/ismb2005/demos_call.html for more details.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

In addition, the ISMB 2005 Scientific Organizing Committee will introduce a new session titled “Panel Discussions” to this year's main conference. Several panel speakers will participate in a 1-hour discussion on scientifically controversial topics familiar to the bioinformatics community. Be sure to look for this session on the detailed agenda at <http://www.iscb.org/ismb2005/detailed.html>.

SIGS AND TUTORIALS

Pre-conference education includes Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings held June 23 & 24 (see related article in this newsletter). Saturday, June 25 will be dedicated to tutorial sessions. Registration fees for both SIG meetings and tutorials are separate from that of the main conference. Details of SIGs and tutorial can be found at <http://www.iscb.org/ismb2005/sigs.html> and <http://www.iscb.org/ismb2005/tutorials.html> respectively.

ISMB 2005 is not all about science, as there is always time put aside for some fun and relaxation. Delegates will have plenty of time to enjoy the Detroit area with their families and to spend time making new friends and renewing friendships. In addition to the receptions that will be offered during poster presentations, the ISCB Ice Breaker Navigation Event will be held on Saturday, June 25: 5:30-7:30pm at the Belle Isle. The Gala Dinner will be held aboard the Detroit Princess Riverboat on the evening of Tuesday, June 28, 2005. More information on these optional social activities, including pricing, can be found at: <http://www.iscb.org/ismb2005/social.html>.

As additional news and updates are being posted daily, the most up-to-date information can be found on the conference website, and interested parties are encouraged to sign up for conference notices at <http://www.iscb.org/ismb2005/prospects.php>.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS KICK OFF ISMB 2005

The countdown to ISMB 2005 is now on, with registration open and the line up of oral presentations now being finalized. In addition to the main conference, ISCB is pleased to continue the tradition of hosting a variety of Special Interest Group pre-conference meetings (SIGs). Each is organized with distinct programming in specialized areas of computational biology, and several are currently soliciting abstracts. The SIG lineup for 2005 is as follows:

ONE-DAY SIGs, FRIDAY - JUNE 24, 2005

Automated Function Prediction
Bioinformatics and Disease
BioLINK
Bio-Ontologies

TWO-DAY SIGs - THURSDAY AND FRIDAY - JUNE 23 AND 24, 2005

Alternative Splicing
Bioinformatics Open Source Conference (BOSC'2005)
BioPathways
SIGSIM

Brief descriptions of these SIGs are available at <http://www.iscb.org/ismb2005/sigs.html> and each listing includes a URL to access the SIG group's website for further information including abstract deadlines and contact information.

Pricing for SIGs is outlined below:

FEES - ON OR BEFORE MAY 16		
	1-DAY SIG	2- DAY SIG
Academic / Non-Profit / Government / PostDoc	USD \$110	USD \$170
Student	USD \$85	USD \$145
Corporate	USD \$135	USD \$195

FEES - AFTER MAY 16		
	1-DAY SIG	2- DAY SIG
Academic / Non-Profit / Government / PostDoc	USD \$160	USD \$220
Student	USD \$135	USD \$195
Corporate	USD \$185	USD \$245

Participation in SIG meetings is not dependent on attendance at ISMB 2005, so if you are interested in attending a SIG but not able to attend the main conference, you can register to attend only SIGs. Additionally, if you have already registered for the ISMB 2005 conference and would like to add a SIG meeting to your registration please write to registration05@ismbconf.org for assistance.

ISCB TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS OFFERED – DEADLINES APPROACHING FAST!

If you are a student or post doc member of ISCB who will be presenting a paper or poster at RECOMB or ECCB, did you know you can apply for travel fellowship funds from the Society to help defray your costs to attend these conferences?

The deadlines are approaching fast, so submit your funding applications immediately:

Application form: http://www.iscb.org/travel_fellowship_form.php

RECOMB travel fellowship application deadline:
Tuesday, March 15, 2005

ECCB travel fellowship application deadline:
Thursday, June 30, 2005

Although ISCB does not directly organize or own these conferences, the leaders of our Society are highly supportive of the excellent science presented at these annual conferences, and recognize them as outstanding educational opportunities for the young members of our field. Therefore, the board of directors approved 2005 funding to support student travel to RECOMB and ECCB (as well as PSB which was held in January).

For further details about each of these conferences please see the related articles in this newsletter.

SUN MICROSYSTEMS SUPPORTING ISCB CONFERENCES FOR THE LONG TERM

Submitted by Loralyn Mears, Global Head of Life Science Solutions, Sun Microsystems, Inc.

Sun Microsystems has been a key technology provider to the life sciences industry for more than a decade. Our strategy is three-prong:

- a) support for, and contribution to, both standards and open-source efforts;
- b) innovative technology, pricing models and customer-driven solutions derived by the combination of Sun's hardware and software with that of our partners;
- c) building communities of interest to provide forums for the advancement of science.

We have donated more than \$100 million in hardware grants through our Academic Excellence Grant program and continue to make substantial awards each quarter. To this end, we are very proud to support the ISCB by contributing to regional ISCB meetings as well as sponsoring ISMB at the Platinum Level for the 6th year in a row.

In a recent move to demonstrate our ongoing and unyielding support of open-source, we donated the world's most trusted, robust and scalable operating system, Solaris™, and continue to make large contributions to the Java™ and Sun Grid Engine code-base. Few are aware that we are the second largest contributor of Linux code, behind only University of California Berkeley. Sun has supported standards groups such as the Java Community Process, W3C, OMG-LSR, Open-bio.org, MGED, the BioPathways Consortium, HL7, and many more.

Our pricing models (eg/ Utility Computing for pay-per-use) are as innovative as our technology itself. Over the past two years, Sun has been offering customers the choice of Solaris, Linux or even Windows™ and 32- or 64-bit microprocessors.

Our Sun-AMD Opteron™ servers have set numerous records for price and performance. New server architectures based on chip multi-threading and dual-cores are in development now with Fujitsu, as well as AMD. Look for an even more expansive product line by 2006.



Sun has hundreds of life science software vendor partners and 19 academic Centers of Excellence (COE) around the globe. A Sun COE is a formalized, relationship between ourselves, an educational or research institution or consortium, and a third party, to pursue and share research of strategic importance to Sun and the community. Sun, however, takes no intellectual property from the COE. Sun's Computational Biology Special Interest Group (Sun CB-SIG) is a forum for information dissemination, sharing of best practices and collaboration.

Finally, Sun offers excellent engineering support and dedicated annual programs, including Tunathon, which was established five years ago to tune source code to improve performance. Modified code is then posted on the public domain (eg/ BLAST, HMMER), or incorporated into the next release of the application for a much-improved user experience (eg/ Accord by Accelrys, etc.). We invite you to contact us at LifeSciences@Sun.com to learn more about our technology, partners, and programs or to make suggestions on how we can better meet your needs, or browse www.Sun.com/edu/commofinterest/compbio.

We are looking forward to another informative and enjoyable ISMB. See you in Detroit!

PRIMARY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES: KEY DATES AT-A-GLANCE

ISMB 2005 KEYDATES *please note, dates subject to change*

PAPERS

March 15, 2005 Accepted Paper (Final Version)
Submission Deadline

TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS

March 8, 2005 Travel Fellowship Application
Deadline
April 8, 2005 Travel Fellowship Award
Notification

POSTERS

April 1, 2005 Notification of Poster Acceptance

DEMOS

April 1, 2005 Notification of Demo Acceptance

TUTORIALS

March 15, 2005 Draft Handouts Due
May 9, 2005 Final Handouts for Reproduction
Due
May 16, 2005 Early Registration Discount
Cutoff Date
June 24, 2005 Tutorial Registration Opens
Onsite
June 25, 2005 Tutorial Meetings at Detroit
Marriott Renaissance Center

SIG REGISTRATION AND CONFERENCE DATES

May 16, 2005 Early Registration Discount
Cutoff Date
June 23, 2005 SIG Registration Opens Onsite
June 23-24, 2005 SIG Meetings at Detroit Marriott
Renaissance Center

ISMB 2005 REGISTRATION AND CONFERENCE DATES

May 16, 2005 Early Registration Discount
Cutoff Date
June 24, 2005 ISMB 2005 Registration Opens
Onsite
June 25-29, 2005 ISMB 2005 Conference at
Detroit Marriott Renaissance
Center

RECOMB 2005 KEYDATES *please note, dates subject to change*

POSTERS

March 15, 2005 Notification of Poster Acceptance

TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS

March 15, 2005 Travel Fellowship Application
Deadline
March 25, 2005 Travel Fellowship Award
Notification

RECOMB 2005 REGISTRATION AND CONFERENCE DATES

April 4, 2005 Early Registration Discount
Cutoff Date
May 1, 2005 Pre-registration Closes
May 14, 2005 RECOMB 2005 Registration
Opens Onsite
May 14-18, 2005 RECOMB 2005 Conference at MIT
Campus

ECCB 2005 KEYDATES *please note, dates subject to change*

PAPERS

March 15, 2005 Paper Submission Deadline

TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS

June 30, 2005 Travel Fellowship Application
Deadline
July 22, 2005 Travel Fellowship Award
Notification

POSTERS

May 15, 2005 Poster Submission Deadline

ISCB STUDENT COUNCIL SYMPOSIUM

July 30, 2005 Early Registration Discount
Cutoff Date
August 15, 2005 Abstract Submission Deadline
Sept 28, 2005 ISCB-SC Symposium at the
Palacio Municipal de Congressos

TUTORIALS

July 30, 2005 Early Registration Discount
Cutoff Date
Sept 28, 2005 Tutorial Meetings at the Palacio
Municipal de Congressos

ECCB 2005 REGISTRATION AND CONFERENCE DATES

July 30, 2005 Early Registration Discount
Cutoff Date
Sept 28 -
Oct 1, 2005 ECCB 2005 Conference at the
Palacio Municipal de Congressos

CALLING ALL LEADERS: THE ISCB BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEEDS YOU!

Are you interested in stepping up your involvement through leadership service to the only international membership society serving the bioinformatics community all across the globe? Well, ISCB is looking for a few good leaders to serve on our international Board of Directors.

But why volunteer valuable time to an organization such as ours? Fortunately, ISCB has gained tremendously from the dedication of an ever increasing group of professionals who care deeply about advancing our science through high quality conferences, journals, education, advocacy, and information exchange. In return many of those volunteer board members have grown through the process of honing their own leadership skills and by the experience gained from operating within the group dynamics of a non-profit organization.

Different people are motivated differently, of course, but in a recent discussion among the current board, here is what one of our newest board members, Dr Tan Tin Wee of the National University of Singapore, had to say on the topic of 'frustration vs. reward of volunteer leadership':

Research work aside (which as our primary job we learn new things about nature all the time), I am equally curious to learn how an international organisation can grow with a rapidly growing field like Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, how it can establish solid finances that can underpin the very many activities it needs to carry out in order to drive this field to greater heights of professionalism and scientific excellence. And I am curious to learn how we can help members get the grant funding they need to continue their work from funding agencies, and how funding agencies get their money, and so on, and how ISCB can help them help our members better.

The incentive for me in ISCB is that I want to learn as much as I can. The learning experience itself is reward enough for me. Sure it takes time away from interesting research work, but viewed from this perspective of yet another learning experience, I think this is sufficient enough incentive for me.

So, if you too are interested in the enriching learning experiences highlighted by Dr Tan, and feel you have something to offer the Society through your service on the board, consider this: In 2006 the terms of seven board members will come to an end. Some may choose to run for an additional term, and not all seats are required to be filled. But the current leaders of ISCB are committed to continuing to build upon a board of directors that includes diversity of geographic representation, academic / industry affiliation, senior scientists as well as "young blood" and, of course, gender representation. Therefore, all nominees are welcome!

The qualifications to be considered as a nominee, or that you should consider when nominating others, are very straightforward:

- In order to be eligible to be a Board candidate, a person must be or become an ISCB member in good standing no later than May 13, 2005;
- All Board candidates must pledge to make every reasonable effort to attend the Board teleconferences held every other month and the annual Board of Directors meeting (normally held at the ISMB conference) at their own expense through completion of the three year Board term in January 2009.

The clock is ticking, so please login at <https://www.iscb.org/login.php> to submit all eligible nominations. You will need your registered email address and password/membership ID to login, and should then select the "Leadership Nomination" link from the menu options on the left of the page. If you are a member of an affiliated regional group and do not have an ISCB membership, please write to admin@iscb.org for instructions on how to submit a nomination. Nominations will be accepted through April 15, 2005, so please act now.

Board member elections will take place during the annual ISCB Board of Directors meeting in June 2005, and those elected will take office January 21, 2006 to serve three year terms.

Nominations are also being accepted for President-Elect of the Society. This person will serve for one year as President-Elect followed by two years as President and one additional year on the board of directors. Candidates must have served at least one year on the ISCB board of directors by the time they will take office. For a list of eligible candidates please visit the full call for nominations at <http://www.iscb.org/nominations05.shtml> and scroll down to view the list of current and past board members. Please encourage those who you feel have served the Society well to run for this top leadership position of the ISCB.

The ISCB Student Council is also accepting nominations and will be holding their first elections since forming with an inaugural leadership team last year. See the Student Council article in this newsletter for full details on the positions available and nominations/elections process.

PLoS COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY - A NEW OFFICIAL ISCB JOURNAL LAUNCHING SOON

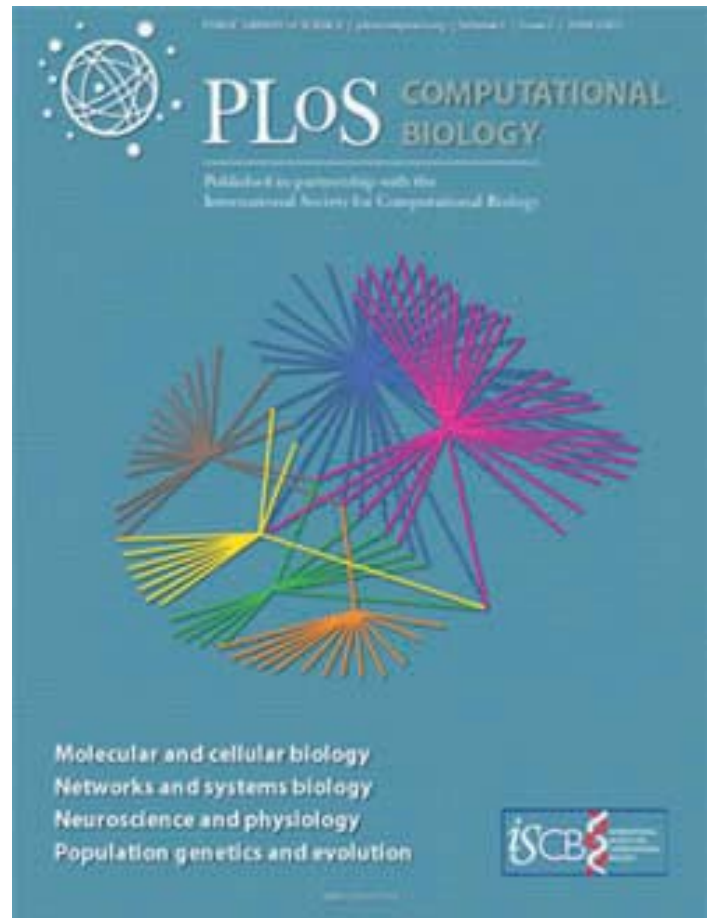
Submitted by Phil Bourne, Editor in Chief, PLoS Computational Biology

It is with great pleasure that the ISCB announces the launch of PLoS Computational Biology, published in partnership by the Public Library of Science (PLoS). An open access, peer-reviewed journal publishing significant biological advances that arise through computation, PLoS Computational Biology officially commences publication in June, 2005 at ISCB's 13th Annual International Conference on Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB 2005). We are now accepting submissions and are writing to ask that you submit your best computational biology research to this exciting new community resource.

PLoS Computational Biology is something different at an important time in the evolution of our field. Computational methods are playing an increasingly central role in diverse areas of biological inquiry. PLoS Computational Biology is a journal of broad scope regarding biological scales, with computation at its heart. Until now, there has been no single publication that focuses on the important contributions to the understanding of living systems afforded by computation. The Editors and the Advisory Board are committed to offering a recognized single venue for high quality works with real biological outcomes that can be appreciated by experimentalists working at different biological scales, perhaps to the point of adopting the methods presented in their own work.

Coupled with immediate free access to all content, PLoS Computational Biology provides an excellent consultative system of peer review, in which a team of leading academic editors generate constructive and efficient feedback. PLoS Computational Biology is accessible to all, and immediately searchable via PubMed. In addition, you retain the copyrights, and give the broadest possible audience—scientists all over the world—the ability to read, copy and use your findings in their own setting. Submitted papers receive an initial review for suitability for the journal within 2-4 working days. If suitable, a complete review is returned within 3-4 weeks.

The most important aspect of PLoS Computational Biology is that the quality, content, and ultimate responsibility for these journals rests with us—the scientific community. Leading researchers orchestrate the peer review of the best science with editorial support from PLoS staff. Concurrently, computational and information scientists are poised to make the most of the digital medium. Join us in creating the next generation of scholarly journals by submitting your papers.



For ongoing information about this journal and research publication alerts, sign up at: <http://www.ploscompbiol.org>. If you would like to send a presubmission inquiry to find out whether your paper might be appropriate for PLoS Computational Biology, now is a great time to get in touch. Send us an e-mail at ploscompbiol@plos.org.

On a personal note, as a past president of ISCB and former chair of the ISCB Publications Committee, I see a relationship between journals and a scientific society as the best opportunity for wide dissemination of our science to a broad audience. I believe this new relationship will, on one hand, take the society in new directions, and on the other, lead to a stronger journal because of membership support. Exciting times indeed.

ISCB STUDENT COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

Submitted by Manuel Corpas, Chair, ISCB Student Council

1) HOW TO JOIN THE ISCB STUDENT COUNCIL (SC)

If you are or plan to become a student or post doc member of ISCB, signing up for the Student Council is a very simple process. Within your membership registration form just mark the check box for Student Council on the list of committees you are interested in serving. If you already registered for 2005 ISCB membership but neglected to mark that checkbox, or cannot remember if you did or not, simply login on the membership page and select Edit Personal Information to update or verify your record. Once your checkbox is marked you will be enrolled as an SC member within seven days. It's that simple!

2) SC LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS

The current SC has had a successful inaugural year outlining plans and activities of interest to our student and post doc community of members. Now it is time for our SC members to hold their first elections for the coming year. Simultaneous to the ISCB Board of Directors nominations that are currently in progress, the SC is also seeking nominations for all of its leadership positions. These include Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Operations Representative, Events Representative, Outreach Representative, Business Relations Representative, Marketing Representative, and Representative to the ISCB Board of Directors. One person can be elected to more than one position, provided they can commit to performing satisfactorily to the multiple tasks involved. Nominations close April 15th, with online elections planned for May 20-June 3, 2005. All terms will begin June 20, 2005 and end January 21, 2007. The full call for nominations is posted at <http://www.iscb.org/nominations05.shtml> and all SC members are urged to submit self nominations if interested in serving any of these positions, or nominations of their peers who have an interest in leading the SC.

The new SC leadership will be introduced at ISMB 2005 where they will begin to assess past activities, assume responsibility for implementation of initiatives of the past year, and carry forth the SC activities planned for ECCB 2005.

3) SC TRAVEL FELLOWSHIP AWARD AVAILABILITY

The ISCB is pleased to announce that a travel fellowship award to defray the costs of attending ISMB 2005 in Detroit has been designated for one outstanding contributor to the



Several Student Council Members enjoying a social outing at ISMB/ECCB 2004 in Glasgow

SC from among its most active members during this past year. If you have been an active member of the ISCB-SC and would like to apply for this award, please contact the acting Operations Subcommittee Representative, Venkata Pardhasaradhi (venkata.satagopam@embl.de) for an application form. Submission deadline is March 31, 2005, so act now to ensure you will be considered. And if you have not been active but would like to be considered for such awards in the future be sure to get involved and volunteer your time and talents (there are plenty of opportunities for such right here in this newsletter article).

4) WEBSITE DEDICATED TO THE SC

The SC is currently developing a website dedicated to matters of the ISCB student and post doc community. This website will include a survey evaluating the SC membership program to gather suggested changes and improvements to attract and retain more members. If interested in serving our community by volunteering to help finish the website and the survey, please write to Manuel Corpas (protein_bioinformatics@yahoo.co.uk) immediately and you will be notified of a URL to access the prototype website. The final website will be released to the public in early April, 2005 so final revisions are needed by the end of March.

5) ISMB 2005 EVENTS

The SC is finalizing the agenda of SC events during ISMB 2005 in Detroit. The line up of events will include sessions of scientific and career relevance, as well as social networking activities to help expand each student's and post doc's circle of influence and support. Volunteers are needed to contact prospective speakers and to help coordinate and implement a planned mentorship scheme. Please send an email by March 31, 2005 to Manuel Corpas (protein_bioinformatics@yahoo.co.uk) if you would like to volunteer to help out in this way.

6) ECCB 2005 EVENTS

The ISCB Student Council is organizing an International Symposium to be held on Wednesday, September 28, immediately preceding ECCB 2005 in Madrid. This Symposium is targeted to young computational biology researchers who are keen to develop their research communication skills, want to meet like minded colleagues, network with accomplished scientists and learn about career opportunities available in Europe and globally. Please be sure to register for ECCB 2005 at <http://www.eccb05.org/> and sign up for the symposium at the same time.

SELECTION OF ECCB ABSTRACTS

Students planning to attend this ISCB-SC Symposium on the 28th of September are encouraged to submit an abstract. The best abstracts will be selected for oral presentation at the Symposium. All submitted abstracts for the Student Council Symposium will also be presented as posters at the main ECCB 2005 event, and included in the poster abstract book.

Email your abstract to bioinspiration@gmail.com no later than the deadline of August 15, 2005.

ECCB BEST STUDENT PRESENTATION AWARD

Oral presentations on the SC Symposium day will all be eligible for the best student presentation competition if the main contributor is a student. The process for selection of the best presentation will be based on the quality of the research presented, the clarity and style of the ideas and on originality. All in attendance at the SC Symposium will be asked to submit a paper ballot to select the winner, so get those abstracts in soon and start brushing up on your skills to deliver the winning presentation!

Please check the ECCB 2005 website for updates <http://www.eccb05.org/student.htm> and register for the conference to capture the advantageous registration rates for ISCB student members before the early registration deadline of July 20, 2005.

A LOOK AT PUBLIC AFFAIRS & POLICIES AFFECTING OUR COMMUNITY

Submitted by Barbara Bryant, Chair, Public Affairs & Policies Committee

YOUR INPUT IS REQUESTED

The ISCB Public Affairs & Policies Committee is interested in hearing from members on the status of women and under-represented minorities in bioinformatics.

- * Does our field have less participation from these or other groups than other sciences?
- * If so, are there steps we could take to help correct this?
We are interested in both data (anecdotes and pointers to relevant statistics) and solutions.

Please write to us at admin@iscb.org with any information you can share on this topic.

EUROPEAN UPDATE

In Europe, progress is being made toward an independent European Research Council that would fund (based on peer review for scientific merit) all areas and levels of scientific research, and facilitate generation and implementation of long-term strategy. Currently, funding is via individual countries' budgets, or from the European Union's "Framework 6 Programme." The latter source of funds has been criticized for not being adequately streamlined. The overall European science research budget is expected to rise

significantly. ISCB will follow this news as it develops, and hopes to form a subcommittee within this committee to focus on issues of this new funding council.

FASEB UPDATES

In the United States ISCB continues its membership in the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), an organization of 22 US and international societies. FASEB's primary strengths are in its efforts to impact US public policy and increase government funding of the biological sciences.

Through our membership in FASEB we are pleased to report that ISCB's annual conference, ISMB 2005 in Detroit, Michigan, USA, June 25-29, has been approved for \$16,000 in travel support funding through the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC). As reported in previous ISCB communications, students, post docs, and assistant faculty who are presenting a paper or poster at ISMB05 needed to visit <https://ns2.faseb.org/marc/travel1.html> for full eligibility information and to apply for these travel funds if eligible. The deadline to apply was March 8, 2005, and notification will be made by April 8th. The MARC program is committed to supporting the increasing minority access to high level scientific conferences, and ISCB is thrilled to be included in the 2005 funding program.

U.S. ISSUES UPDATES

We are happy to see some positive changes in US policies regarding visa applications for science and technology students and workers from other countries. In general Visa Mantis terms have been extended from two to four years for students holding F visas, and are two years for temporary workers holding H visas, exchange workers holding J visas, and intercompany transferees holding L visas. Additionally, the US Department of State is reporting the average time to process visa requests has dropped to 14 days, from a high of several months as experienced in recent years. To read the full government press release on the Visa Mantis changes please go to <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2005/42212.htm>.

US government-supported scientific research continues to feel a budget crunch. As this is being written, there is breaking news about a letter signed by over 700 microbiologists concerned about increased funding for biodefense work in the face of shrinking budgets for non-defense infectious disease research. The juxtaposition of these two developments may not be so simple (the source of the biodefense work is a separate pot created by a Presidential Directive), and we're glad to see it managed via peer-review by NIH and not by the Department of Homeland Security. However, the underlying issue of shrinking budgets for research supported by the government is one that we need to rally around.

COMMITTEE WORK UPDATES

The Public Affairs Committee met by phone in January and plans to meet throughout the year approximately every 6-8 weeks by teleconference. Those interested in joining the Committee are encouraged to write to admin@iscb.org with a brief statement of interest, including any experience in public affairs or policy work.

Peter Karp, past chair of the ISCB Public Affairs & Policies Committee, is leading a committee discussion on an issue directly relevant to computational biologists who apply for grants from the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other US government agencies. Currently grant reviewers are advised against going to URLs mentioned in grant proposals. NIH's reasons for not visiting URLs include maintaining anonymity of the reviewers, the lack of a permanent record, and avoiding going above the page-limit requirements for NIH grant proposals. However, for grants relating to bioinformatics work, web sites showing previous work of the applicants can be essential to a full and accurate review of a proposal. Therefore, Karp is drafting a statement recommending that reviewers be allowed or encouraged to visit URLs, addressing the issues of concern and offering satisfactory solutions (i.e., use of anonymizer.com as a web proxy server such as used by Bioinformatics reviewers).

The next step will be for the committee to post the proposed statement on the ISCB website for a comment period.

The committee will then work through the comments, making revisions as appropriate. Once the ISCB Board of Directors approves the final statement it will be available to the ISCB membership to vote on whether the statement is representative of our affected members' needs. Should that vote pass the statement would then be issued to the government agencies involved as an official position of the ISCB. So, Karp's effort is just a start at addressing something that many believe affects the bioinformatics community's efforts to secure funding from US government agencies. If the statement is ultimately issued and affects a change in grant reviewer policies, the domino effect may also result in allowing URLs in grant proposals in other regions of the world that also do not currently allow for them.

Sign up to Receive Email Updates on Emerging Issues

If you would like to receive periodic updates on either FASEB issues or more global public affairs issues, you can add yourself to the mailing lists for email updates. To do so simply mark those selections when registering for membership or when renewing your previous membership (a specific mailing list options page is part of the registration process). If you are already a member but did not select those options, or cannot remember if you did, please login on the membership page and select Change Mailing List Options from the menu options on the left of the page. From there you can update all of your mailing list options, including these two new updates options. You must be an ISCB member to be included in these mailing lists, so if you have not joined yet, please do!

IMMIGRATING TO THE U.S. AS A RESEARCHER OR SCIENTIST A WORKSHOP CO-SPONSORED BY ISCB



The ISCB has joined as a co-sponsor of an immigration workshop targeted toward foreign born researchers and scientists working in the United States.

The workshop will be organized by the Professional Development Committee & Younger Chemists Committee of the San Diego Chapter of American Chemical Society, and hosted by the Burnham Institute of La Jolla.

This hands-on workshop is designed to empower foreign-born scientists on issues related to immigration to the United States. Currently, there are many recruitment challenges for foreign-born scientists educated in the United States due to the limit/cap in the work visas allowed by the U.S. government. Many foreign-born U.S. educated scientists are experiencing a challenge in obtaining accurate and up-to-date information on the immigration process to the U.S. This workshop will provide the necessary tools and accurate information from experienced immigration attorneys on how researchers and scientists can apply for permanent residency in the U.S.

Immigrating to the U.S. as a Researcher or Scientist will provide the ins and outs of self-petitioning (or employment sponsored) for permanent residency (green card) in the United States as a scientist or technical professional. The different categories such as 'extraordinary ability' and 'national interest waiver' will be presented and discussed. Come and learn from prominent immigration lawyers and scientists who have successfully won approval for permanent residency application.

A featured presenter will be Mimi Tsankov who runs The Law Offices of Mimi Tsankov in San Diego, California, and brings an insider's know-how to analyzing immigration matters and achieving successful outcomes. Ms. Tsankov has served as Assistant District

Counsel with the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), and as Special Assistant U.S. Attorney in New York. She serves as a Committee Chair with the American Immigration Lawyers Association



(AILA) San Diego Chapter, and frequently lecturers on immigration topics before the San Diego North County Bar Association. Ms Tsankov also serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Taiwan-American Chamber of Commerce in San Diego.

Another featured presenter is Brian McGloin, a San Diego based attorney with experience in all areas of immigration law, including employment and retention of foreign nationals, family based immigration, removal defense, and naturalization matters. He is a member of the State Bar of California and the American Immigration Lawyers Association. Mr. McGloin received his Juris Doctor from California Western School of Law, where he was a member of Law Review and presented with the American Jurisprudence Award in Immigration Law. He holds a Master of Pacific International Affairs from the University of California, San Diego and a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from The Johns Hopkins University.

Date: Saturday, April 16, 2005

Time: 10:00am-2:00pm (lunch provided)

Location: The Burnham Institute main auditorium

Cost: Free of charge

RSVP: jkp135@att.net (rsvp necessary, space is limited and workshop will sell out)



Research in Computational Molecular Biology, is preparing to roll out the red carpet for its ninth year in a row of delivering a well organized conference at the intersection of computer science and biology. The RECOMB series focuses on theoretical advances in computational biology and their applications in molecular biology and medicine. The origins of the conference came from the mathematical and computational side of the field, and there remains to be a certain focus on computational advances. However, the effective use of computational techniques to biological innovation is also an important aspect of the conference. The 2005 conference will be held on the campus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and over 700 attendees are expected to participate.

ISCB is pleased to once again sponsor travel fellowship funds to enable a select number of student and post doc members to attend RECOMB this year. The travel fellowship application deadline is March 15 and members wanting to be considered for ISCB funding must apply through the application form at http://www.iscb.org/travel_fellowship_form.php. Applying directly through the RECOMB site is also recommended as travel fellowship resources are very limited, although not all applicants are guaranteed funding and no applicant will be funded by both organizations.

For the first time ever, ISCB is also sponsoring the Treasure Hunt Ice-Breaker which is an Orienteering Event similar to the one that has become so popular as an icebreaker at the annual ISMB conference series. You and your orienteering team will have one hour to find control locations marked on a map of the MIT campus. For the nerdy amongst you, this is the NP-complete Prize Collecting Traveling Salesman problem, which has a respectable and fascinating literature, and may have applications in

bioinformatics. For more information on the sport of orienteering visit the International Orienteering Federation at www.orienteering.org.

The meeting features eight impressive keynote speakers and 39 selected papers to be presented from the 217 submissions received. Poster submission deadlines have just recently closed so the final number of posters is not yet known, but if 2004 is any indication there should be over 300 highly interesting posters demonstrating the enormous scope of research work in this field.

See the related Key Dates article in this newsletter for important upcoming dates to watch for, and visit <http://www.broad.mit.edu/recomb2005/index.html> for full conference information, including online registration. Early registration closes April 4, 2005, and pre-registration closes May 1st. So, sign up now to make plans to join 700 of your colleagues at one of the premier international computational biology conferences around.

ECCB/05 AND JBI/05 PREPARING TO WOW DELEGATES THIS FALL

Madrid, Spain will provide a stunning backdrop for the next presentation of the European Conference on Computational Biology September 28 – October 1, 2005 (ECCB/05). The fourth rendition of this conference series is being held jointly with the sixth Jbi (Jornadas de Bioinformatica – The Annual Spanish Bioinformatics Conference), and will be hosted by the Bioinformatics National Institute (INB).

Last year ECCB was held jointly with ISCB's annual conference, Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB) in Glasgow, Scotland. Following that conference Hershel Safer, ISCB Conferences Committee Chair, stated, "Pairing the ECCB and ISMB conferences in 2004 was a natural fit for both organizations, and especially made perfect sense for our European attendees. We had the highest attendance that either conference had achieved independently, and I have no doubt that ECCB/05 in Spain will be an excellent conference to follow the joint meeting of last year. I am really looking forward to it."

From the pre-conference workshops to the parting words of the closing ceremony, attendees will enjoy the facilities of the Palacio Municipal de Congresos and the amenities of this culturally rich and cosmopolitan capital of Spain. The conference organizers are preparing for 1000 delegates to attend ECCB/05, with many of the students getting a jumpstart to the main conference by attending a full day ISCB Student Council Symposium on September 28th. Arrangements are being made for the conference dinner at the "Casino de Madrid" an exceptional historic building located in the heart of the city. The cuisine is sure to impress and the lively energy of the evening will provide a fun atmosphere to unwind and socialize in spectacular surroundings.

But the most important aspect of the conference is, of course, the science. ECCB/05 will surely deliver an excellent scientific program with a lineup of invited papers by internationally recognized luminaries in the field of bioinformatics. Featured talks include such titles as "Perspectives in Bioinformatics," "How Complete is Knowledge of the Genome Sequence," and "The Future of Systems

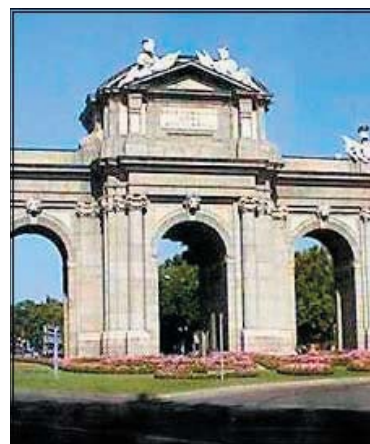
Biology." Paper submissions are being accepted until May 15, 2005 under the following focus areas:

- Databases
- Protein Structure and Function
- Genes and Genomes
- Microarrays
- Phylogenetics
- SNPs
- Algorithms
- Systems Biology
- Text Mining

In addition, this will be an intensive and creative event with a complete program consisting of papers, tutorials, software demos and exhibitions, all of which will be of particular interest to those professionals who work in bioinformatics and the biopharmaceutical industry. Local, regional, and large multinational companies will be participating in the exhibition event, introducing potential customers to the latest bioinformatics solutions. Exhibition visitors will not only discover the latest products and meet face-to-face with manufacturers of hardware and software technologies, but will also learn about discoveries and strategies in the bioinformatics sector from experts in this field.

ISCB Student/Trainee members presenting a poster or paper at ECCB/05 are eligible to apply for limited travel fellowship funds from the Society. Students and post docs are encouraged to submit an application at https://www.iscb.org/travel_fellowship_form.php as soon as paper or poster presentation acceptance is received by the conference organizers. Submission of an application does not guarantee funding, but not submitting an application certainly guarantees the opposite result!

For important dates and deadlines see related Key Dates article in this newsletter, and for more information about the ISCB Student Council Symposium be sure to read the Student Council Announcements and Updates article. For more details about ECCB/05, including conference and hotel registration information, please visit <http://www.eccb05.org/>.



COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY AT THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM THE SUDARSKY CENTER FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY (SCCB)



Submitted by Michal Linial, Director of SCCB

The Sudarsky Center for Computational Biology (SCCB) was inaugurated in January 2003 at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Following 18 months of its activity, we introduce the center to the ISCB community, in the hope that it may serve as a prototype for similar initiatives. Bioinformatics in Israel is growing and advancing very rapidly, with new educational programs being established in most academic institutions. The SCCB intends to help promote the field nationwide. The 7th meeting of the Israeli Bioinformatics Symposium drew a crowd of over 600 participants. It took place in Jerusalem (May 2004) with the sponsorship of the SCCB (see ISCB newsletter 7-3).

The SCCB is the first center of excellence in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology in Israel. The main goal set by the Center's founder, Dr. Jermy Sudarsky from Los Angeles, is to encourage talented young students to enter the graduate school in computational biology of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. The SCCB encourages joint research among investigators from multiple disciplines including medical sciences, physics, computer science, technology, engineering and life science. This is reflected by its members affiliations: The Hadassah Medical School (Hanah Margalit, Amiram Goldblum and Itamar Simon), the Life Science Institute (Michal Linial and Shy Arkin) and the School of Computer Science and Engineering (Nir Fridman, Nati Linial and Naftali Tishby).

With a budget of about \$150,000 a year the SCCB provides supplementary fellowships to over 20 excellent students whose research is within the arena of computational biology. As one of the main goals of the SCCB is to promote communication between our students and the entire community, travel fellowships are awarded to students to participate and contribute in major meetings and conferences in the field of Bioinformatics, Genomics, Proteomics, Computational Biology and System Biology.



At ISCB/ECCB 2004 in Glasgow, UK, last year the research conducted by the SCCB members and students was clearly noted by oral paper presentations (5), posters (10), web presentations (1), and SIG presentations (2). In the approaching RECOMB conference (May 2005) three of the presenting papers are contributed by members and students of the SCCB.

To learn more about The Sudarsky Center for Computational Biology (SCCB) see <http://www.cbc.huji.ac.il>.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

RECOMB SATELLITE MEETING ON COMPARATIVE GENOMICS CALL FOR PAPERS

Date: March 7, 2005

Deadline: May 15, 2005

The Third Annual RECOMB Satellite meeting on Comparative Genomics, to be held September 18-20, 2005 at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, is now seeking submission of papers. Successful submissions will be invited for a 25-minute presentation, and the paper will be printed in the conference proceedings, which will be published by Springer in the "Lecture Notes in Bioinformatics" series.

For full submission criteria and instructions please see the conference website http://www.gen.tcd.ie/recomb_cg/.

URL: http://www.gen.tcd.ie/recomb_cg/

Contact Person: Jens Lagergren (jensl@nada.kth.se)

INTRODUCING THE FORTHCOMING JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL IMMUNOMICS SOCIETY (IIMMS), IMMUNOME RESEARCH

Date: Feb 11, 2005

This journal will be an Open Access, peer-reviewed, online journal published by BioMed Central that considers cutting edge immunology research, integrating traditional laboratory research with the latest technologies, including genomics, bioinformatics and mathematical modelling. Preliminary information about the journal is available at www.immunome-research.com.

Immunome Research aims to provide a focal point for the field of Immunomics, which includes the sub-speciality immunoinformatics, as well as the application of large-scale genomics to the immune system. Rapidly expanding areas of particular interest include prediction of MHC-peptide binding, mathematical modelling of viral/host interactions, and the use of gene expression arrays to model immune system pathways.

The journal will consider the following article types: research, commentaries, hypotheses, reviews, short reports, database articles, methodology, software articles and meeting reports.

Although Immunome Research has not yet officially launched, the Editor-in-Chief is ready to consider manuscripts for publication. To submit your manuscript for

peer review and possible publication, please contact Nikolai Petrovsky at: nikolai.petrovsky@flinders.edu.au.

URL: <http://www.immunome-research.com>

Contact Person: Nikolai Petrovsky (newjournalsremoves@biomedcentral.com)

2006 CAREER AWARDS AT THE SCIENTIFIC INTERFACE

Date: Feb 01, 2005

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 2, 2005

Career Awards at the Scientific Interface provide \$500,000 over five years to support up to two years of advanced postdoctoral training and the first three years of a faculty appointment.

Bridging Support for Physical/Computational Scientists Entering Biology

2006 Career Awards at the Scientific Interface

- These portable awards support up to two years of advanced post-doctoral training and the first three years of a faculty appointment
- Candidates must hold a Ph.D. in mathematics, physics, biophysics, chemistry (physical, theoretical, or computational), computer science, statistics, or engineering and must not have accepted, or be in serious negotiations for, a faculty appointment at the time of application
- Candidates should propose innovative approaches to answer important biological questions
- BWF encourages proposals that include experimental validation of theoretical models
- Degree-granting institutions in the U.S. and Canada may nominate up to two candidates

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund is an independent private foundation dedicated to advancing the biomedical sciences by supporting research and other scientific and educational activities.

URL: <http://www.bwfund.org>

Contact Person: Debi Vought (dvought@bwfund.org)

ECCB 05 CALL FOR PAPERS

Date: Jan 25, 2005

We remind you that the time to send your Papers and Posters for the European Conference on Computational Biology 05 is open from now. For more information go to: www.eccb05.org

Contact Person: Marta de la Riva (mriva@cnb.uam.es)

NEW MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION ADDRESS FOR JOURNAL OF COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY

Date: Jan 12, 2005

Sorin Istrail, Editor-in-Chief, and his editorial office have moved. Please send your new manuscripts to: jcb@informaticsresearch.com

Address questions about manuscript status and editorial management to Merissa Henry, Editorial Coordinator for Journal of Computational Biology, to: merissa.henry@informaticsresearch.com

URL: <http://www.liebertpub.com/cmb>

Contact Person: Paula Ann Masi (pmasi@liebertpub.com)

ISMB/ECCB 2004 PROCEEDINGS NOW AVAILABLE

Date: Jan 12, 2005

Due to the request of many interested individuals, ISCB is pleased to report that we have restocked our supply of ISMB/ECCB 2004 Proceedings. We have a limited stock of Proceedings from ISMB 2001, ISMB 2002, and ISMB 2003 available for purchase as well.

URL: <http://www.iscb.org/proceedings.shtml>

Contact Person: Suzi Smith (admin@iscb.org)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN THE LIFE SCIENCES

Date: Jan 07, 2005

The Human Frontier Science Program is an international funding agency, supported by Australia*, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea*, Switzerland, U.K., U.S.A. and the European Union (*new members in 2005). HFSP promotes international collaboration through a prestigious program of grants which support interdisciplinary research in the life sciences. The program is intended to bring teams of scientists from various fields such as physics, mathematics, chemistry, computer science and engineering together with biologists to open up new approaches to understanding complex biological systems.

Teams applying for research grants must first submit a letter of intent online. The next deadline is March 31st 2005 and potential applicants must pre-register by March 21st 2005 (see the HFSP web site at www.hfsp.org for further details). In addition to team grants, individuals trained in non-biological sciences may apply for a Cross Discipline Fellowship to undertake postdoctoral research in biology (the next deadline for such Fellowships will be early in September 2005 - please see the website).

URL: <http://www.hfsp.org>

Contact Person: Martin Reddington (mreddington@hfsp.org)

ONLINE LAUNCH OF ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GENETICS, GENOMICS, PROTEOMICS AND BIOINFORMATICS

Date: Dec 22, 2004

The Encyclopedia of Genetics, Genomics, Proteomics and Bioinformatics brings together the latest advances in these dynamic and rapidly growing fields and ensures a truly multidisciplinary approach. The focus is on the human and mouse genomes, but other important model eukaryotes, and pathogenic bacteria, are given in-depth coverage.

Launching online via Wiley Interscience in December 2004, the encyclopedia will be FREE to view to all users until 31st January 2005.

If you would like to benefit from this free trial, please register at www.interscience.wiley.com/trial/ggpb

URL: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/trial/ggpb>

Contact Person: Kelly Haldenby (khaldenb@wiley.co.uk)

SPECIAL ISSUE ON DATA MINING FOR BIOINFORMATICS BY IEEE INTELLIGENTSYSTEMS

Date: Dec 12, 2004

Call for Papers

IEEE Intelligent Systems Special Issue on Data Mining for Bioinformatics

Submissions due 7 March 2005

Contact person: Dr. Jinyan Li

Email address: jinyan@i2r.a-star.edu.sg

<http://research.i2r.a-star.edu.sg/jinyan>

URL: <http://research.i2r.a-star.edu.sg/jinyan>

Contact Person: Dr. Jinyan Li (jinyan@i2r.a-star.edu.sg)

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF INTEREST

ISCB ANNUAL CONFERENCES

ISMB 2005

United States - MI – Detroit

Dates: Jun 25, 2005 through Jun 29, 2005

ISMB 2005 (Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology) is the world's largest and oldest Bioinformatics Conference. The conference will provide a forum for disseminating the latest developments in bioinformatics. This multidisciplinary conference brings together scientists from molecular biology, medicine, computer science, mathematics and statistics. The scope of ISMB encompasses the development and application of advanced computational methods for biological problems at the levels of sequences, cells, organs, and organisms.

ISCB Member Discount: up to \$100 USD (Registration now open)

Event URL: <http://www.iscb.org/ismb2005>

ISMB 2006

Brazil - Ceara – Fortaleza

Dates: Aug 06, 2006 through Aug 10, 2006

The Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology will be held in South America for the first time in 14 years of the conference in 2006. Watch the website for more details as they become available.

ISCB Member Discount: will be announced when registration fees are determined next year.

Event URL: <http://www.iscb.org/ismb2006>

ISCB Co-SPONSORED CONFERENCES

RECOMB 2005

United States - MA – Cambridge

Hosted by: Broad Institute of MIT & Harvard/Boston University

Dates: May 14, 2005 through May 18, 2005

RECOMB is a well established international conference in a dynamic field of science bridging computer science and biology. The meeting consists of keynotes from the best scientists in the field and the latest research findings presented as both oral papers and posters. The conference program includes between 30 and 40 contributed papers,

that are selected by an international program committee with around 30 experts during a rigorous review. The conference series aims at attracting research contributions in all areas of computational molecular biology

ISCB Member Discount: \$40 USD (Registration now open)

Event URL: <http://www.broad.mit.edu/recomb2005/>

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY

Spain – Madrid

Hosted by: by INB

Dates: Sep 28, 2005 through Oct 01, 2005

From September 28th to October 1st 2005, the ECCB 05 and the Jbi 05 take place in Madrid Spain. The "Bioinformatics National Institute" (INB) will host the Conference.

An appraisal opened to the participation in which the professionals of the bioinformatics sector can interchange ideas and experiences. The ECCB conference will be a very good opportunity to fulfill these goals, and we hope to count with the endorsement of our European colleges for the consolidation of our activities in Bioinformatics.

ISCB Member Discount: 30% (Use your ISCB registered email address as your Member ID – Registration now open)

Event URL: <http://www.eccb05.org>

PACIFIC SYMPOSIUM ON BIOCOMPUTING 2006

United States - HI - Maui

Dates: Jan 03, 2005 through Jan 07, 2006

PSB has been designed to be responsive to the need for critical mass in sub-disciplines within biocomputing. For that reason, the sessions are defined dynamically each year in response to specific proposals, organized by leaders in the emerging areas, and targeted to provide a forum for publication and discussion of research in biocomputing's "hot topics." In this way, PSB provides an early forum for serious examination of emerging methods and approaches in this rapidly changing field.

ISCB Member Discount: TBA (Registration will open in August, 2005)

Event URL: <http://psb.stanford.edu/>

ISCB AFFILIATED CONFERENCES

STRUCTURE-BASED DRUG DESIGN & VIRTUAL SCREENING

United States - MA – Boston

Hosted by: Cambridge Healthtech Institute

Dates: Mar 28, 2005 through Apr 01, 2005

Structure-Based Drug Design and Virtual Screening bring together high-throughput crystallography and NMR, computational advances in docking algorithms and virtual screening, and traditional techniques of high-throughput screening and combinatorial chemistry to increase the efficiency and speed of the drug discovery and development

process. Cambridge Healthtech Institute's fifth annual Structure-Based Drug Design conference continues to deliver the latest developments in de novo, NMR-based, and crystallography-based drug design, while the second annual Virtual Screening conference brings new innovation and recent results in computational methods for smarter drug discovery and development. Attend both meetings to gain insight into smarter drug design and development from methods, case studies and technologies presented by pharmaceutical, academic and biotechnology experts.

ISCB Member Discount: 10 Percent (Registration now open)

Event URL: <http://www.healthtech.com/2005/sbd/index.asp>

BIO-IT WORLD CONFERENCE & EXPO

United States - MA – Boston

Dates: May 17, 2005 through May 19, 2005

The 2005 Bio-IT World Conference aims to be an indispensable event, bringing together life science, IT, and healthcare professionals to discuss and evaluate the latest scientific, technological and IT breakthroughs in the post-genome sequence era. Delegates from major pharmaceutical, biotechnology, government and academic organizations will have the opportunity to learn about the latest tools, services and training that fuel bio-IT, enabling advances in genomics, proteomics, drug discovery, through to clinical trials and evidence-based medicine. For the 4th consecutive year, Bio-IT World will deliver a truly international gathering of industry leaders, IT professionals and biomedical researchers

ISCB Member Discount: 25 Percent

(Use Priority Code C0701 – Registration now open)

Event URL: <http://www.bio-itworldexpo.com>

THE WORLD PHARMACEUTICAL CONGRESS

United States - PA – Philadelphia

Hosted by: Cambridge Healthtech Institute

Dates: May 24, 2005 through May 26, 2005

This is the premier pharmaceutical R&D event of the year, for pharmaceutical researchers & executive by pharmaceutical researchers and executives. Make plans to be a part of and experience:

Over 500 Leaders in Pharmaceutical Research World Wide

- An Exhibit Hall Bursting With Energy! 78% of Attendees Making Purchasing Decisions

- Thought-Provoking Keynote Presentations From Three Senior Level Pharmaceutical Company Executives

- Walking Away with Excellent Sales Leads

ISCB Member Discount: 10 Percent (Registration now open)

Restrictions: Note: When registering, please enter or reference code ISCBDIS in the keycode box of the registration form to receive ISCB discount.

Event URL: <http://www.worldpharmacongress.com/>

BEYOND GENOME 2005

United States - CA - San Francisco

Hosted by: Cambridge Healthtech Institute

Dates: Jun 13, 2005 through Jun 16, 2005

Annual Bioinformatics and Genome Research, 3rd Annual RNA Interference, 9th Annual Proteomics, 7th Annual Systems Biology, and Innaugural Genomics Variation: Enabling Personalized Medicine

Beyond Genome Features: Over 1000 participants; Over 35 Exhibits; Multiple Keynote Addresses; Technology Workshops; Luncheon Workshops; Roundtable Discussion Groups; Interactive Tutorials

ISCB Member Discount: 10 Percent (Registration now open)

Restrictions: Discount available only for ISCB members that reference the separate pricing category on the registration form or website.

Event URL: <http://www.beyondgenome.com>

**13TH ANNUAL NUCLEIC ACID-BASED TECHNOLOGIES:
APPLICATIONS AMPLIFIED**

United States - MD – Baltimore

Hosted by: Cambridge Healthtech Institute

Dates: Jun 27, 2005 through Jun 28, 2005

High-throughput nucleic-acid based technologies are revolutionizing modern biology - none more so than PCR – the most sensitive technique to amplify and detect low abundance mRNA and minute amounts of DNA. While PCR is the backbone of molecular biology it has not achieved the same throughput as more recent technologies such as microarrays, biochips, and parallel whole genome sequencing. New technical developments that improve the performance of nucleic acid amplification and detection, as well as practical examples of how these techniques are used, is the emphasis of this meeting.

ISCB Member Discount: 10 Percent (Registration now open)
Restrictions: Discount available only for ISCB members that reference the separate pricing category on the registration form or website.

Event URL: <http://www.healthtech.com/2005/pcr/index.asp>

OTHER CONFERENCES & EVENTS OF INTEREST

BIOINFORMATICS AND GENOME DATA ANALYSIS

Tunisia - 3038 - Sfax

Hosted by: Centre of Biotechnology of Sfax, Tunisia

Dates: Mar 23, 2005 through Apr 02, 2005

Event URL: <http://anibal.webzzanine.net/bioinformatics>

EvoBIO 2005

Switzerland - Lausanne

Hosted by: EvoGP/EvoCOP/EvoWorkshops 2005

Dates: Mar 30, 2005 through Apr 01, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.cs.vu.nl/~evobio/evobio05.html>

**INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON BIOMEDICAL DATA
ENGINEERING**

Japan - Tokyo

Hosted by: Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), The Database Society of Japan (DBSJ), Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ), The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers (IEICE), 21st Century COE Research Project

Dates: Apr 03, 2005 through Apr 04, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.db.is.kyushu-u.ac.jp/bmde2005/>

SPECIAL ISCB MEMBER DISCOUNT OFFERED FOR:

**INTERNATIONAL CONTRACT RESEARCH ORGANIZATION
(CRO) & PARTNERING SUMMIT FOR SMALL/MEDIUM
PHARMA COMPANIES**

China – Beijing

Hosted by: China Center for Pharmaceutical International Exchange

Dates: May 17, 2005 through May 20, 2005

Event Registration: Feb 15, 2005 - May 15, 2005

Early Registration Deadline: Mar 25, 2005

This event is the leading conference for this emerging segment in China. With support from the Chinese government and enthusiastic participation from industry insiders, this summit will offer significant networking and partnering opportunities for international CROs, pharmaceutical companies, investors, and other resource providers alike.

As all international participants will have opportunities to meet with Chinese industry insiders, we anticipate many partnerships and joint projects will form as a result.

ISCB Member Discount: 15 Percent (Registration now open)
Restrictions: Contact Michael Cho (michael@chinacroconference.com) to secure your member discount.

Event URL: <http://www.chinacroconference.com>

COMPUTATIONAL METHODS IN SYSTEM BIOLOGY 2005

United Kingdom – Edinburgh

Hosted by: University of Edinburgh

Dates: Apr 03, 2005 through Apr 05, 2005

Event URL: <http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/v1b/clin/cmsb05/>

**4TH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON HIGH PERFORMANCE
COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY (HiCOMB)**

United States - CO - Denver

Hosted by: IEEE

Dates: Apr 04, 2005 through Apr 04, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.hicomb.org/>

Events and Opportunities of Interest continued

BENELUX BIOINFORMATICS CONFERENCE

Belgium – Ghent

Hosted by: Bioinformatics & Evolutionary Genomics, Ugent / VIB

Dates: Apr 14, 2005 through Apr 15, 2005

Event URL: <http://bioinformatics.psb.ugent.be/bbc2005/>

2005 SYMPOSIUM - COMPUTATIONAL CHALLENGES IN SYSTEMS BIOLOGY

United States - WA – Seattle

Hosted by: Institute for Systems Biology

Dates: Apr 24, 2005 through Apr 25, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.systemsbiology.org/symposium2005/>

INGENUITY PATHWAYS ANALYSIS: A NEW WAY TO COMPARE & UNDERSTAND BIOLOGICAL STUDIES

United States - MA – Cambridge

Hosted by: Ingenuity Systems

Dates: Apr 27, 2005 through Apr 27, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.ingenuity-seminar.com>

BIOCOMPLEXITY WORKSHOP VII: UNRAVELING THE FUNCTION AND KINETICS OF BIOCHEMICAL NETWORKS: FROM EXPERIMENTS TO SYSTEMS BIOLOGY

United States - IN – Bloomington

Hosted by: Indiana University School of Informatics and Biocomplexity Institute

Dates: May 09, 2005 through May 11, 2005

Event URL: <http://biocomplexity.indiana.edu/events/bio7/>

KNOWLEDGE DISCOVERY AND DATA MANAGEMENT IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE (KDDMBS) IN CONJUNCTION WITH PAKDD-05

Vietnam - Hanoi - Melia Hanoi Hotel

Hosted by: Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

Dates: May 18, 2005 through May 18, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.jaist.ac.jp/~ken/KDDMBS/>

2005 INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON BIOINFORMATICS RESEARCH AND APPLICATIONS

United States - Georgia - Atlanta

Hosted by: Emory University

Dates: May 22, 2005 through May 25, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.cs.gsu.edu/pan/iwbra.htm>

BIOINFORMATICS 2005

Estonia – Tartu

Hosted by: University of Tartu

Dates: Jun 09, 2005 through Jun 12, 2005

Event URL: <http://bioinfo.ebc.ee/bio2005/>

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON NATURAL & ARTIFICIAL IMMUNE SYSTEMS

- NAIS 2005

Italy - Vietri Sul Mare – Salerno

Hosted by: IIASS

Dates: Jun 09, 2005 through Jun 10, 2005

Event URL: <http://siren.dsi.unimi.it/conferences/IMMUNE05/html/home.html>

KRBIO'05 KNOWLEDGE REPRESENTATION IN BIOINFORMATICS

Finland – Espoo

Hosted by: Helsinki University of Technology

Dates: Jun 15, 2005 through Jun 17, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.cis.hut.fi/AKRR05/krbio05>

SHORT COURSE ON GENOME SEQUENCE ANALYSIS

United States - ME - Bar Harbor

Hosted by: The Jackson Laboratory

Dates: Jun 15, 2005 through Jun 22, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.jax.org/courses/events/coursedetails.do?id=119>

MATHEMATICS OF EVOLUTION AND PHYLOGENY

France – Paris

Hosted by: Institut Henri Poincare

Dates: Jun 17, 2005 through Jun 21, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.lirmm.fr/MEP05/>

BKDB2005 - BIOINFORMATICS: KNOWLEDGE DISCOVERY IN BIOLOGY

Portugal – Lisbon

Hosted by: FCUL & IGC

Dates: Jun 17, 2005 through Jun 17, 2005

Event URL: <http://xldb.fc.ul.pt/bkdb2005/>

IEEE WORKSHOP ON COMPUTER VISION METHODS FOR BIOINFORMATICS

United States - CA - San Diego

Hosted by: IEEE

Dates: Jun 25, 2005 through Jun 25, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.ittc.ku.edu/BioCVPR/>

WORKSHOP ON BIOLOGICAL APPLICATIONS OF GENETIC AND EVOLUTIONARY COMPUTING (BioGEC 2005)

United States - Washington DC

Hosted by: Genetic and Evolutionary Computing Conference (GECCO)

Dates: Jun 25, 2005 through Jun 26, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.epistasis.org/biogec2005.html>

THE DIMACS BIO-MATH CONNECT INSTITUTE 2005

United States - NJ – Piscataway

Hosted by: DIMACS / Rutgers University

Dates: Jul 17, 2005 through Jul 29, 2005

Event URL: <http://dimacs.rutgers.edu/dci/2005/>

DATA INTEGRATION FOR THE LIFE SCIENCES 2005

United States - CA - San Diego

Hosted by: SDSC, UCSD and the CBCB, University of Maryland

Dates: Jul 20, 2005 through Jul 22, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.syncenter.org/dils2005/>

MAS*BIOMED - FIRST INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON MULTI-AGENT SYSTEMS FOR MEDICINE, COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY, AND BIOINFORMATICS

Netherlands – Utrecht

Hosted by: To be held at the Fourth International Joint Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems

Dates: Jul 25, 2005 through Jul 26, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.diee.unica.it/biomed05>

SYSTEMS BIOLOGY WORKSHOP AT ECAL 2005

United Kingdom – Canterbury

Hosted by: European Conference on Artificial Life, University of Kent, UK

Dates: Sep 05, 2005 through Sep 05, 2005

Event URL: http://www.cmp.uea.ac.uk/sysbio_ecal/

THIRD ANNUAL RECOMB SATELLITE MEETING ON COMPARATIVE GENOMICS

Dublin, Ireland

Hosted by: Trinity College Dublin

Dates: September 18 through 20, 2005

Event URL: http://www.gen.tcd.ie/recomb_cg/

5TH WORKSHOP ON ALGORITHMS IN BIOINFORMATICS

Spain – Eivissa

Hosted by: Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Barcelona

Dates: Oct 03, 2005 through Oct 06, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.lsi.upc.es/>

SHORT COURSE ON COMPLEX TRAIT ANALYSIS

United States - ME - Bar Harbor

Hosted by: The Jackson Laboratory

Dates: Oct 05, 2005 through Oct 11, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.jax.org/courses/events/coursedetails.do?id=133>

WORKSHOP ON STATISTICS IN GENOMICS AND PROTEOMICS

Portugal - Monte Estoril-Lisbon

Hosted by: Center of Statistics, University of Lisbon

Dates: Oct 05, 2005 through Oct 08, 2005

Event URL: <http://wsgp.deio.fc.ul.pt>

8TH CONFERENCE ON COMPUTATIONAL GENOMICS

United States - MA – Cambridge

Hosted by: The Jackson Laboratory

Dates: Nov 09, 2005 through Nov 12, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.jax.org/courses/events/coursedetails.do?id=137>

2005 IEEE SYMPOSIUM ON COMPUTATIONAL INTELLIGENCE IN BIOINFORMATICS AND COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY

United States - CA - San Diego

Hosted by: The IEEE and the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society

Dates: Nov 14, 2005 through Nov 15, 2005

Event URL: <http://www.cibcb.org/>