



Volume 9. Issue 1. Winter/Spring 2006

## { contents }

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

### **ISMB 2006 News & Updates:**

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open
- SwissProt 20
- SIGs & Satellite Meetings
- Introducing the PLoS Track of  
Oral Presentations
- Student Council Symposium
- Help Send a Student to ISMB
- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

### **Other Conferences News and Reports:**

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years
- Affiliate Focus: OKBIOS
- Travel Fellowships Available
- Key Conferences: Key Dates

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to  
ISCB Website

Upcoming Conferences &  
Events

News From the Field

**ACCESS THE STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International Society  
for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY

# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { CONTENTS }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

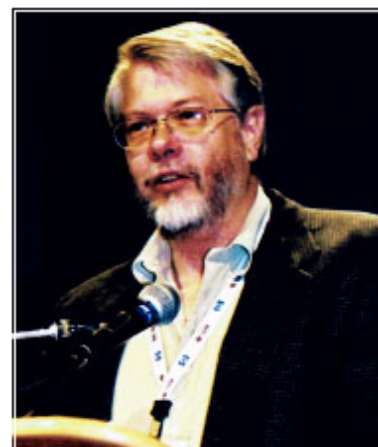
Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## A Note From ISCB President Michael Gribskov

Welcome to the spring 2006 edition of the ISCB newsletter!

When I took over the ISCB Presidency three years ago I made a commitment to work toward growing the international scope of our organization in order to better enable our members to network, build collaborations and affiliations, stay informed of advances and opportunities in the field, and share in a common voice toward advancing the worldwide understanding of computational biology. I have never lost sight of that future vision, although at times I am frustrated by the glacial speed at which progress seems to be made, and our tendency to get caught up in the minutiae, keeping us from maintaining a strategic course. Due to ISCB's limited financial resources, which provide for only a very small paid staff, we always need more active volunteers to help move us closer to a shared vision. I encourage all members to assess their own available time and desire to help improve the state of computational biology worldwide, and then volunteer to serve on one of our committees if your assessment reveals this is a personal priority that you can sink your teeth into. Two years ago I appointed Barbara Bryant, ISCB Vice President, to the position of Public Affairs & Policies Committee Chair, and a year later I appointed Satoru Miyano as Publications Committee Chair. Both of these chairmanships are once again open for new leaders to take the helm, furthering the work of their predecessors and setting new agendas for two of the most important efforts of our professional society – public policy and publications.



Another way to make sure the most active contributors get involved in ISCB is to submit nominations for your respected colleagues to run for elections to the Board of Directors, Executive Committee Officers and Student Council Leaders. The terms of five board members and four officers are coming to an end in January 2007. Some of these board members and officers may choose to run for another term, however, I applaud all of them now for their dedicated service to the Society. I invite each of our members and colleagues to think about ways of contributing to ISCB. During the darkest hours of the Second World War, Winston Churchill offered "blood, toil, sweat and tears"; ISCB asks only for the toil and sweat. If you have a vision of what ISCB could be, and what you could do to help, speak up, join a committee, nominate a respected colleague, or run for office yourself – in one way or another get involved. If you are new to ISCB, the best way to get started is to become involved on a committee. We try to select Board members from those who are active on committees, and officer candidates from those active on the board. Just complete a nomination form ([see related article](#) in this newsletter) or if you need more information write to [admin@iscb.org](mailto:admin@iscb.org) and we will help identify where your time and talents would best serve the Society.

The biggest volunteer effort of ISCB's year is the annual ISMB meeting; our upcoming conference in Fortaleza, Brazil is no exception. As Conference Chair, Goran Neshich is doing a phenomenal job, and as Program Committee Co-Chairs, Phil Bourne and Søren Brunak have guided the paper submission process by putting together a premier group of Area Chairs, who enlisted over 300 reviewers. Over four hundred papers have been submitted and reviewed. We have significantly increased the number of presented papers this year, sixty seven have been selected for presentation at the conference and publication in the

[ISCB Website](#)[Upcoming Conferences & Events](#)[News From the Field](#)[ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER](#)[ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES](#)

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

proceedings. Review efforts for posters and the new PLoS Track of Oral Presentations, along with the local organizing/local arrangements committees, are being accomplished through an extensive global volunteer effort as well. The fact that the 20th anniversary of Swiss-Prot will also be held in Fortaleza, Brazil immediately prior to ISMB, and that we have two pre-conference days of our most established Special Interest Group meetings and a return of the 3Dsig as a Satellite Meeting, ensures the end result will be an ISMB conference not to be missed. I had the privilege to go to Brazil last fall to speak at ISCB's Brazilian Regional Affiliated Group's annual meeting, the AB3C X-Meeting, and can assure you attending a conference in Brazil is well worth it: I am anxious to get back.

ISCB's mission is *to advance the understanding of living systems through computation*, and each membership represents a scientist who shares that mission. I am proud to be a member of ISCB, a place where scientists from computational and biological disciplines can meet to exchange ideas, form collaborations, and bring their results to forums such as our conferences and publications. I encourage you to ask your colleagues whether they are members, and if they are not, encourage them to join. Now that memberships are valid for 12 months, rather than tied to the calendar year as was previously the case, there is never a bad time to join. The larger ISCB grows in membership, the stronger is our ability to support meetings and publications, and the louder is our voice in issues of public policy, science funding, and education.

I am looking forward to seeing you again in Brazil!

Michael Gribskov  
President, ISCB



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY


 A header graphic with a green background on the left featuring a stylized network of purple lines and nodes, and a black background on the right with the text "ISCB NEWSLETTER" in white.
 

# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { C O N T E N T S }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

---

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

---

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

---

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## ISCB Call for Leadership Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for candidates to our international Board of Directors, Student Council Leadership, and the Officer\* positions of Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary (\*per ISCB bylaws, an Officer candidate must be a current or past Board member – see full list of eligible members below). You are encouraged to nominate any respected colleague that you feel would serve well in an ISCB leadership role.

In January 2007 terms will expire for five current Board members, the current Student Council (SC) Representative to the ISCB Board of Directors, and all other SC leadership positions. The current ISCB leadership is committed to representation based on diversity of geographic location and academic / industry affiliation, as well as providing leadership opportunities to young up-and-coming researchers. Gender is also an important element in ensuring your Society's leadership reflects the ISCB membership at large. Therefore, all nominations are welcome!

### Eligibility

- In order to be eligible to be a Board Member or Student Council leader candidate, a person must be or become an ISCB member in good standing no later than June 23, 2006 (Student Council candidates must also select the Student Council box on the membership registration form); Officer candidates must have been a member of the ISCB Board of Directors for at least one year before taking office, making all current and past Board Members eligible (see list at bottom of this email of all current and past Board Members).
- All Student Council leader candidates must pledge to make every reasonable effort to contribute time and effort toward the coordination of at least one SC activity during the course of the one year SC term.
- All Board candidates must pledge to make every reasonable effort to attend the bi-monthly Board teleconference beginning with a training period in October 2006 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 2010.
- Officer candidates must also pledge to make every reasonable effort to attend the bi-monthly Board teleconferences as well as the bi-weekly Executive Committee teleconference beginning with a training period in October 2006 through completion of the two year Officer term in January 2009 and three year Board term in January 2010.

### Nomination Submissions and Deadline

Full information regarding the 2006 nominations/elections timeline, call for nominations, and board and officer responsibilities can be found at [www.iscb.org/nominations.shtml](http://www.iscb.org/nominations.shtml).

The clock is ticking, so please login at [www.iscb.org/nominations/nominate.php](http://www.iscb.org/nominations/nominate.php) to submit all eligible nominations before the deadline of May 26, 2006. You will need your registered email address and password to login, and should then select the "Leadership Nomination" link from the menu options on the top 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](mailto:admin@iscb.org) for instructions on how to submit a nomination for one of your group's leaders to serve in an ISCB leadership capacity.

[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences & Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

## Elections and Terms

Election of Board members will take place during the annual ISCB Board of Directors meeting in August 2006, and election of Student Council leaders and ISCB Officers will take place via online voting by the membership September 22 – October 6, 2006.

Student Council leaders will serve one year terms, Board members will serve three year terms, and Officers will serve two year terms followed by one additional year on the Board of Directors.

We are looking forward to an active participation by the ISCB membership in the nominations and election process, and thank you in advance for your qualified nominations.

### \* List of Eligible Candidates for ISCB Officer Positions

Only officer positions require current or previous Board service; the full list of eligible candidates for the ISCB Officer positions of Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are listed below. Please encourage our excellent leaders of the past and present to step up to the highest level of leadership through service as an Officer of the ISCB by submitting a nomination on their behalf today.

<b>CURRENT 2006 Board of Directors: (all eligible to be nominated to an Officer position):</b>				
<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Term Began</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Other Position(s) / Comments</b>
Bryant	Barbara	August 1999	Jan. 21, 2008	Secretary 1/2002-1/2005;  VP 1/2005-1/2007;  Public Affairs Chair '04-.
Casadio	Rita	August 2002	Jan. 21, 2009	Two consecutive terms
de Sousa	Sandro	January 2006	Jan. 21, 2009	
Gerloff	Dietlind	August 2000	Jan. 21, 2007	Two consecutive terms;  Nominations Chair '04-.
Gribskov	Michael	August 1999	Jan. 21, 2008	ISMB 2000 co-Chair;  VP 1/2002-1/2003; President 1/2003-1/2007;  Conferences co-chair X-03;  Education co-chair X-03
Hunter	Larry	June 1997	Jan. 21, 2007	Founder of ISCB;  President 1997-2000;  Awards Chair '03-05;  Finance Chair '05-.
Karplus	Kevin	January 2005	Jan. 21, 2008	Education Chair '06-.

Kazic	Toni	June 1998 October 2001	Feb. 28, 2006	Secretary 1/2005-1/2006;  Nominations Chair '01-'04
Kelso	Janet	January 2005	Jan. 21, 2008	Secretary 1/2006-1/2007
Lengauer	Thomas	June 1997 January 2005	August 2000 Jan. 21, 2008	Founding BoD Member;  ISMB 1999 Chair;  Vice President 1999-2000;  Outreach Chair '00-X  Two separate bod terms;  Awards Chair '05-.
Linial	Michal	January 2004	Jan. 21, 2007	Student Council Liaison '06-.
Markel	Scott	January 2006	Jan. 21, 2009	
Mesirov	Jill	January 2006	Jan. 21, 2009	
Miyano	Satoru	January 2004	Jan. 21, 2007	Publications Chair '05
Rocke	David	August 2002	Jan. 21, 2008	Treasurer 1/2002-1/2007;  Three consecutive Treasurer terms
Rost	Burkhard	January 2004	Jan. 21, 2008	VP 1/2005-1/2007;  President-Elect 1/2006-1/2007;  Paper Review Chair '04-.
Safer	Hershel	August 2000	Jan. 21, 2007	Conferences Chair  Two consecutive bod terms
Schneider	Reinhard	January 2005	Jan. 21, 2008	Governance Chair '05-.
Speed	Terry	January 2005	Jan. 21, 2008	
Tan	Tin Wee	January 2005	Jan. 21, 2008	Affiliates Chair '05-.
Tomb	Jean-Francois	January 2006	Jan. 21, 2009	
Tramontano	Anna	October 2001	Jan. 21, 2009	VP 1/2002-1/2005  Two consecutive bod terms



Valencia	Alfonso	June 1997 August 2002	August 2000 Jan. 21, 2008	Founding BoD Member; VP 2000-1/2002; Outreach Chair X-'03; One bod term followed by two consecutive bod terms
Vawter	Lisa	January 2005	Jan. 21, 2008	

**PAST Board MEMBERS (all eligible to be nominated to an Officer position):**

Last Name	First Name	Term Began	Term Ended	Other Position(s) / Comments
Agarwal	Pankaj	June 1997	June 1998	Founding BoD Member
Altman	Russ	June 1997	January 2005	Founding BoD Member; President 6/2000-1/2002;
Bourne	Philip	July 2001	Jan. 21, 2006	ISMB 2000 co-Chair; Secretary 1/2001-1/2002; President 1/2002-1/2003; Publications Chair '03-'04; Student Council Liaison '04-'05
Brenner	Steven	June 1998 August 2002	July 2001 Jan. 21, 2006	Two separate bod terms
Brunak	Soren	October 2001	January 2005	ISMB 2001 Chair
Brutlag	Douglas	June 1997	August 1999	Founding BoD Member
Clark	Dominic	June 1997	August 2000	Founding BoD Member
Collado-Vides	Julio	August 1999	August 2002	
Dunker	Keith	June 1997	July 2001	Founding BoD Member; Nominations Chair '99-'00
Gaasterland	Terry	June 1997	August 2004	Founding BoD Member; Secretary 1999-2000
Glasgow	Janice	June 1997	August 2000	Founding BoD Member



Guigo	Roderic	August 2002	Jan. 21, 2006	
Hide	Winston	October 2001	January 2005	Education co-Chair 'X-'05
Higgins	Desmond	August 1999	August 2002	
Istrail	Sorin	June 1998	July 2001	
Kanehisa	Minoru	August 2000	January 2004	
Karp	Peter	June 1997  October 2001	August 2000  January 2005	Founding BoD Member;  Conferences Chair '98-X;  Public Affairs Chair '03-'05
Kiyoshi	Asai	June 1997	August 1999	Founding BoD Member
Klein	Teri	June 1997	January 2005	Founding BoD Member; Treasurer 6/2000-1/2002
Kolker	Eugene	June 1998	August 2000	
Krogh	Anders	August 1999	August 2002	
Lathrop	Rick	June 1997	June 1998	Founding BoD Member;  Treasurer 1997-1998
Neshich	Goran	Jan. 21, 2003	Jan. 21, 2006	ISMB 2006 Chair
Myers	Gene	June 1998	July 2001	
Overton	Chris	June 1997	August 2000	Founding BoD Member;  Passed away 2000
Ouzounis	Christos	June 1997	August 1999	Founding BoD Member
Pevzner	Pavel	June 1998	July 2001	
Ranganathan	Shoba	Jan. 21, 2003	Jan. 21, 2006	Education co-Chair '04-'05;  Education Chair '05-'06
Rawlings	Christopher	June 1998	July 2001	Vice President 1998-1999;  Outreach Chair '99
Sander	Chris	June 1997	June 1998	Founding BoD Member
Searls	David	June 1997	July 1999	Founding BoD Member
Shavlik	Jude	June 1997	June 1998	Founding BoD Member
Slonim	Donna	August 2000	January 2004	
Smith	Randy	June 1997	June 1998	Founding BoD Member

States	David	June 1997	January 2004	Founding BoD Member;  Treasurer 1997-2000;  Awards Chair '01-'03
Stormo	Gary	August 2000	January 2004	Publications Chair '00-'03
Tomita	Masaru	August 2000	January 2004	
Von Heijne	Gunnar	August 1999	August 2002	
Warnow	Tandy	October 2001	January 2005	
Waterman	Mike	October 2001	January 2005	
Wodak	Shoshana	June 1997	June 1998	Founding BoD Member
Wu	Cathy	August 2000	January 2004	



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { C O N T E N T S }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

---

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

---

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIOIS

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## ISCB Membership

Late last year ISCB opened its annual membership registration site and began open enrollment for the 2006 membership year. Nearly 1000 members have enrolled already, a number that grows by the day as more renewing and first time members sign up. If you haven't done so already, please visit the [membership page](#) to enroll now. Or, if you plan to attend ISMB 2006 in Brazil, you may choose to join ISCB during the [conference registration](#) process by following the links and completing the simple forms.

The beauty of this year's membership registration is that for the first time in the nine year history of ISCB, all memberships span 12 full months from the date of enrollment, rather than expiring at the end of the calendar year as had been the case previously and is a standard among many scientific societies. Therefore, if you register today, your membership benefits will extend well into 2007, enabling you to capture significant conference discounts next year such as PSB and RECOMB before your need to renew again for another year.

In our effort to provide services and benefits that are relevant and keep pace with changing times, we ask that you tell us if the membership benefits listed below continue to serve your professional needs. Please let us know if there are other tangible benefits that would help us retain you as a member in the years ahead, or entice you to become a member if you have never joined before.

### Current membership benefits include:

ISCB associated with the Public Library of Science in 2005 to publish the Society's official journal, *PLoS Computational Biology*, an open-access journal freely available to everyone, everywhere. One author from every research paper published in the journal is entitled to a complimentary 12-month ISCB membership.

- ISCB members enjoy reduced rates on additional journals published under the traditional subscription-based model, which includes: *Bioinformatics*, *Briefings in Bioinformatics*, *Briefings in Functional Genomics & Proteomics*, *Computers in Biology and Medicine*, *Computer Methods and Programs in Biomedicine*, *Human Genomics*, *Human Molecular Genetics*, *Journal of Biomedical Informatics*, *Journal of Computational Biology*, and *OMICS: A Journal of Integrative Biology*.
- Reduced registration fees at the annual conference of the ISCB, *Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB)* being held August 6-10, 2006 in Fortaleza, Ceara, Brazil, as well as the annual *Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing (PSB)*, *RECOMB Conference*, and *European Conference on Computational Biology (ECCB)*. Select regional affiliates offer ISCB discounts as well, and several commercial conferences such as select Cambridge Healthtech Institute (CHI) meetings, BioIT World's Life Sciences Conference + Expo, also discount registration fees for ISCB members. See [upcoming conferences](#) page for more information on these and many more related conferences.
- *MentorNet* online mentoring program available to ISCB student and post doc members as protégés, and featuring several ISCB senior scientists among the many MentorNet mentors.
- Travel fellowship eligibility for students and postdoctoral fellows to select meetings as announced throughout the year. See [travel fellowships](#) page for application form.
- [Jobs board](#) to assist members in recruiting for open positions at their

[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences & Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

institutes and organizations.

- Leadership and networking opportunities through service on the ISCB Student Council, Board of Directors, or in the role of a committee chair.
- Ability to have a direct voice in matters of education, public affairs and policies, conferences, publications and more through involvement in ISCB committee and task forces.
- Access to current developments in the field via the Website, quarterly newsletter and frequent ISCB News & Announcements emailings.

ISCB's mission is to advance the understanding of living systems through computation. This serves not only those members of the global bioinformatics community who choose ISCB as their professional membership society, rather our mission extends far beyond our individual members and also provides valuable information and resources to our affiliated regional groups and the computational biology community-at-large. Examples of this are the online self-posting forms for sharing news about [upcoming conferences and events](#), [university degree/certificate programs](#), and announcements of [new products, publications, and funding opportunities](#). Everyone is encouraged to utilize these self posting pages, members and non-members alike, as the postings help ISCB achieve its mission through broad based dissemination of valuable, relevant information that, bit by bit, advances the understanding of our science.

We hope if you are a past member whose membership has lapsed, either by months or by years, that you will join ISCB again soon, and encourage your peers to do the same. If you have never been a member we invite you to consider an ISCB membership as a step toward achieving a professional mission of your own, while enjoying the many benefits membership will bring to you.



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { C O N T E N T S }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

---

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

---

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

---

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## Should ISCB Support Inclusion of URLs in Grant Proposals?

*Presented by the ISCB Public Affairs & Policies Committee*

The Public Affairs & Policies Committee of the ISCB has discussed concerns with government funding agencies' restrictions on including URLs in grant proposals, and the particular challenges this imposes on proposals that rely on databases or software packages resident on the web, and therefore most efficiently accessed by reviewers through the web. The committee has asked the Board of Directors to release a policy statement on this issue, and the board would like your input before moving forward. The board seeks to ensure they speak on behalf of the membership and bioinformatics community at large in any policy statements. Therefore your input is essential.

Please read the full proposed policy statement below, including background, rationale and options of how ISCB could help government agencies in the use of URLs. Then go to either of the following URLs, read positive and negative feedback from others if you would like, and make your way to the bottom of the blog to post your comments so your input may be counted among the others as the board assesses if and how to move forward.

The statement, background and rationale:

[iscb-discussion.blogspot.com/2006/04/should-iscb-support-inclusion-of-urls.html](http://iscb-discussion.blogspot.com/2006/04/should-iscb-support-inclusion-of-urls.html)

Technology options ISCB could offer:

[iscb-discussion.blogspot.com/2006/04/technology-to-allow-reviewers-to.html](http://iscb-discussion.blogspot.com/2006/04/technology-to-allow-reviewers-to.html)

Please post your comments by Friday, May 12, 2006!

### The Statement

1. ISCB recommends that bioinformatics funding agencies encourage reviewers to follow those URLs in bioinformatics grant proposals that provide information important to the grant review. Funding agencies should not forbid reviewers from following URLs in grant proposals.

2. ISCB recommends that bioinformatics funding agencies establish proxy Web servers for use by reviewers to facilitate anonymous access to applicant web sites.

### Background

This statement is motivated in part by the current grants policy of the US National Institutes of Health, which states "URLs may not be used to provide information necessary to the review because reviewers are under no obligation to view the Internet sites. Moreover, reviewers are cautioned that they should not directly access an Internet site as it could compromise their anonymity." (See URL [grants2.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.pdf](http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.pdf)) That is, examination of web logs by an applicant might reveal the identity of a reviewer.

In addition, several NIH review panels now take the more restrictive position of forbidding reviewers to follow URLs.

Submission of software via a CD-ROM in conjunction with a grant would be one way to avoid using the Internet to demonstrate software or database capabilities to reviewers, however, the NIH also does not allow CD-ROMs to be submitted with a grant proposal.

Funding agencies are also concerned that URLs could be used to circumvent grant page restrictions if an applicant places additional information on their web site.

[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences & Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

Another concern behind this policy is that there is no permanent record of the contents of any URL, and that if a grant PI later challenges a review by saying, for example, "This review is not competent because the reviewer's objection is clearly addressed by this information on my web site" there is no way for NIH to later validate what was on the PI's web site at an earlier time.

### **Rationale**

There are several related issues here. One issue pertains to third-party Web sites ("Third-party URLs") such as articles in online journals. Another relates to Web sites maintained by the applicant PI or their associates ("PI URLs");

1. Third-party URLs. There is simply no question that reviewers should be allowed to access third-party sites. Grant applications already contain extensive references to third-party information, namely scientific publications. As the model of scientific publishing evolves, some publications are available only through the web, and others are most efficiently accessed via the web. It is a waste of the reviewers' time to forbid them from accessing such sites. With third-party sites there are no issues of anonymity nor of circumventing page limits.

2. PI URLs. The deliverables of many bioinformatics projects are databases or software packages that are resident on the web, and can most efficiently be accessed by reviewers through the web. Direct review of database and software packages via the web is both extremely informative, and extremely time efficient for the reviewer. To prevent the reviewer from interacting directly with a database or software package prevents the reviewer from having first-hand knowledge of the database or software that is extremely valuable, and introduces a serious risk that their knowledge is inadequate to perform an informed review. In addition, for large projects, part of their funding typically covers a service component that is also important for reviewers to assess. However, reviewers should be cautioned against basing a negative judgment on a single problematic session that could be caused by network outages that are beyond the control of the project. And small projects in particular cannot be expected to provide perfect 24x7 service.

It should be left to the discretion of the reviewer which URLs they consider important to the grant review. Although bioinformatics database and software-related applications are likely candidate projects where consideration of Web information will be important, the reviewer will be the best judge of when to follow a URL.

The anonymity concern of the NIH can be solved if reviewers use proxy servers, which shield the identity of the person accessing a web site. We recommend that the NIH fund the creation of proxy servers for use by grant reviewers; ISCB would be willing to host and operate such proxy servers.

NIH's page limitation concern can be solved if reviewers are not REQUIRED to read anything accessible through URLs.

The NIH concern of the lack of a permanent record for URLs is valid, but is outweighed by the other factors. Note also that reviewers are already influenced by many other subjective factors that are not part of the grant application.

### **How ISCB can help to allow the use of URL's related to bioinformatics grant proposals**

Solution: ISCB could function as the "anonymizer" for the reviewers.

Possible Technical implementation:

1. Use of an "anonymizer" service on the web
2. Implementation of a proxy server under the supervision of ISCB
3. Implementation of a terminal server under the supervision of the ISCB

### 1) Using "anonymizer" services

The use of an anonymizer service is quite simple and can be done without much user intervention. The basic principle of these services is the use of one single static address (proxy or a net of proxies), which is shared by many users. Examples for these services are:

[anon.inf.tu-dresden.de/index\\_en.html](http://anon.inf.tu-dresden.de/index_en.html)  
[www.the-cloak.com/anonymous-surfing-home.html](http://www.the-cloak.com/anonymous-surfing-home.html)  
[www.shadowsurf.com/](http://www.shadowsurf.com/)  
[surfshield.net/](http://surfshield.net/)  
[proxify.com/](http://proxify.com/)  
[www.guardster.com/?Services-Free\\_Web\\_Proxy](http://www.guardster.com/?Services-Free_Web_Proxy)  
[anonymouse.org/anonwww.html](http://anonymouse.org/anonwww.html)

### 2) Proxy-server setup by the ISCB

As an alternative to the above mentioned anonymizer services, one can use a proxy server that would be owned by the ISCB. Proxy servers are similar to the anonymizer, i.e. web pages are retrieved by the proxy server rather than by the person actually browsing the Web. By running such a proxy-server the ISCB could guarantee that no information is collected or otherwise abused. But there are important differences: proxy servers don't help with cookies, hostile applets or code (see below: possible problems).

### 3) Setup of a terminal server on an ISCB server

This solution would require the setup of a server running Microsoft "Windows Server 2003 Terminal Services". The reviewer would login into this terminal server and would start a web-browser from this machine. By doing this all the traffic to the destination web-server will originate from the ISCB terminal server and as such protect the anonymity of the reviewer 100%.

Client software is freely available for Windows systems, Apple computer and Linux systems.

The funding for such a solution would need to cover the basic hardware for the server, the license for the operating system and the terminal server licenses (per user) as well as the maintenance costs for running this service.

Additional advantage: The URL's can be password protected and can contain even unpublished data. The user would then provide the site login information in the grant proposal. By using the terminal server solution the reviewers could login anonymously and the proposal submitter would only know that her/his site is being reviewed.

Possible problems with solution 1 and 2:

There are ways of tracking down a web-surfer behind an anonymous proxy server. The following technologies can be used to break the anonymity of a user: Cookies, JavaScript, VBScript, Java, ActiveX and plug-ins. There are methods to increase the security of the user's own IP-number, but either they restrict the functionality (cookies, JavaScript...), are not 100% secure or require substantial knowledge and configuration of network setups (see [www.freeproxy.ru/en/free\\_proxy/faq/anti\\_proxy.htm](http://www.freeproxy.ru/en/free_proxy/faq/anti_proxy.htm)).

Due to these restrictions, option number three (terminal server) seems to be the most appropriate solution to secure the anonymity of reviewers and simplicity of use. The costs should be in a reasonable range and could possibly be covered by a small grant for running this service.

### Possible workflow of the implementation

- User registers at the ISCB web-site (Name, e-mail, title of proposal)
- Confirmation mail is sent to the user with a link for activating the account



(with or without administrator intervention?)

- ISCB server sends username and password for the terminal server to the user
- User puts username and password into her/his grant application
- Reviewer logs into ISCB terminal server

Validity of account: 6 months (maximum?; automatic deletion after max days?)

■

Again, please visit either of the URLs above to post your comments to the blog by Friday, May 12, 2006. Thank you!



TOP

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { CONTENTS }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to  
ISCB Website

## ISCB Combines Forces with MentorNet to Promote Mentoring Initiatives within Bioinformatics Community



In ISCB's ongoing effort to reach out to the needs of our student and junior members, the Board of Directors recently approved funds to join MentorNet's Affiliated Partners Plus program. No further enrollment fees are required of individual ISCB members, and all can enroll as protégés or mentors immediately to begin online one-on-one mentoring relationships.

MentorNet, founded in 1997 and headquartered in San Jose, CA, USA, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that links students and professionals in scientific and technical fields. The organization aims to advance individuals and society and enhance engineering and related sciences by promoting a diversified, expanded, and talented global workforce. Through collaborative partnerships with colleges and universities, corporations, government labs and agencies, and professional societies, MentorNet is international in scope, serving students and professionals from all over the world. MentorNet programs have reached more than 15,000 students and a like number of professionals since 1998.

"Partnerships with organizations like ISCB enable our online mentoring network to expand its reach and impact, and benefit from the complementary core competencies of each of our organizations," said Carol Muller, MentorNet's founder and chief executive officer.

The research-based, award-winning programs of MentorNet leverage technology to create and sustain mentoring relationships instrumental in completing academic preparation and initiating early professional development for those in fields where the numbers of women and people of color are still small. The program relies on patent pending technology-based systems, involving email and the Internet to support one-on-one mentoring relationships for thousands of students in engineering and science.

MentorNet was recognized in 2001 with the (U.S.) Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring. Major funding has been provided by the National Science Foundation, Alcoa Foundation, IBM Corporation, Cisco Systems, Google, Hewlett-Packard Company, Symantec Corporation, and Texas Instruments.

Although the inspiration for MentorNet was based on reaching women and underrepresented minorities, MentorNet's programs are suited and available to all undergraduate and graduate students, postdocs and early career faculty at universities across the globe. The program matches protégé students/postdocs with professionals in industry, government and higher education as their mentors. This work, conducted since 1998, has proven that productive mentoring can occur through email, and it serves as a leading model of best practices for mentoring.

When presented with the opportunity to join the MentorNet Community as a Professional Society Affiliated Partner, the ISCB Education Committee overwhelmingly supported making this e-mentoring program available to all ISCB Student/Trainee members. Committee Chair Kevin Karplus presented a motion to the ISCB Board of Directors in February, which passed unanimously. "With the formation of an ISCB Student Council a couple years ago, including a Student Council Representative elected to the Board of Directors, and now a specific e-mentoring program available to all student and postdoc members, I think ISCB is finally making significant strides in support of our student community," stated Phil Bourne, ISCB Past President and early supporter of the Student Council.

[Upcoming Conferences & Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

The most effective protégé experience for ISCB Student/Trainee members is partially dependent on ISCB professional members enrolling as mentors of the program as well. MentorNet allows for society specific matches based on the availability of mentors, and therefore, all members of ISCB are encouraged to enroll, students/trainees and professionals alike.

Enrollment is quick and easy, by first joining the MentorNet Community and then creating a protégé or mentor profile for the one-on-one mentoring programs. See [www.mentornet.org](http://www.mentornet.org) for full information on this exciting organization and it's many successes, or go straight to [www.MentorNet.net/join](http://www.MentorNet.net/join) to immediately join the MentorNet Community and create your personal profile today.



**TOP**

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY

## ISCB NEWSLETTER

**{ CONTENTS }**

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback RequestedAnnouncing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program**ISMB 2006 News &  
Updates:**- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs &amp; Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter**Other Conferences News  
and Reports:**- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIOIS

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
DatesStudent Travel Fellowships  
YearbookBioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events &amp; News to

**The World's Most Anticipated Bioinformatics Conference of  
2006: ISMB in Brazil**

Registration for ISMB 2006 in Fortaleza, Brazil, is now open at:  
[ismb2006.cbi.cnptia.embrapa.br/reg.html](http://ismb2006.cbi.cnptia.embrapa.br/reg.html)

Goran Neshich of Embrapa/CNPTIA, Phil Bourne of University of California-San Diego, and Søren Brunak, University of Denmark, accepted the roles of ISMB 2006 Conference Chair, and Program Committee Co-Chairs respectively, and have done an amazing job of organizing this year's conference logistics and the scientific programming. The end result will be a conference that is revered by other past and future conference organizers and talked about by all attendees for years to come. Some highlights of ISMB 2006 include many exceptional programming features you will not want to miss:

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS - lineup includes 3 NOBEL LAUREATES!**

- RICHARD J. ROBERTS, *New England Biolabs, USA*  
[nobelprize.org/medicine/laureates/1993/roberts-autobio.html](http://nobelprize.org/medicine/laureates/1993/roberts-autobio.html)
- ROBERT HUBER, *Max-Planck Institut f. Biochemistry, Germany*  
[www.biochem.mpg.de/xray](http://www.biochem.mpg.de/xray)
- KURT WÜTHRICH, *Institute of Molecular Biology and Biophysics, Switzerland*  
[www.mol.biol.ethz.ch/groups/wuthrich\\_group](http://www.mol.biol.ethz.ch/groups/wuthrich_group)
- ELENA CONTI, *EMBL Heidelberg, Germany*  
[www-db.embl.de/jss/EmblGroupsOrg/per\\_951.html](http://www-db.embl.de/jss/EmblGroupsOrg/per_951.html)
- SIR TOM BLUNDELL, *University of Cambridge, UK*  
[www-cryst.bioc.cam.ac.uk/~tom/](http://www-cryst.bioc.cam.ac.uk/~tom/)
- CHARLES DELISI, *Boston University, USA*  
[www.bu.edu/dbin/bme/faculty/?prof=delisi](http://www.bu.edu/dbin/bme/faculty/?prof=delisi)
- MATHIEU BLANCHETTE, *ISCB 2006 Overton Prize Winner, McGill University*  
[www.mcb.mcgill.ca/~blanchem/](http://www.mcb.mcgill.ca/~blanchem/)
- MICHAEL WATERMAN, *ISCB 2006 Sr. Scientist Accomplishment Award Winner, University of Southern California*  
[www.cmb.usc.edu/people/msw/Waterman.html](http://www.cmb.usc.edu/people/msw/Waterman.html)

**PAPERS**

The Program Committee received 407 paper submissions this year, and selected 67 for oral presentation and publication in the conference proceedings. The paper titles and authors will be posted to the conference website soon, with the full papers available online via Bioinformatics journal approximately four weeks prior to the conference as part of Oxford Open, Oxford University Press' open access

[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences & Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENT COUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

publications. This level of freely available access to all published papers will make the research to be presented at ISMB fully available without subscription or purchase of the proceedings for the first time in the history of the conference.

### **PLOS TRACK OF ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

The Public Library of Science is sponsoring the first ever PLoS Track of Oral Presentations, which will include selections from submitted one page abstracts without publication of a full research paper. Selected abstracts will be given a full 25 minute oral presentation slot, equal to that of a selected paper, in a parallel track to the paper presentations during two days of the conference. The deadline for submission to the PLoS Track is May 1, and approximately 20-25 abstracts are expected to be selected for oral presentation ([see related article](#) in this newsletter).

### **POSTERS**

Submission of scientific research abstracts is available through May 1, for inclusion in the ISMB Poster Sessions. Additionally, there are still available spaces for industry posters; see [ismb2006.cbi.cnptia.embrapa.br/sponsor\\_ops5.html](http://ismb2006.cbi.cnptia.embrapa.br/sponsor_ops5.html) for more details.

### **TECHNICAL DEMONSTRATIONS**

Software & Hardware Technical Demonstrations of non commercial products allow participants to demonstrate novel software and/or hardware relevant to the bioinformatics community. These 50 minute demonstrations will be scheduled throughout the conference in parallel to the oral presentations of selected papers and abstracts. Academic (not for profit) Demos proposals are being accepted through May 8, with an acceptance notice date to submitters of June 5; see [ismb2006.cbi.cnptia.embrapa.br/demos\\_academic\\_call.html](http://ismb2006.cbi.cnptia.embrapa.br/demos_academic_call.html) for more details. For information on Industry (for profit) demos options see [ismb2006.cbi.cnptia.embrapa.br/demos\\_call.html](http://ismb2006.cbi.cnptia.embrapa.br/demos_call.html).

### **SPONSORS & VENDOR EXHIBITION**

IBM leads the list of confirmed sponsors, as a Premier Sponsor of ISMB 2006. Each day of the conference IBM representatives along with other sponsors and exhibitors will be on hand to share detailed information about their products and publications within the vendor exhibition area, located at the vortex of all oral and poster presentation sessions. All sponsors and exhibitors offer products tailored to the needs of the bioinformatics community, and we encourage all conference delegates to visit each exhibit booth to thank them for their support of the conference, which helps keep the individual registrations fees low.

### **SIGS, SATELLITE MEETING AND TUTORIALS**

Pre-conference educational options include Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings in parallel to the 3Dsig Satellite Meeting on August 4 and 5 ([see related article](#) in this newsletter), and a full day of Tutorial sessions on August 6. All delegates interested in attending a Tutorial session must be registered for the main ISMB conference, but SIG and Satellite Meeting registration is allowed independent of whether registering for ISMB or not. The option to attend only SIGs or the Satellite Meeting may be of particular interest to attendees of the SwissProt 20 ([see related article](#) in this newsletter) who cannot stay for the full ISMB but want to take advantage of the co-location of these two major scientific conference events. Registration for all of these sessions (except SwissProt 20) is made through the ISMB conference registration webpage.

### **STUDENT COUNCIL SYMPOSIUM**

The ISCB-SC is organizing its second annual Student Council Symposium (SCS2), to be held on August 6 in parallel to the ISMB Tutorials at the Fortaleza Convention Center. This full day symposium will include invited speakers, selected oral abstracts, a poster session and more ([see related article](#) in this newsletter).

### **NETWORKING, NETWORKING, NETWORKING**

In addition to all of the excellent keynotes and scientific sessions, networking always ranks high on everyone's list of ISMB highlights. Opportunities for networking during the breaks, exhibition sessions, poster sessions and the off-site

social event in Brazil should prove no exception, and may, in fact, set new benchmarks for future conferences to aspire to. The primary social event this year is sure to be a particular hotbed of networking opportunities, as every conference delegate will receive one complimentary ticket to the Brazilian Beach Party & Luncheon for the afternoon of August 9. Guest tickets are available for purchase to enable family and friends to join in the afternoon of fun and sun, including swimming, music, dancing, and the exotic Brazilian cocktail known as the "Caipirinha," all to be served up on one of Fortaleza's famed white sand beaches.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ISMB is the annual conference of the International Society for Computational Biology, with the 2006 conference being hosted by [Embrapa/CNPTIA](#) and the [LNCC/MCT](#), both Brazilian agencies with research centers developing Bioinformatics tools and applications. As a host of this conference, Embrapa has provided space on its servers for the conference website, and both Embrapa/CNPTIA and LNCC are providing the infrastructure for local staff and volunteers to do the work of assisting in the organization and implementation of the ISMB conference. Furthermore, the Associação Brasileira de Bioinformática e Biologia Computacional ([AB3C](#)), an ISCB Affiliated Regional Group, is providing numerous volunteers to serve on the Local Organizing and Local Arrangements Committees, including Ana Vasconcelos, LNCC Group Leader and AB3C President, as a Conference Co-Chair alongside Goran Neshich of Embrapa/CNPTIA. ISMB 2006 is pleased to recognize the 2nd Annual AB3C X Meeting as a joint meeting of the ISMB 2006, and as such will be featuring a number of conference sessions dedicated to issues of Latin American Bioinformatics and New Frontiers in Bioinformatics.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION...

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 [www.iscb.org/ismb2006/prospects.php](http://www.iscb.org/ismb2006/prospects.php).



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



## ISCB NEWSLETTER

**{ CONTENTS }***Volume 9, Issue 1*

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback RequestedAnnouncing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

---

**ISMB 2006 News &  
Updates:**- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs &amp; Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

---

**Other Conferences News  
and Reports:**- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIOIS

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
DatesStudent Travel Fellowships  
YearbookBioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events &amp; News to


**In-Silico Analysis of Proteins**  
**Celebrating the 20th anniversary of Swiss-Prot**  
[www.swissprot20.org](http://www.swissprot20.org)

Swiss-Prot, the manually curated section of the UniProt Knowledgebase, will be celebrating its 20 years of service to the scientific community in 2006. To celebrate this occasion it will organize a 5-day conference whose main themes will be:

- Knowledgebases, databases and other information resources for proteins
- Sequence searches and alignments
- Protein sequence analysis
- Protein structure prediction, analysis and visualization
- Proteomics data analysis

49 internationally renowned speakers have already confirmed their presence at this event and about 1,000 participants from all over the world are expected. For a continually updated list of speakers and their bios, go to:

[www.swissprot20.org/speakers](http://www.swissprot20.org/speakers)

**Swiss-Prot 20 years & ISMB 2006**

With "Swiss-Prot 20 years" and ISMB both taking place in Fortaleza, this beachside city will become the world capital of bioinformatics for 12 days straight. Therefore, the organizers of the "Swiss-Prot 20 years" and ISMB 2006 are working in close association with one another in order to guarantee a strong connection between the two meetings. For instance, the same Brazilian professional conference organizer has been engaged by both conferences, the same headquarters hotel and booking agency is offered to assist participants from each event, and some cross marketing has been implemented to ensure that everyone who intends to go to Brazil for one of these conferences, is aware of the option to also register for the other, increasing the overall scientific quality of a visit to this beautiful and unforgettable country.

**Posters**

In addition to a line up of amazing speakers, Swiss-Prot 20 is also featuring a poster session to allow all participants to share their research with the rest of the community.



[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences &  
Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

- Submission site now open at [www.swissprot20.org/poster](http://www.swissprot20.org/poster)
- Deadline for abstract submission is May 25.
- Maximum length for abstract is 200 words.
- All submitters will be notified if their poster is accepted by June 05.
- All presenters of accepted posters must register for Swiss-Prot 20.
- Abstracts of accepted posters will be online after June 15.

For further information, registration, travel arrangements and the latest news, please visit the Swiss-Prot 20 website noted above.

The organizers of Swiss-Prot 20 and ISMB 2006 very much look forward to welcoming you to both of our respective conferences!



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { CONTENTS }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## ISMB SIG & Satellite Meetings in 2006

As is the tradition of ISMB, two days of Satellite and Special Interest Group Meetings will precede the conference (partially filling the gap between Swiss-Prot 20 and ISMB 2006 – [see related article](#) in this newsletter).

Registration for all SIG and Satellite Meetings is accomplished through the online ISMB 2006 [conference registration form](#). You may use this form to register for any one of the meetings described below. Registration for the main ISMB 2006 conference is not required to attend a SIG or Satellite Meeting. Therefore, if you will be attending Swiss-Prot 20 meeting and would like to stay over for any of the SIG/Satellite Meetings, you may do so without the commitment of also staying for the additional days of ISMB 2006.

### 3Dsig: Structural Bioinformatics and Computational Biophysics Satellite Meeting

[3dsig.weizmann.ac.il/](http://3dsig.weizmann.ac.il/)

Friday, August 4 and Saturday, August 5  
9:00am - 6:30pm

We are happy to announce the second 3Dsig: Structural Bioinformatics and Computational Biophysics Satellite meeting. Following the success of 3Dsig-2004, we will have two full days (don't plan anything for the evening!) with a balance of invited talks, short presentations, novel laptop-sessions and critical, topic focused discussions.

On Friday, August 4, 3Dsig will host an evening session at the Oasis Hotel Atlantico which includes a panel discussion and keynote speaker, both on a central topic to Structural Bioinformatics and Computational Biophysics, and dinner. Registration to the 3Dsig Satellite meeting includes the 3Dsig Evening Session and Dinner. Delegates from other SIGs and Swiss-Prot 20 may purchase a ticket to this evening session for a small fee. Following the successful format launched in 2004, the panel discussion will include audience participation, informal round-table discussions and interactions, all nurtured by the good food that Brazil has to offer.

Please note, registration for the 3Dsig Satellite meeting allows access to the 3Dsig meeting only.

### Relevant topics include:

- Structure representation, structure prediction, structural genomics
- Structural databases and 3D data-mining
- Structure-based function prediction
- Evolution studied through structure
- Docking: protein-protein, and protein-ligand, and RNA interaction prediction
- Prediction and analysis of domains
- Membrane protein structure prediction and analysis
- The role of geometry and energetics in protein and RNA structure and function
- Protein and RNA dynamics and simulation: folding, stability, interactions, conformational gating
- Computer aided protein and RNA design
- Structure-based drug design and pharmacophore analysis

ISCB Website

Upcoming Conferences &  
Events

News From the Field



ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER

ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

**Call for abstracts:** We are looking for fresh, effective voices, and new, high impact ideas and results. The program will be build around the accepted and invited talks. Abstracts will be placed on a discussion web site prior to the meeting, and participant input considered in choosing oral presentations.

**Abstract submission deadline: May 1, 2006**

The scientific committee of 3Dsig is chaired by John Moulton (CARB, UMBI) and includes Phil Bourne (UCSD), Steven E. Brenner (UC Berkeley), Joel Sussman (Weizmann Institute of Science) and Janet Thornton (EBI).

To better appreciate the wealth of leading topics and presenters, explore the 3Dsig 2004 book at: [3dsig.weizmann.ac.il/2004/3dsigbook.pdf](http://3dsig.weizmann.ac.il/2004/3dsigbook.pdf)

**Sponsorship opportunities are available!** See [3dsig.weizmann.ac.il/3dsig/2006/sponsors.html](http://3dsig.weizmann.ac.il/3dsig/2006/sponsors.html) for full details.

### Alternative Splicing (AS – SIG)

[www.bioinfo.org/as-sig/](http://www.bioinfo.org/as-sig/)

**Friday, August 4 and Saturday, August 5  
9:00am - 6:30pm**

This is an exciting time for the field of transcriptomics, combining new discoveries from genomics, bioinformatics, and molecular biology. Alternative splicing has now emerged as a ubiquitous mechanism of regulation, accounting for the complexity of higher eukaryotes, where one gene could give rise to several gene products. Whereas the Human Genome Project has uncovered 20,000 – 25,000 genes, alternative splicing evidently produces over 100,000 distinct transcript forms. Identifying, quantifying, and analyzing the regulation, function and evolution of these forms constitutes a “Human Transcriptome Project”, and will require a tremendous community effort. Above all, it will require close collaboration between bioinformaticists and experimentalists, to build a community of shared tools, databases, nomenclature and standards. This SIG aims to establish a permanent forum for bioinformaticists and experimentalists to meet and discuss transcriptome issues together, especially in the light of diseases implicated by alternative splicing.

The purpose of this SIG is to cover the latest results and questions in this exciting field, and to bring together bioinformaticists and experimentalists, focusing on questions that demand their collaboration. The SIG will include studies of alternative splicing both in human and other organisms, and will consist of two days of talks (approximately 20 minutes each), and a poster session. Talks will be grouped in four major areas:

- Bioinformatics: algorithms and analysis of alternative splicing, including topics such as analysis of alternative splicing evidence, products, and functional impact; comparative genomics; alternative splicing regulation; and data-mining.
- Biology: Biological mechanisms of splicing and regulation; biological functions such as the impact of splice variants on protein structure and biological pathways; phenomena such as nonsense-mediated decay and disease associations.
- Splicing and Diseases: Identification and characterization of splice variants as a consequence of disease; diagnostic tools and therapeutic strategies based on splicing pattern variations between normal and diseases states; classification of splice forms based on disease progression.
- Databases, and Standards for the “Human Transcriptome Project”: Transcript repositories; data interchange formats; standards for annotating the transcriptome.

Talks will be selected from submitted long abstracts based on scientific quality and

novelty. Selected speakers will be asked to present a 20-30 minute talk, and the talk abstract will be published in the AS-SIG proceedings.

**Abstract submission deadline: May 1, 2006**

**Abstract acceptance notification: May 29, 2006**

---

### **Bioinformatics Open Source Conference (BOSC)**

[www.open-bio.org/wiki/BOSC\\_2006](http://www.open-bio.org/wiki/BOSC_2006)

**Friday, August 4 and Saturday, August 5**

**9:00am - 6:30pm**

The Bioinformatics Open Source Conference is held annually as a special interest group in conjunction with the International Systems in Molecular Biology conference. It is sponsored by the Open Bioinformatics Foundation, a non-profit group dedicated to promoting the development of Open Source Bioinformatics Software, and Open Standards of data communication and representation.

BOSC 2006 is shaping up to be an exciting conference. We have two keynote speakers this year. Amos Bairoch, of the Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, will be speaking about his monumental efforts in the development of some of the most important Bioinformatics databases, software, and services in the world research community. Our second keynote speech features Alberto Davila, of the DBBM, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, who has been a staunch advocate for researchers in developing countries faced with the challenge of addressing the impending genomics divide between them and the developed world.

Our agenda this year will consist of two sections per day, one for long talks from submitters chosen to present from a larger group of submitted abstracts, and one for smaller lightning talks and demos where presenters are allowed a few minutes to raise awareness of their work, software usage practices, or research needs. In addition to these presentations, BOSC always facilitates the meeting of like minds over a range of subjects in small Birds of a Feather meetings. We are very much looking forward to this exciting event.

**Abstract submission deadline: June 5, 2006**

**Abstract Acceptance Notification: June 19, 2006**

---

### **BioPathways**

[www.biopathways.org](http://www.biopathways.org)

**Friday, August 4 and Saturday, August 5**

**9:00am - 6:30pm**

The SIG meeting is organized by the BioPathways Consortium an open forum aimed at fostering computational approaches to the modeling, reconstruction, analysis and simulation of biological networks.

As in previous years, the meeting will include plenary sessions, presenting invited talks on various aspects of computational pathway biology such as systems scale analysis of molecular networks, reconstruction of pathways from heterogenous types of high throughput data, the evolution of molecular pathways, and the representation and visualization of pathway data. Each plenary session will include several long invited presentations (45'), followed by a panel discussion on the theme.

To encourage presentation of cutting-edge research and work-in-progress in computational approaches to molecular pathways, we will also include contributed talks as part of the meeting's session. A contributed talk consists of a short presentation of relevant method, tools and analyses. Particular emphasis will be made on works along the themes of the plenary sessions, as well as research in

pathway visualization and reconstruction, all of which are subjects followed by the consortium's workgroups.

If you wish to present a contributed talk at BioPathways 2006, please send a 200 word abstract describing your work to: [bpc-cfp\\_at\\_biopathways.org](mailto:bpc-cfp_at_biopathways.org). Authors are encouraged to add URLs of web-based tools, and selected tools will be featured on the biopathways web site.

**Abstract submission deadline: May 1, 2006**

**Abstract acceptance notification: May 30, 2006**

---

### **Joint BioLINK and Bio-Ontologies Meeting (JBB)**

[www.jbb06.org](http://www.jbb06.org)

**Friday, August 4 and Saturday, August 5**

**9:00am - 6:30pm**

This year, the two long standing ISMB SIGs, Bio-Ontologies and BioLINK will hold a joint two-day workshop. The meeting will consist of sessions that focus on the intersection of bio-ontologies and text mining, as well as individual sessions on the use of ontologies in the life sciences and on biomedical text mining.

The Bio-Ontologies SIG is concerned with research and applications of ontologies in the life sciences. Ontologies provide a mechanism for organising, sharing and reconciling data. Within recent years there has been a surge of interest in their use within bioinformatics, particularly for providing computationally accessible annotation, or standard data models for complex microarray or pathway knowledge.

BioLINK focuses on the application of techniques from natural language processing, information extraction and information retrieval to automate knowledge discovery from biomedical text, and on linking text from a variety of sources with structured biomedical resources, such as curated biological databases and ontologies.

There is a natural synergy between the two SIGs: both fields are cross disciplinary; both exist against a large backdrop of computer science literature; and, finally, both are relatively new to the life sciences. More recently a more direct technological link is being formed as ontologists are using text-mining to test, check and build ontologies, while the knowledge in ontologies is being used to augment text-mining techniques.

BioLINK and Bio-Ontologies have previously held joint activities; this year we take this further, giving an excellent opportunity to explore work crossing the boundaries, while still supporting the needs of the respective communities.

**Short papers (up to 4 pages) submission deadline: May 1, 2006**

**Poster-abstracts (1 page) submission deadline: May 1, 2006**

**Notification of paper/poster acceptance: June 10, 2006**

**Final version due: June 20, 2006**





# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { C O N T E N T S }

*Volume 9, Issue 1*

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

---

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

---

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIOIS

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

---

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## Introducing the PLoS Track of Oral Presentations

A new and exciting feature of the ISMB 2006 conference is the PLoS Track of Oral Presentations, sponsored by the Public Library of Science and chaired by ISCB Vice President Barbara Bryant. One-page abstract submissions are being accepted now through May 1 at [pdbrs7.sdsc.edu:8080/ISMB2006/start.do](http://pdbrs7.sdsc.edu:8080/ISMB2006/start.do).

For this new track we are seeking work that has led to new biological results, and research that has advanced biomedicine. We are also interested in novel methodologies, including new algorithms and new kinds of biological data that are conducive to computational analyses. Particularly encouraged are submissions on works that are novel, that are applied, that are motivating to hear about and/or expand the subject areas that computational biologists traditionally have addressed.

Rigorous peer review of all submitted abstracts will result in the selection of nearly 30 full length talks (25 minutes each). Featuring outstanding science which might not otherwise be presented at ISMB, the PLoS Track will comprise at least one quarter of all selected talks at the conference. This is a particularly important addition to the scientific programming of ISMB 2006, potentially impacting the evolution of this conference series for the long term by attracting more biologists and featuring a focused track of specific biological results and applications to the conference.

There will be no published papers associated with the PLoS Track of Oral Presentations; however, abstracts will be included in the ISMB Program book and available on the ISMB 2006 website. Some authors, particularly in the biological sciences, may appreciate the opportunity to present their recent work while reserving first publication for another forum.

As the submission deadline is just days away, submit your abstract today!



[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences &  
Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**[ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER](#)**

**[ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES](#)**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY





# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { CONTENTS }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

---

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

---

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

---

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## STUDENT COUNCIL SYMPOSIUM AT ISMB 2006 – SCS2

The 2nd Student Council Symposium (SCS2) will take place at ISMB 2006 in Fortaleza, Brazil, following the successful debut of the SCS at ECCB 2005 in Madrid, Spain.

### Key Facts

- What? The 2nd ISCB Student Council Symposium featuring keynote lectures, oral presentations and a poster session.
- When? Sunday, August 6th, 2006
- Where? Fortaleza, Brazil
- Who? Under-graduate and graduate students as well as post-docs in computational biology and related disciplines.
- Why? This is a unique opportunity to meet fellow students and researchers for networking and exchange of ideas in a great setting.

**Want to volunteer? Questions? Please mail to [symposium@iscbsc.org](mailto:symposium@iscbsc.org)!**

### Details

The ISCB Student Council is organizing the 2nd Student Council Symposium to be held on Sunday, August 6th, in parallel to the ISMB 2006 tutorial sessions in Fortaleza, Brazil. The Student Council Symposium is a forum for students and young researchers in the field of computational biology. Participants will have the opportunity to present their work to an international audience, build a network within the computational biology community and develop important soft skills in an environment that fosters exchange of ideas and knowledge.

Accomplished scientists will give an overview of their respective research areas and provide participants with advice on how to build a successful career in a rapidly evolving discipline. This is a rare opportunity for aspiring scientists to interact with the pioneers of the field.

### Registration

To sign up for the Student Council Symposium please visit the ISMB 2006 registration page ([ismb2006.cbi.cnpq.br/embra.br/reg.html](http://ismb2006.cbi.cnpq.br/embra.br/reg.html)). You can either register by fax or mail or by using the online registration system (recommended). Make sure you select "SCS2: 2nd ISCB Student Council Symposium" when you register.

A registration fee of \$25 is charged for the event. This includes a full day of presentations, transportation to and from the convention center and hotel zone, two refreshment breaks, a luncheon, and poster session.

We strongly encourage all students to apply for an ISCB travel fellowship ([www.iscb.org/ismb06/fship.php](http://www.iscb.org/ismb06/fship.php)). If you are currently not a member of the ISCB you can save on the ISMB registration fee by joining the ISCB. **Don't forget to join the Student Council for free!**

### Submission of Abstracts

All participants are encouraged to submit an abstract for display in the SCS2 poster session, and for possible elevation to an oral presentation at the symposium. Abstract submissions are now being accepted at [www.iscb.org/ismb06/scs2posters.php](http://www.iscb.org/ismb06/scs2posters.php).

[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences &  
Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

Be sure to submit your abstract by the **deadline of June 1, 2006**.

### **Agenda**

We are planning for 3 keynote speakers and 3 sessions with 4 to 5 oral presentations related to the area of the keynote. Two sessions will be in the morning, followed by an extended lunch break and a poster session. An additional session will be held in the afternoon. Finally there will be more networking opportunities during a social event in the evening.

A detailed agenda will be posted once we have confirmed our keynote speakers. Please find all updates to this information at [www.iscb.org/scs2.htm](http://www.iscb.org/scs2.htm).



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { C O N T E N T S }

Volume 9, Issue 1

[President's Letter](#)

[Call for Leadership  
Nominations](#)

[ISCB Membership](#)

[URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested](#)

[Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program](#)

---

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

[- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open](#)

[- SwissProt 20](#)

[- SIGs & Satellite Meetings](#)

[- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations](#)

[- Student Council Symposium](#)

[- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB](#)

[- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter](#)

---

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

[- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years](#)

[- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO](#)

[- Travel Fellowships Available](#)

[- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates](#)

---

[Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook](#)

[Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features](#)

[Post your Events & News to](#)

## Help Send a Student to ISMB

The International Society for Computational Biology seeks your help to enable students and junior researchers to attend the 2006 conference on Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB). ISMB is the world's largest and most established non-profit scientific conference focused on current research in bioinformatics and computational biology. ISMB 2006 will be held August 6-10 in Fortaleza, Brazil, and promises to be one of the most scientifically exciting conferences to date, including:

- Three Nobel Laureates among the eight keynote speakers
- Ninety 25-minute oral presentations selected by rigorous peer review of submitted papers and abstracts
- Forty one-hour software/hardware technical demonstrations
- Over 600 scientific posters
- Over 30 commercial and not-for-profit exhibitors featuring hardware, software, publications and services of particular interest to the bioinformatics research community.

ISMB is the annual meeting of the International Society for Computational Biology, and as such it is the primary vehicle for achieving our mission of advancing the scientific understanding of living systems through computation. Being able to support the needs of students and junior researchers at this resource-limited stage of their careers is vital to the future of the life sciences. Although ISCB secures conference fellowship grant funding from U.S. government agencies, the need for funds far outweighs our resources, and each year we are only able to support less than one half of all eligible student and junior researcher applicants (eligibility restricted to those presenting a paper or poster at the conference).

Therefore, we are reaching out to our community of ISCB members, past ISMB attendees, and other friends of the Society to request your help. Please consider making a charitable donation to ISCB that can be applied directly to the ISMB travel fellowship fund, or to the Society's general resources fund, enabling us to provide fellowships to other conferences such as ECCB, PSB, RECOMB, as well as fund other areas of need that arise throughout the year. As a registered 501(c)(3) charity in the United States, all donations are IRS tax deductible.

You or your company/institution can play a key role in guiding the growth of bioinformatics and computational biology as a donor to ISCB. I thank you for your consideration and generosity.

Sincerely,

*Michael Gribskov*

President, International Society for Computational Biology

[Donation Form \(PDF\)](#)



[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences &  
Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**[ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER](#)**

**[ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES](#)**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { C O N T E N T S }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

---

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

---

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

---

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## Advertise in the ISMB 2006 Focus Issue of this Newsletter

Advertisers can reach the most targeted audience of bioinformatics researchers and decision makers by purchasing ad space or sponsoring the ISMB 2006 Focus Issue of this newsletter. The annual Focus Issue will be distributed in early August at the ISMB conference to all delegates, and this year it is also scheduled to be available to attendees of the European Conference on Computational Biology (ECCB) in Eilat, Israel just six weeks later, in mid-September. Organizations have the option to purchase ads or recruitment announcements from credit card size up to a full page. The closing date for ads to the Focus Issue is June 30, 2006. For an advertising rate sheet please send email to [admin@iscb.org](mailto:admin@iscb.org).

Additionally, if the opportunity to become a sponsor of the ISCB through a corporate membership appeals to your organization as one that fulfills a social responsibility goal toward international outreach for the Life Sciences community, we want to hear from you. We are actively developing programs that jointly fulfill the needs of industry partners and those of the Society. All sponsorships are customized to meet the unique goals of each of our partners. For information about corporate sponsorship opportunities please direct an email to the attention of BJ Morrison McKay, Executive Officer, at [admin@iscb.org](mailto:admin@iscb.org).

[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences &  
Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { CONTENTS }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIOIS

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## RECOMB 2006 Celebrates a Commendable, Long Term Success



The conference on Research in Computational Molecular Biology (RECOMB), celebrated its 10th Anniversary conference on the island of Lido in Venice, Italy. The Università degli Studi di Padova, and the Department of Information Engineering at the University of Padova, Italy played hosts to this milestone conference, welcoming over 400 delegates for the four days of scientific talks, invited lectures, panel discussions, poster sessions, social networking and exhibitions. Conference and Program Committee chairs, Concettina Guerra and Alberto Apostolico respectively (both affiliated with Georgia Tech in the USA and University of Padova in Italy) worked very hard during the past 12 months with various committees to produce a praiseworthy result in a memorable location.

### SUBMISSIONS & ACCEPTANCE

The 2006 program committee was comprised of 38 members including the seven member steering committee and eight past program chairs, to take on the scientific responsibility of reviewing 212 submitted papers resulting in 40 oral presentation slots. Detailed here is the number of submissions by country, sorted by acceptance rate. Overall acceptance rate for RECOMB 2006 was 18.87%. Other details and statistics from the 2006 conference are provided in [PDF \(204K\)](#) or [Powerpoint \(6MB\)](#) formats.

Country of Contact Person	# Accepted (some overlap)	% Accept Rate by Country	# Submitted
USA	29	24	122
Germany	4	33	17
Canada	4	24	12
Israel	2	25	8
Italy	1	25	4
Sweden	1	25	2
Singapore	1	50	9
Hungary	1	12	1
UK	1	100	8
Australia	1	20	5
Other	0	0	24
<b>Totals Overall</b>	<b>40</b>		<b>212</b>

### TEN YEARS OF RECOMB

In recognition of the 10th anniversary conference, the annual RECOMB business meeting on April 3, 2006 focused a good deal of attention on data gathered by Sarah Aerni and Eleazar Eskin, both of the University of California, San Diego, to



[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences & Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

reflect back on the conference's roots and document its growth and development over the years. The first RECOMB was held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA, in 1997. Since then the conference has met five additional times in North America (once in Canada, four in the U.S.), three times in Europe (including this year's conference in Venice, Italy), and one time in Asia. Global attendance distribution remained fairly steady in the first five years, with an average of approximately 66% coming from the U.S. and 34% from outside USA, regardless of the actual conference location. However, the first few years post 9-11 showed a surge in U.S. attendance, reaching as high as 86% in 2002 when the conference was held in Washington, DC, and remaining above 70% for the next two years in the U.S. and Europe. In 2005 the Boston conference drew non-U.S. attendance to a high of 46%, and in 2006 the conference in Italy appears to have marked a return to the original average, with 65% from the USA and 35% from everywhere else. It has been an interesting evolution, to say the least, and next year in San Francisco will either confirm or dispel the theory that early attendance trends have in fact returned.

The program committee of the first ten years has ranged from the combined volunteer efforts of 23 people in 1997, to a 38 person PC in 2006. Four loyal scientists involved in the first RECOMB have remained consistency active in the conference in each of these ten years: Thomas Lengauer, Pavel Pevzner, Ron Shamir and Mike Waterman.

Some of the notable developments in the history of RECOMB include a trend toward accepted papers coming from collaborative authors. In 1997 nearly 20 of the accepted papers were from single authors, yet this number has gradually dropped over the years, with just one accepted paper of 2006 submitted by a single author. Two or three authors is most common of today's accepted papers (with the highest number to-date having been 12!).

To view the full 10 Years of RECOMB presentation, please click are provided in [PDF \(2MB\)](#) or [Powerpoint \(6MB\)](#) formats.

### **A PANEL OF LUMINARIES**

Following the business meeting at RECOMB 2006, in recognition of this being a significant tenth anniversary year, a distinguished panel was convened to address the past, present and future of computational biology. Panel members were Alberto Apostolico, David Haussler Sorin Istrail, Thomas Lengauer, Michal Linial, Ron Shamir, Terry Speed and Mike Waterman, with Pavel Pevzner serving as moderator.

Pevzner asked three questions of the panelists:

1) What are the past glories of this discipline?

Waterman: *Bringing models into the development of sequence analysis was very important.*

Lengauer: *Genome assembly was the basic engine for propelling an entire field into turbo drive.*

Istrail: *An eager and aptly growing generation of computational biologists.*

Shamir: *The word "bioinformatics." It did not exist ten years ago when RECOMB first started.*

Linial: *The glorious thing is that so many can now cite biological terms and concepts valid for both computer scientists and biologists and mathematicians.*

Haussler: *A cultural shift is emerging between the communities of molecular biologists and mathematicians.*

2) And what have been the past failures of computational biology?

- Speed: *A lack of engagement of the statistics community in the RECOMB community – Get your statisticians involved – collaborate with them – bring them here!*
- Lengauer: *Linking up with experimentalists. We need to get much closer to the bio reality, instead of being in danger of creating bio worlds.*
- Shamir: *Had hoped by now the RECOMB audience would be balanced with biologists and computer scientists, but that is not yet so.*

3) What are the most important advancements of computational biology, and what do you look forward to?

- Speed: *Technology... DNA technology... ChIP technology. Data is driving the field and I look forward to finding out what systems biology is all about.*
- Lengauer: *Communities much more willing to talk across communal boundaries.*
- Shamir: *When computation becomes an essential and basic part of biology. The next generation is already getting an integrated education – a great advantage.*
- Haussler: *Basic science issues – how genomes work. We are a long way from understanding but have an extraordinary opportunity to sequence the genome. We'll probably be building our own genomes some day. This is both exciting and scary.*
- Waterman: *If I was getting my PhD today and entering a post doc I would look for an experimental lab like the Carols Bustamante lab to work with single cell molecules. It's just amazing what these little machines do. I find it very interesting.*
- Apostolico: *It is a bit dangerous when technology advances faster than you know how to use it.*

After the questions by Pevzner the floor was opened to questions from the audience. Both Pevzner and Lengauer took the opportunity to make final observations before closing the meeting for the night:

- Pevzner: *A failure in computational educational biology has shown that 20 years has not changed much – every biologist should take introductions to algorithms and statistics. The divide between biologists and computer scientists will stay until every biologist takes such courses.*
- Lengauer: *Engineering deals with designs made for understanding. Here we are dealing with designs not made for understanding. "Data fitting" happens now, piece by piece working toward understanding. But this just emphasizes the humility and grandeur of what nature is able to accomplish vs. what man is able to accomplish.*

### LOOKING AHEAD TO 2007

The next RECOMB will descend upon the San Francisco Bay area of Northern

California, April 21-25, 2007. Hosted by qb3, the California Institute for Quantitative Biomedical Research, a cooperative effort among private industry and three campuses of the University of California (Berkeley, Santa Cruz and San Francisco), RECOMB 2007 is being chaired by Terry Speed with the help of his local organizing team. All sessions will take place at the Marriott Oakland City Center hotel (in close proximity to the University of California, Berkeley, campus).

Visit [www.RECOMB2007.com](http://www.RECOMB2007.com) for news and updates, and [see related article](#) in this newsletter for key dates.



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



**{ C O N T E N T S }***Volume 9, Issue 1*

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback RequestedAnnouncing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

---

**ISMB 2006 News &  
Updates:**- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs &amp; Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

---

**Other Conferences News  
and Reports:**- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIOS

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
DatesStudent Travel Fellowships  
YearbookBioinformatics Books New  
Online FeaturesPost your Events & News to  
ISCB WebsiteUpcoming Conferences &  
Events**Focus on an ISCB Affiliated Regional Group:  
OKBIOS 2005 Symposium Summary Report**

The second annual symposium for the Oklahoma Bioinformatics Society (OKBIOS 2005) was held October 28th, 2005 at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The event presented cutting-edge research in bioinformatics and focused upon the expanding role of informatics in the life sciences, which in part was highlighted by the keynote speaker, Dr. Richard Cummings of OUHSC, who introduced the relatively new field of glycoinformatics to the audience.

Other featured speakers and their topics included:

- Dr. Anton Yuriyev, the Executive Director of Ariadne Genomics, spoke about Ariadne's ongoing development of pathway analysis software and its application to microarray data analysis.
- Dr. Harold Garner, an entrepreneur who has formed several companies and professor at the UTSW Medical Center, presented bioinformatics methods being employed to reduce the high costs of pharmaceutical research and development.
- Dr. Mike Centola, president of RiGen and OMRF researcher, talked about systems approaches to gain a better understanding of disease causation, using rheumatoid arthritis as an example.
- Dr. Tyrrell Conway demonstrated the use of a microarray database and web server developed in his lab to help better understand the biology of E. coli.
- Dr. Edward Knobbe, VP for research at Nomadics, presented on biomolecular sensors.
- Dr. Mikhail Dozmorov (OUHSC) spoke about his bioinformatics analysis of microarray data on bladder cancer.
- Dr. Yuriy Gusev (OUHSC) presented his study of molecular interaction networks in common human cancers.

The day was concluded with talks on developing bioinformatics curricula, both at OUHSC (by Dr. Dee Wu) and at OKCCC (by Dr. John McMurray). Within Oklahoma, all major universities, most of the regional colleges and several biotechnology companies sent participants to attend OKBIOS 2005, with 140 registrants total. Sixteen posters were presented, and the three best student posters were selected by members of the Program Committee, who awarded Mary Amonsens of OBU 1st place, Jana Comer of OSU 2nd place, and Isaac Harley of OMRF was awarded 3rd place.

The Program Committee for OKBIOS 2005 consisted of Jonathan Wren (OU, President), Yuriy Gusev (OUHSC, Vice President), Patricia Ayoubi (OSU, Sec/Treas), Dan Brackett (OUHSC), Doris Kupfer (FAA), Jim Mason (State Chamber), Kelly Newton-Kranzler (KAN Research), Dawn Scott (OSRHE) and Dee Wu (OUHSC). Participants rated several different aspects of the conference and on a one-to-five scale, with five being the highest satisfaction level, the average overall rating for the symposium was 4.5.

OKBIOS 2005 was generously supported through NIH grant # P20RR016478-05, and student awards were sponsored by the Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce.

For further information about the 2005 symposium, future symposia, or the Oklahoma Bioinformatics Society itself, please see [w3.ouhsc.edu/surgery/pancan/OKC\\_bioinfo2/](http://w3.ouhsc.edu/surgery/pancan/OKC_bioinfo2/).



News From the Field



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { CONTENTS }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

---

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

---

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

---

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## Travel Fellowships Offered – Deadlines Now Upon Us!

### ISMB 2006

If you are a student or post doc in need of travel support funding to make it to Brazil in order to present your accepted paper or poster at ISMB 2006, you are encouraged to apply immediately for a travel fellowship from the Society.

The deadline is May 1, 2006, so mere hours remain to submit your funding application. Each year more than twice as many applications are received than can be funded due to limited resources, so not all applicants will be granted travel support. However, many more students and post docs never apply at all because they believe their chances are more limited than they really are. Well, 50/50 odds are not so bad after all, and if travel support is what you need to make it to ISMB we encourage you to apply today.

Application form: [www.iscb.org/ismb06/fship.php](http://www.iscb.org/ismb06/fship.php)

Funding confirmations will begin at the end of May allowing plenty of time to capture the early conference registration discount and airline/hotel reservations at favorable rates.

---

### ECCB 2006

Although ISCB does not directly organize or own the ECCB conference, the leaders of our Society are highly supportive of the excellent science presented at this annual conference, and recognize the outstanding educational opportunity it provides the young members of our field. Therefore, the board of directors dedicated funds within the 2006 Society budget to support student travel to ECCB (as well as RECOMB and PSB which were held in January and April respectively). The application deadline is also fast approaching: May 29, with notification by June 19.

Application form: [www.eccb06.org/new\\_pages/submission/sub\\_travel.html](http://www.eccb06.org/new_pages/submission/sub_travel.html)

---

### PSB and RECOMB 2007

It is anticipated that ISCB will once again support student travel fellowships to these two conferences in 2007, as well as the combined ISMB/ECCB 2007 which will once again be held as a joint conference as it was in 2004. Therefore, watch for announcements on the ISCB website and in upcoming issues of this newsletter, and be sure to submit your applications on time for consideration as a recipient of these limited funds.

PSB 2007 Application form will be available on August 1, 2006. Please watch the website for updates: [psb.stanford.edu/](http://psb.stanford.edu/)

RECOMB 2007 Application form will be available January 5, 2007. Please watch the website for updates: [www.recomb2007.com/](http://www.recomb2007.com/)



TOP



[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences &  
Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { CONTENTS }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## Key Conferences: Key Dates

Below are listed the key dates for the four primary bioinformatics conferences across the globe. Please visit the respective conference websites for updates to these key dates, as some may change without notice.

### ISMB 2006 – Fortaleza, Brazil – [www.iscb.org/ismb2006](http://www.iscb.org/ismb2006)

ISMB Conference Dates	August 7 - 10
Early Registration Deadline	June 26
SIGs/Satellite Meeting Dates	August 4 - 5
Tutorials Date	August 6
- Tutorial Draft Handouts Due	May 1
- Tutorial Final Handouts Due	June 26
Accepted Papers Final Version Due	May 10
Posters & PLoS Track Abstracts Submission Deadline	May 1
- Poster Acceptance Notification	May 8
- PLoS Track Acceptance Notification	June 15
Technical Demonstrations Sign-up Deadline	May 8
- Accepted Demo Notification	June 5
Travel Fellowship Application Deadline	May 1
- Travel Fellowship Award Notification	May 26

### ECCB 2006 – Eilat, Israel – [www.eccb06.org](http://www.eccb06.org)

ECCB Conference Dates	September 10 - 13
Notification of Workshop/Tutorial Acceptance	May 15
Notification of Paper Acceptance	May 25
- Accepted Papers Final Version Due	June 5
Posters Abstract Submission Deadline	June 8
- Poster Acceptance Notification	June 22
- PLoS Track Acceptance Notification	June 15
Software Demonstrations Submission Deadline	June 8
- Accepted Demo Notification	June 22
Travel Fellowship Application Deadline	May 29
- Travel Fellowship Award Notification	June 19

### PSB 2007 – Maui, Hawaii, USA – <http://psb.stanford.edu> (all dates are in 2006 unless otherwise noted)

PSB Conference Dates (tutorials presented day 1)	January 3 – 7, 2007
Registration Opens	August 1
Paper Submission Deadline	July 17

ISCB Website

Upcoming Conferences &  
Events

News From the Field



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

- Accepted Papers Notification	September 6
- Accepted Papers Final Version Due	September 25
- Accepted Papers Camera-ready Handouts Due	November 6
Accepted Tutorials Camera-ready Handouts Due	November 6
Posters Abstract Submission Opens	August 1
- Poster Abstract Submission Deadline	November 6
- PLoS Track Acceptance Notification	June 15
Travel Fellowship Application Opens	August 1
- Travel Fellowship Application Deadline	September 15
- Travel Fellowship Award Notification	Mid-October

**RECOMB 2007 – San Francisco, California, USA – [www.RECOMB2007.com](http://www.RECOMB2007.com)**  
(all dates are in 2007 unless otherwise noted)

RECOMB Conference Dates	April 21 - 25
Registration Opens	December 1, 2006
- Speaker Registration Deadline	March 15
- Early Registration Deadline	April 5
Paper Submission Opens	July 1, 2006
- Paper Submission Deadline	September 30, 2006
- Paper Acceptance Notification	December 10, 2006
- Accepted Papers Final Version Due	February 1
Posters Abstracts Opens	TBA
- Poster Abstracts Submission Deadline	March 1
- Poster Acceptance Notification	March 15
Travel Fellowship Applications Opens	January 5
- Travel Fellowship Application Deadline	March 15
- Travel Fellowship Award Notification	March 25
Housing Reservation Cut Off Date (Marriott Oakland City Center)	March 31



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { CONTENTS }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIOIS

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## Student Travel Fellowships Yearbook

In the past 12 months ISCB has helped fund 10 students to attend ECCB in Madrid, 8 students to attend PSB in Maui, and 4 students to attend RECOMB in Venice. All 22 of these travel fellowships were made possible by ISCB membership dues and generous member donations. In addition to funds for these conferences, ISCB secures annual grant funding to help as many as 90 students attend the annual ISMB conference each year. Please consider making a donation to the travel fellowships fund via the online donation form ([see related article](#) in this newsletter), or the next time you renew your ISCB membership. The next generation of bioinformaticians benefits greatly from exposure at these well organized, international conferences.



ECCB 2006 Travel Fellowship recipient, Amel Louhichi of Tunisia, is all smiles as she collects her check. Nine additional students were also awarded fellowships to this conference.



Hawaii proved beneficial for PSB 2006 Travel Fellowship recipients, Zhiyong Lu, Yuk-Lap Yip, Karsten Borgwardt and Reedik Magi, pictured here with Phil Bourne, Larry Hunter and Russ Altman, all past presidents of ISCB. Four additional students not pictured were awarded ISCB funds as well..

[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences & Events](#)

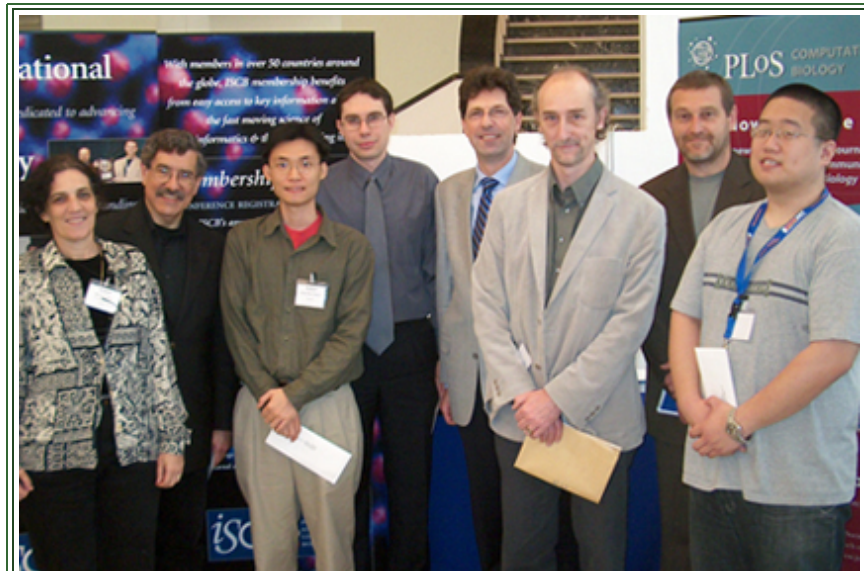
[News From the Field](#)



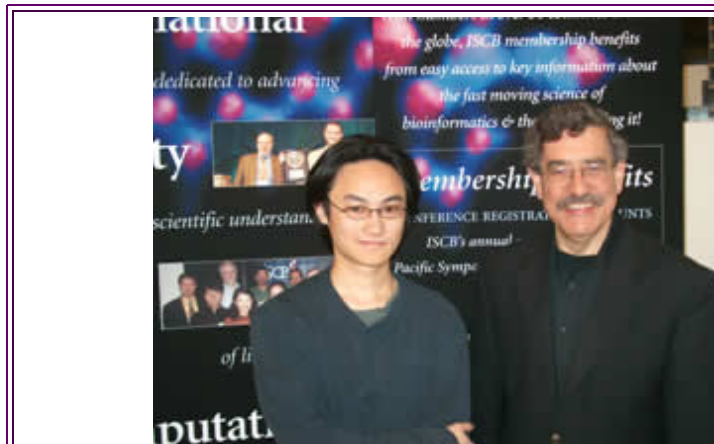
**ACCESS THE  
STUDENT COUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.



Chiang Tsung Hun, Stanislav Angelov, and Brian Chen pose for the camera after receiving their RECOMB 2006 Travel Fellowship funds from ISCB Board Members Michal Linial, David Rocke, Thomas Lengauer, and Alfonso Valencia, along with RECOMB Steering Committee member Pavel Pevzner.



Jim Huang is happy to receive his RECOMB 2006 fellowship check from David Rocke, ISCB Treasurer.



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY





# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { CONTENTS }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

---

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

---

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

---

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## Bioinformatics Books List Online – New Features and Links

The selection of bioinformatics books listed at [www.iscb.org/bioinformaticsBooks.shtml](http://www.iscb.org/bioinformaticsBooks.shtml) has grown! A new feature of this page is the ability to link directly to the full lists of titles from Taylor & Francis/CRC Press and John Wiley & Sons book publishers. Many ISCB members and elected leaders have authored and/or edited some of the most popular titles featured by these publishers, and we are pleased to make them readily available to our members and the bioinformatics community-at-large via direct links from the ISCB website.

If you would like to purchase one of the books featured on the ISCB site without linking to the T&F/CRC or Wiley sites, simply click the cover image or title to link to Amazon.com. Most featured books are listed alphabetically by author with links for more detailed information including the table of contents, number of pages, etc. A new featured section, however, highlights travel books and maps of Brazil to help you prepare for your attendance at ISMB 2006. And whenever you choose to link to Amazon.com you have the option to explore more than just the specific book of interest, and can navigate to any and all Amazon.com product categories.

If you buy from Amazon.com, T&F/CRC or Wiley during a session in which you linked in from the ISCB website, the Society earns a small referral fee, meaning you are actually helping to further support our science in the process of building your own library of educational and reference materials. ISCB thanks you in advance for your contributions by making purchases this way.

[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences &  
Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY





# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { C O N T E N T S }

*Volume 9, Issue 1*

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

---

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open
- SwissProt 20
- SIGs & Satellite Meetings
- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations
- Student Council Symposium
  - Help Send a Student to  
ISMB
- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

---

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years
- Affiliate Focus: OKBIOs
- Travel Fellowships Available
  - Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

---

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## Events & News Postings on the ISCB Website

If you have a bioinformatics conference or event to announce, or news to share with our community be sure to post it directly to the ISCB website for widespread dissemination of information. Over 35,000 visitors view the ISCB site monthly, so your exposure is maximized with this valuable free tool.

Upcoming conferences and events can be submitted at [www.iscb.org/events/event\\_post.php](http://www.iscb.org/events/event_post.php), while news of a new product, publication, collaboration opportunity, funding opportunity, fellowship program or any other information such as might be distributed in the form of a press release can be submitted at [www.iscb.org/news/news\\_post.php](http://www.iscb.org/news/news_post.php).

All submissions will be reviewed by ISCB staff to ensure appropriate content prior to posting to the conferences or news pages of the website. Events will remain posted on the site until five days after the start of the event, and news will remain for 90 days from the date of posting.

[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences &  
Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { CONTENTS }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIOIS

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## Upcoming Conferences & Events

### ISCB Annual Conferences

#### ISMB 2006

Brazil - Ceara - Fortaleza

Dates: Aug 06, 2006 through Aug 10, 2006

ISCB Member Discount: \$100

AB3C Member Discount: 35%

Event URL: [www.iscb.org/ismb2006](http://www.iscb.org/ismb2006)

#### Rocky '06 – ISCB Rocky Mountain Regional Bioinformatics Conference

United States - CO - Aspen/Snowmass

Dates: Dec 01, 2006 through Dec 03, 2006

ISCB Member Discount: TBA

Event URL: [www.iscb.org/rocky06](http://www.iscb.org/rocky06)

### ISCB Co-Sponsored Conferences & Affiliated Conferences

#### World Pharmaceutical Congress 2006

United States - PA - Philadelphia

Dates: May 23 through May 25, 2006

ISCB Member Discount: 10 Percent

Event URL: [www.worldpharmacongress.com/](http://www.worldpharmacongress.com/)

#### Critical Assessment of Microarray Data Analysis (CAMDA 2006)

United States – NC – Durham

Hosted By: Duke University

Dates: Jun 08, 2006 through Jun 09, 2006

Event URL: [www.camda.duke.edu/camda06/](http://www.camda.duke.edu/camda06/)

#### Structure Based Drug Design

United States - MA - Boston

Dates: June 15 through June 16, 2006

ISCB Member Discount: 10 Percent

Event URL: [www.healthtech.com/2002/sbd/](http://www.healthtech.com/2002/sbd/)

#### Beyond Genome 2006

United States - CA - San Francisco

Dates: June 19 through June 21, 2006

ISCB Member Discount: 10 Percent

Event URL: [www.beyondgenome.com/](http://www.beyondgenome.com/)

#### Profiling PCR and Beyond

United States - VA - Arlington

Dates: June 26 through June 28, 2006

[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences & Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

ISCB Member Discount: 10 Percent  
Event URL: [www.healthtech.com/2006/pcr/index.asp](http://www.healthtech.com/2006/pcr/index.asp)

### **In-silico Analysis of Proteins: Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Swiss-Prot**

Brazil - CE - Fortaleza  
Hosted By: Swiss-Prot Group, Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics

Dates: Jul 30, 2006 through Aug 04, 2006  
Event URL: [www.swissprot20.org/](http://www.swissprot20.org/)

### **ISMB Satellite Meeting**

3Dsig: Structural Bioinformatics and Computational Biophysics  
Brazil - Fortaleza  
Hosted By: ISCB

Dates: Aug 04, 2006 through Aug 05, 2006  
Event URL: [3dsig.weizmann.ac.il/](http://3dsig.weizmann.ac.il/)

### **ISMB Special Interest Group Meetings**

Brazil - Fortaleza  
Hosted By: ISCB

Dates: Aug 04, 2006 through Aug 05, 2006  
Event URLs:

- Joint BioLINK and Bio-Ontologies Meeting (JBB) [www.jbb06.org](http://www.jbb06.org)
- BioPathways [www.biopathways.org/](http://www.biopathways.org/)
- Alternative Splicing (AS – SIG) [www.biolinfo.org/as-sig/](http://www.biolinfo.org/as-sig/)
- BOSC [www.open-bio.org/wiki/BOSC\\_2006](http://www.open-bio.org/wiki/BOSC_2006)

### **Microarray Data Analysis**

United States - DC - Washington  
Dates: August 23 through August 25, 2006

ISCB Member Discount: 10 Percent  
Event URL: [www.healthtech.com/2006/MDA/](http://www.healthtech.com/2006/MDA/)

### **The Second Automated Function Prediction Meeting**

United States - CA - San Diego  
Hosted By: California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology

Dates: Aug 30, 2006 through Sep 01, 2006  
Event URL: [BioFunctionPrediction.org/AFP/afp06](http://BioFunctionPrediction.org/AFP/afp06)

### **ECCB '06 - 5th European Conference on Computational Biology**

Israel - Eilat  
Hosted By: ECCB

Dates: Sep 10, 2006 through Sep 13, 2006  
ISCB Member Discount: 25 Percent  
Event URL: [www.eccb06.org](http://www.eccb06.org)

### **6th Workshop on Algorithms in Bioinformatics WABI'06**

Switzerland - Zurich  
Hosted By: Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich (ETHZ)

Dates: Sep 11, 2006 through Sep 13, 2006  
Event URL: [algo06.inf.ethz.ch/wabi/](http://algo06.inf.ethz.ch/wabi/)

**InCoB 2006**

India – New Delhi

Hosted By: Asia Pacific Bioinformatics Network

Dates: Dec 18, 2006 through Dec 20, 2006

Event URL: [www.incob2006.in/](http://www.incob2006.in/)**PSB 2007 – Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing**

United States – HI – Maui

Hosted By: PSB

Dates: Jan 3, 2007 through Jan 7, 2007

ISCB Member Discount: \$75

Event URL: [psb.stanford.edu/](http://psb.stanford.edu/)**RECOMB 2007 – Conference on Research in Computational Molecular Biology**

United States – CA – San Francisco

Hosted By: qb3 (ucb-ucsc-ucsf)

Dates: April 21, 2007 through April 25, 2007

ISCB Member Discount: TBA

Event URL: [www.RECOMB2007.com](http://www.RECOMB2007.com)**Other Conferences & Events of Interest****CASP6.5--Between CASPs Public Meeting**

United States - NY - New York

Hosted By: Critical Assessment of Structure Prediction

Dates: May 01, 2006 through May 01, 2006

Event URL: [cubic.bioc.columbia.edu/meetings/casp\\_6\\_5/](http://cubic.bioc.columbia.edu/meetings/casp_6_5/)**Molecular Interactions - Bringing Chemistry to Life**

Italy - Bozen/Bolzano

Hosted By: Beilstein-Institut

Dates: May 15, 2006 through May 19, 2006

Event URL: [www.beilstein-institut.de](http://www.beilstein-institut.de)**Training Course in Biomedical Ontology**

Germany - Saarland

Hosted By: National Center for Biomedical Ontology

Dates: May 21, 2006 through May 24, 2006

Event URL: [ontology.buffalo.edu/06/os2/index.html](http://ontology.buffalo.edu/06/os2/index.html)**SMBE 2006 Conference: Genomes, Evolution, & Bioinformatics**

United States - AZ - Tempe

Hosted By: Arizona State University

Dates: May 24, 2006 through May 28, 2006

Event URL: [www.smbc.org/geb](http://www.smbc.org/geb)**BIT' 4th Annual Congress of International Drug Discovery Science & Technology 2006**

China - Liaoning and Sha - Dalian and Xian

Hosted By: Dalian Bio Integration Technology

Dates: May 25, 2006 through Jun 01, 2006

Event URL: [www.iddst.com](http://www.iddst.com)

**Evolution of Biomolecular Structure, Vienna**

Austria - Vienna

Hosted By: Theoretical Chemistry, Univ Vienna

Dates: May 25, 2006 through May 27, 2006

Event URL: [www.tbi.univie.ac.at/EBSV06/](http://www.tbi.univie.ac.at/EBSV06/)**Workshop on Computational Chemistry and Its Applications (Part of ICCS 2006)**

United Kingdom - Reading

Hosted By: Dr P. Ramasami

Dates: May 28, 2006 through May 31, 2006

Event URL: [www.iccs-meeting.org/iccs2006/](http://www.iccs-meeting.org/iccs2006/)**2nd International Workshop on Bioinformatics Research and Applications (IWBRA 2006)**

United Kingdom - Reading

Hosted By: University of Reading, UK

Dates: May 28, 2006 through May 31, 2006

Event URL: [dna.engr.uconn.edu/IWBRA/](http://dna.engr.uconn.edu/IWBRA/)**Fourth International Chemometrics Research Meeting (ICRM 2006)**

Netherlands - Veldhoven

Hosted By: Dutch Chemometric Society

Dates: May 28, 2006 through Jun 01, 2006

Event URL: [www.icrm.info](http://www.icrm.info)**3rd International Symposium on Networks in Bioinformatics**

Netherlands - Amsterdam

Hosted By: Netherlands Bioinformatics Centre

Dates: May 29, 2006 through May 31, 2006

Event URL: [isnb.amc.uva.nl/](http://isnb.amc.uva.nl/)**Signalling to Chromatin - Epigenetics**

United Kingdom - Hinxton

Hosted By: Wellcome Trust Genome Campus, Hinxton, United Kingdom

Dates: Jun 05, 2006 through Jun 09, 2006

Event URL: [www.esf.org/conferences/lc06205](http://www.esf.org/conferences/lc06205)**Cold Spring Harbor Course in High Throughput Data Analysis**

United States - NY - Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island

Hosted By: Cold Spring Harbor Labs

Dates: Jun 14, 2006 through Jun 27, 2006

Event URL: [meetings.cshl.edu/courses/c-data06.shtml](http://meetings.cshl.edu/courses/c-data06.shtml)**EMBnet AGM 2006**

Sweden - Uppsala

Hosted By: EMBnet Sweden &amp; EMBnet Finland

Dates: Jun 14, 2006 through Jun 18, 2006

Event URL: [www.embnet.org/AGM2006/Site/AGM2006.html](http://www.embnet.org/AGM2006/Site/AGM2006.html)**8th Biodetection Technologies**

United States - DC - Washington

Hosted By: The Knowledge Foundation

Dates: Jun 15, 2006 through Jun 16, 2006

Event URL: [www.knowledgefoundation.com](http://www.knowledgefoundation.com)**Structure Based Drug Design**

United States - MA - Boston

Dates: June 15 through June 16, 2006

ISCB Member Discount: 10 Percent  
Event URL: [www.healthtech.com/2002/sbd/](http://www.healthtech.com/2002/sbd/)

---

**Workshop on Probabilistic Modeling and Machine Learning in Structural and Systems Biology**

Finland - Tuusula

Hosted By: University of Helsinki, Helsinki University of Technology and Helsinki Institute for Information Technology

Dates: Jun 17, 2006 through Jun 18, 2006

Event URL: [www.cs.helsinki.fi/group/bioinfo/events/pmsb06/](http://www.cs.helsinki.fi/group/bioinfo/events/pmsb06/)

---

**AREADNE 2006: Research in Encoding and Decoding of Neural Ensembles**

Greece - Santorini

Hosted By: AREADNE Organizing Committee

Dates: Jun 22, 2006 through Jun 25, 2006

Event URL: [www.areadne.org](http://www.areadne.org)

---

**Symposium of Computations in Bioinformatics and Bioscience (SCBB06)**

China - Zhejiang - Hangzhou

Hosted By: ZheJiang University (China)

Dates: Jun 22, 2006 through Jun 26, 2006

Event URL: [mfgn.usm.edu/ebi/IMSCCS06/index.htm](http://mfgn.usm.edu/ebi/IMSCCS06/index.htm)

---

**INFORMS International Meeting - Bioinformatics Cluster**

Hong Kong - Hong Kong

Hosted By: The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Dates: Jun 25, 2006 through Jun 28, 2006

Event URL: [www.informs.org/Conf/Hongkong06/](http://www.informs.org/Conf/Hongkong06/)

---

**Gene Networks: Theory and Application**

United States - NV - Las Vegas

Hosted By: The 2006 International Conference on Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (BIOCOMP'06)

Dates: Jun 26, 2006 through Jun 29, 2006

Event URL: [www.bio-complexity.com/biocomp06\\_GeneNetworks.html](http://www.bio-complexity.com/biocomp06_GeneNetworks.html)

---

**2nd International Conference on Data Management for Real-Life Problems in Biomedicine (DMRB 2006)**

United States - CA - San Diego

Hosted By: San Diego Supercomputer center, University of California at San Diego, National University and US Education Service

Dates: Jun 27, 2006 through Jun 29, 2006

Event URL: [www.conferencehome.com/](http://www.conferencehome.com/)

---

**EURO XXI 2006, 21st European Conference on Operational Research, Stream**

Iceland - Reykjavik

Hosted By: EURO, The Association of European OR Societies

Dates: Jul 02, 2006 through Jul 06, 2006

Event URL: [www.euro2006.org/](http://www.euro2006.org/)

---

**2006 Workshop on the Biological Applications of Genetic and Evolutionary Computing (BioGEC'06)**

United States - WA - Seattle

Hosted By: Genetic and Evolutionary Computing Conference (GECCO)

Dates: Jul 08, 2006 through Jul 09, 2006

Event URL: [www.epistasis.org/biogec2006.html](http://www.epistasis.org/biogec2006.html)

---



**Quantitative Approaches to Gene Regulatory Systems**

United States - CA - La Jolla

Hosted By: Center for Theoretical Biological Physics

Dates: Jul 09, 2006 through Jul 21, 2006

Event URL: [ctbp.ucsd.edu/workshops/index.php?id=18](http://ctbp.ucsd.edu/workshops/index.php?id=18)**Microbial Stress Response**

United States - MA - South Hadley

Hosted By: Gordon Conference

Dates: Jul 09, 2006 through Jul 14, 2006

Event URL: [grc.org/programs/2006/micrstrs.htm](http://grc.org/programs/2006/micrstrs.htm)**NETTAB 2006 on Distributed applications, Web Services, Tools and GRID Infrastructures for Bioinformatics**

Italy - Sardinia - Santa margherita di Pula (CA)

Hosted By: DIEE, University of Cagliari, Italy

Dates: Jul 10, 2006 through Jul 13, 2006

Event URL: [www.nettab.org/2006/](http://www.nettab.org/2006/)**3rd International Conference "Genomics, Proteomics, Bioinformatics and Nanotechnology for Medicine"**

Russia - Nov. - Novosibirsk

Hosted By: International Tomographic Center, SB RAS

Dates: Jul 12, 2006 through Jul 16, 2006

Event URL: [ibmc.msk.ru/gpbm2006/](http://ibmc.msk.ru/gpbm2006/)**The 2006 BGRS International Summer School for Young Scientists**

Russia - Novosibirsk

Hosted By: Institute of Cytology and Genetics, SB RAS

Dates: Jul 12, 2006 through Jul 15, 2006

Event URL: [www.bionet.nsc.ru/meeting/bgrs\\_school\\_2006/index.html](http://www.bionet.nsc.ru/meeting/bgrs_school_2006/index.html)**The DIMACS Bio-Math Connect Institute 2006**

United States - CO - Broomfield

Hosted By: DIMACS / Rutgers University

Dates: Jul 16, 2006 through Jul 28, 2006

Event URL: [dimacs.rutgers.edu/dci/2006/](http://dimacs.rutgers.edu/dci/2006/)**Intelligent Computation for Molecular Biology (WMSCI 2006)**

United States - Florida - Orlando

Hosted By: Intelligent Computation for Molecular Biology (WMSCI 2006)

Dates: Jul 16, 2006 through Jul 19, 2006

Event URL: [www.iiisci.org/wmsci2006/website/](http://www.iiisci.org/wmsci2006/website/)**Bioinformatics of Genome Regulation and Structure (BGRS'2006)**

Russia - Novosibirsk

Hosted By: Institute of Cytology and Genetics

Dates: Jul 16, 2006 through Jul 22, 2006

Event URL: [www.bionet.nsc.ru/meeting/bgrs2006/](http://www.bionet.nsc.ru/meeting/bgrs2006/)**DILS06: 3rd International Workshop on Data Integration for the Life Sciences**

United Kingdom - Hinxton - Cambridge

Hosted By: European Bioinformatics Institute, UK, and Humboldt Universität, Berlin

Dates: Jul 20, 2006 through Jul 22, 2006

Event URL: [www.informatik.hu-berlin.de/dils2006/index.html](http://www.informatik.hu-berlin.de/dils2006/index.html)

**Computing Supporting Biology**

United States - CA - Stanford

Hosted By: Life Science Society

Dates: Aug 14, 2006 through Aug 18, 2006

Event URL: [www.lifesciencesociety.org/CSB2006/index2006.html](http://www.lifesciencesociety.org/CSB2006/index2006.html)**2006 LSS Computational Systems Bioinformatics Conference**

United States - CA - Palo Alto

Hosted By: The Life Science Society

Dates: Aug 14, 2006 through Aug 18, 2006

Event URL: [www.lifesciencesociety.org/CSB2006/](http://www.lifesciencesociety.org/CSB2006/)**The 1st International Workshop on Multi-Objective Cybernetics (MOC 2006)**

Finland - Helsinki

Hosted By: IEEE-ICCC- 2006 and WSYS 2006- The 1st Int. Workshop on Systems and Complexity

Dates: Aug 18, 2006 through Aug 19, 2006

Event URL: [plectics.org](http://plectics.org)**Interactome Networks**

United Kingdom - Cambridge - Hinxton

Hosted By: Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory/Wellcome Trust

Dates: Aug 30, 2006 through Sep 03, 2006

Event URL: [www.cshl.edu/meetings](http://www.cshl.edu/meetings)**6th European Conference on Computational Chemistry**

Slovak Republic - Tale

Hosted By: Faculty of Natural Sciences, Comenius University

Dates: Sep 03, 2006 through Sep 07, 2006

Event URL: [www.fns.uniba.sk/~eucocc6/index.html](http://www.fns.uniba.sk/~eucocc6/index.html)**4th International Workshop on Biological Data Management**

Poland - Poland - Krakau

Hosted By: non

Dates: Sep 04, 2006 through Sep 08, 2006

Event URL: [www.dexa.org](http://www.dexa.org)**3rd Integrative Bioinformatics Workshop**

United Kingdom - herts - harpenden

Hosted By: rothamsted research

Dates: Sep 04, 2006 through Sep 06, 2006

Event URL: [www.rothamsted.bbsrc.ac.uk/bab/conf/ibiof/](http://www.rothamsted.bbsrc.ac.uk/bab/conf/ibiof/)**Genomic Perspectives to Host Pathogen Interactions**

United Kingdom - Cambridge - Hinxton

Hosted By: Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory/Wellcome Trust

Dates: Sep 07, 2006 through Sep 10, 2006

Event URL: [www.cshl.edu/meetings](http://www.cshl.edu/meetings)**2006 VLDB Workshop on Data Mining in Bioinformatics**

South Korea - Seoul

Hosted By: VLDB 2006

Dates: Sep 11, 2006 through Sep 11, 2006

Event URL: [bio.informatics.indiana.edu/VLDB06/](http://bio.informatics.indiana.edu/VLDB06/)**Genome Informatics**

United Kingdom - Cambridge - Hinxton

Hosted By: Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory/Wellcome Trust

Dates: Sep 13, 2006 through Sep 17, 2006  
Event URL: [www.cshl.edu/meetings](http://www.cshl.edu/meetings)

---

**Fourth Annual RECOMB Satellite Meeting on Comparative Genomics**

Canada - QC - Montreal  
Hosted By: Montreal, Canada  
Dates: Sep 24, 2006 through Sep 26, 2006  
Event URL: [www.crm.umontreal.ca/Genomics06/](http://www.crm.umontreal.ca/Genomics06/)

---

**CompLife06 - 2nd International Symposium on Computational Life Science**

United Kingdom - Cambridgeshire - Cambridge  
Hosted By: Cambridge University, United Kingdom  
Dates: Sep 27, 2006 through Sep 29, 2006  
Event URL: [www.complife.org](http://www.complife.org)

---

**Integrative Approaches to Brain Complexity**

United Kingdom - Cambridge - Hinxton  
Hosted By: Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory/Wellcome Trust  
Dates: Sep 28, 2006 through Oct 01, 2006  
Event URL: [www.cshl.edu/meetings](http://www.cshl.edu/meetings)

---

**Biotechnology and Bioinformatics Symposium (BIOT-2006)**

United States - UT - Provo  
Hosted By: Brigham Young University  
Dates: Oct 20, 2006 through Oct 21, 2006  
Event URL: [www.biotconf.org/](http://www.biotconf.org/)

---

**9th Annual Computational Genomics Conference**

United States - MD - Baltimore  
Hosted By: Virginia Bioinformatics Institute  
Dates: Oct 28, 2006 through Oct 31, 2006  
Event URL: [www.conted.vt.edu/genomics/](http://www.conted.vt.edu/genomics/)

---

**The 21st International Symposium on Computer and Information Sciences (ISCIS'06)**

Turkey - Istanbul  
Hosted By: Sabanci University  
Dates: Nov 01, 2006 through Nov 03, 2006  
Event URL: [fens.sabanciuniv.edu/iscis06/](http://fens.sabanciuniv.edu/iscis06/)

---

**Progress in Systems Biology 2006**

Canada - On - Ottawa  
Hosted By: University of Ottawa and the National Research Council of Canada  
Dates: Nov 09, 2006 through Nov 10, 2006  
Event URL: [mededu.med.uottawa.ca/oisb/sympindex.htm](http://mededu.med.uottawa.ca/oisb/sympindex.htm)

---

**Fifth Asia-Pacific Bioinformatics Conference, APBC2007**

Hong Kong  
Hosted By: University of Hong Kong, Department of Computer Science  
Dates: Jan 15, 2007 through Jan 17, 2007  
Event URL: [www.cs.hku.hk/apbc2007/](http://www.cs.hku.hk/apbc2007/)

---



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY



# ISCB NEWSLETTER

## { CONTENTS }

Volume 9, Issue 1

President's Letter

Call for Leadership  
Nominations

ISCB Membership

URLs in Grant Proposals  
Your Feedback Requested

Announcing MentorNet  
E-Mentoring Program

### ISMB 2006 News & Updates:

- ISMB 2006 Registration  
Now Open

- SwissProt 20

- SIGs & Satellite Meetings

- Introducing the PLoS Track  
of Oral Presentations

- Student Council Symposium

- Help Send a Student to  
ISMB

- Advertise in the ISMB 2006  
Newsletter

### Other Conferences News and Reports:

- RECOMB Celebrates 10  
Years

- Affiliate Focus: OKBIO

- Travel Fellowships Available

- Key Conferences: Key  
Dates

Student Travel Fellowships  
Yearbook

Bioinformatics Books New  
Online Features

Post your Events & News to

## NEWS FROM THE FIELD

News Title: **Between CASPs Public Meeting 2006 – May 1**

Date Posted: Apr 05, 2006

In contrast to the CASP (Critical Assessment of Structure Prediction) meetings that are restricted to groups that participate in the challenge, i.e. predictors, this one day meeting (May 1) will present the CASP findings to the public. Registration for the meeting is free, however, we have only a limited number of slots (thus, if interested, register soon).

URL: [www.forcasp.org/](http://www.forcasp.org/)

News Title: **Training Course on Bioinformatics and Functional Genomics  
Applied to Tsetse Fly - Vector of Human African Trypanosomiasis**

Date Posted: Apr 3, 2006

An initiative sponsored by UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases and The South African Medical Research Council. To be held 3 – 14 July 2006 at South African National Bioinformatics Institute (SANBI), University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa. This is an initiative designed as part of the activities of WHO/TDR in collaboration with the SANBI, to promote capability of scientists from endemic countries to exploit genome resources that are rapidly being developed for *Glossina*, the vector of Human African Trypanosomiasis. The objective is to introduce the participants to basic information on the application of genome information and the potential for development of functional genomics tools that can be applied in vector control. The regional course will run over 12 days, with a focus on bioinformatics (computational biology) concepts and implementations relevant to functional genomics of the Tsetse fly, with lectures as well as hands-on computer sessions. Emphasis will be placed on the analysis, application and translation of molecular resources being developed in the run-up to the full sequencing of the tsetse fly genome. Students will be trained to use existing Bioinformatics tools to analyze public and in-house data in the context of genomic data. Trainees will receive continued assistance and support from SANBI and future access to available resources. PhD students, postdoctoral fellows and young faculty members at the beginning of their careers who are active in tsetse fly research, who can demonstrate clear ability to exploit bioinformatics and post-genomics tools for their future research, are highly encouraged to apply for this course. Up to fifteen candidates will be selected from scientists in African endemic countries. There is no registration fee for the course. Successful applicants will be provided training materials, economy round-trip airfare, accommodation and food during the entire period of the training course.

Application deadline: May 2, 2006. For further information please see the course website: [www.sanbi.ac.za/mrc/tdr2006/index.html](http://www.sanbi.ac.za/mrc/tdr2006/index.html)

News Title: **National Academies of Science Release “Computing and Biology”  
Report**

Date Posted: Mar 31, 2006

The first ever NAS analysis report on computing and biology is now available at [www.doegenomestolife.org/pubs/NRCComputingandBiology/index](http://www.doegenomestolife.org/pubs/NRCComputingandBiology/index). Computing and Biology is not simply a captive report of a single agency, but at 400 pages a tome

[ISCB Website](#)

[Upcoming Conferences & Events](#)

[News From the Field](#)



**ACCESS THE  
STUDENTCOUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**ACCESS NEWSLETTER  
ARCHIVES**

Copyright © 2006 International  
Society for Computational Biology.  
All rights reserved.

of great impact across all areas of computational biology. As one of the sponsors of the report, the U.S. Department of Energy has made a PDF copy of the report available in full and for free at the above URL. An Executive Summary and smaller versions are also being developed for future release.

---

**News Title: AFP 2006: call for participation**

Date Posted: Mar 30, 2006

Call for participation: Automated Function Prediction (AFP) 2006 August 30 - September 1, 2006 University of California San Diego, CA, USA. AFP 2006 will feature three exciting days of discussions on computational function prediction in molecular biology. The meeting program includes plenary talks delivered by leading researchers in the field, a special discussion panel on gene and protein annotation and a poster session. Talk abstracts will be published as an article in a special section of BMC Bioinformatics. Speakers include: Russ B. Altman, Stanford University; Philip E. Bourne, University of California, San Diego, USA; Steven E. Brenner, University of California, Berkeley, USA; Terry Gaasterland, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, La Jolla, USA; Adam Godzik, Burnham Institute for Medical Research and University of California, San Diego USA; Christos Ouzounis European Bioinformatics Institute, Cambridge, UK; Anna Tramontano, University of Rome, "La Sapienza", Rome, Italy; Shoshana Wodak, Hospital for Sick Children, and Departments of Biochemistry and Medical Genetics, University of Toronto, Canada.

URL: [biofunctionprediction.org/](http://biofunctionprediction.org/)

---

**News Title: Vital-IT: Integrated Computational Genomics Resource**

Date Posted: Mar 20, 2006

The Vital-IT high performance computing facility of the Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, through funding provided by the EU 6th Framework Programme, is pleased to invite proposals for cost-free use of its "Integrated Computational Genomics Resource" (ICGR) from individuals, institutions and SME's from any of the EU Member and Associated States (excluding Switzerland). The ICGR facility comprises several compute clusters and a large storage system which mirrors all the internationally-important genome, transcriptome and proteome sequence repositories, as well as providing access to a range of locally-developed specialized databases. Visiting Developer Programme: Visiting developers may stay for a period from one week to two months at Vital-IT in Lausanne, Switzerland. Their activities may include the development of new software for HPC applications in life-science, parallelization and optimization of existing software, and large data analysis projects making use of the rich database collection offered by this facility. Vital-IT staff will provide technical support for projects under this programme, and limited travel support is available. Remote Access Programme: Remote access to the HPC infrastructure and computational genomics environment will be provided. Successful applicants will have a user account on Vital-IT and adequate CPU and disk storage quotas to carry out the proposed project. Periodic training courses will be offered to familiarise remote users with the use of Vital-IT's facilities. Further information, and an Application Form, are available at [www.vital-it.ch/vitalit-ICGR.htm](http://www.vital-it.ch/vitalit-ICGR.htm). All proposals will be reviewed by a panel of academic and industry experts. The programme begins on April 1, 2006. Applications will be reviewed regularly and every effort made to give applicants a timely decision.

---

**News Title: International Journal of Data Mining & Bioinformatics  
Inaugural Issue**

Date Posted: Mar 10, 2006

Mining bioinformatics data is an emerging field at the intersection of its two composite disciplines, bioinformatics and data mining. The objective of the International Journal of Data Mining and Bioinformatics (IJDMB) is to facilitate

collaboration between data mining researchers and bioinformaticians by presenting cutting edge research topics and methodologies in this emerging area. The journal's perspective acknowledges the inter-disciplinary nature of the research in data mining and bioinformatics and provides a unified forum for researchers, practitioners, students, and policy makers to share the latest developments in this fast growing, multidisciplinary research area. IJDMB aims to publish articles highlighting the latest research and developments in the areas of bioinformatics, data mining and knowledge discovery, techniques for integrating and interpreting bioinformatics data sets, and methods for improving the effectiveness, efficiency, and quality of bioinformatics data analysis. The major objective of IJDMB is to stimulate new multidisciplinary research and the development of cutting-edge data mining methods, techniques and tools to solve problems in bioinformatics. The journal aspires to help readers understand the state-of-the-art techniques, algorithms and methods used in bioinformatics data gathering, data pre-processing, data mining and data management, and disseminate these ideas to a large audience. The intended audiences include data mining researchers and practitioners; bioinformatics specialists in academia and industry; chemists; systems and molecular biologists who rely on computer tools for data integration, management and analysis; mathematicians and statisticians interested in model development and simulation for life science data; computer scientists; and post-graduate students with an interest in developing or applying novel algorithms and methods to biology or biomedical domains. The five papers that comprise the inaugural issue of IJDMB are excellent examples of the type of high-quality submissions that the journal seeks to publish. "Adaptive Fuzzy Association Rule Mining for Effective Decision Support in Biomedical Applications," by Yuanchen He, Yuchun Tang, Yan-Qing Zhang and Rajshekhar Sunderraman "Text Analysis of MEDLINE for Discovering Functional Relationships among Genes: Evaluation of Keyword Extraction Weighting Schemes," by Ying Liu, Shamkant B. Navathe, Alex Pivoshenko, Venu Dasigi, Ray Dingleline and Brian J. Ciliac "Bi-Level Clustering of Mixed Categorical and Numerical Biomedical Data," by Bill Andreopoulos, Aijun An and Xiaogang Wang "State-space Approach with the Maximum Likelihood Principle to Identify the System Generating Time-course Gene Expression Data of Yeast," by Rui Yamaguchi and Tomoyuki Higuchi "Kernel Design for RNA Classification Using Support Vector Machines," by Jason T.L. Wang and Xiaoming Wu I hope that our readers find these articles as informative and stimulating as I did, and I thank the authors for contributing their research and writing to ijDMB. I would also like to offer my special thanks to everyone who has been working hard behind the scenes of ijDMB: Our editorial board members who have devoted their valuable time and thought to creating a high-quality resource for our intellectual community; Inderscience Publishers, whose experience has guided us from the beginning; the iSchool at Drexel, whose support for and dedication to the advancement of scholarship has been unparalleled; and the efforts of all the other support staff, consultants and organizations without whom this journal would not have been possible. I thank you all for your continued support. Finally, I would like to extend my thanks outward, to all the members of our intellectual community. Without you—the researchers, the scientists, the teachers, the students, the curious—there would be no need for ijDMB or publications like it, and the world would be a lesser place as a result. If you need a complementary copy of the inaugural issue, please send an email with your mailing address to [ijdmb@cis.drexel.edu](mailto:ijdmb@cis.drexel.edu).

---

#### News Title: **2007 Career Awards at the Scientific Interface**

Date Posted: Jan 16, 2006

2007 Career Awards at the Scientific Interface \$500,000 award over five years for postdoctoral fellows Deadline: May 1, 2006 Burroughs Wellcome Fund is accepting electronic applications only.

- These portable awards support up to two years of advanced postdoctoral 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, either verbally or in writing, 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

Complete program information, eligibility guidelines, and application instructions are available on BWF's website at [www.bwffund.org](http://www.bwffund.org) or by telephone at 919/991.5100 or by fax at 919/991.5160 or by mail to Post Office Box 13901 21 T.W. Alexander Drive Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-3901. 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: [www.bwffund.org](http://www.bwffund.org)

---

**News Title: HFSP: Funding Opportunities for International, Interdisciplinary Research Projects in the Basic Life Sciences**

Date Posted: Jan 13, 2006

The Human Frontier Science Program is an international funding program, supported by Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, U.K., U.S.A. and the European Union. HFSP promotes international collaboration through a prestigious program of grants which support interdisciplinary research in the basic 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 for our long-term and cross-disciplinary fellowship program is 31 August 2006. Guidelines for award year 2007 will be available on our website in May 2006 and pre-registration and electronic application forms in early July 2006. See [www.hfsp.org](http://www.hfsp.org) for further details.

---

**News Title: Introduction to Ontologies for the Biosciences**

Date Posted: Dec 28, 2005

The University of Manchester, UK, has received funding to develop a new distance learning course, Introduction to Ontologies for the Biosciences. This course is being developed by members of the Bio and Health Informatics group at The University of Manchester. It will be an additional option on the existing online programme in Bioinformatics. The current online modules are:

- Introduction to Molecular Biology for Computer Scientists
- Introduction to programming (C or Java)
- Intermediate Java
- Introduction to Bioinformatics
- Introduction to Microarray Data Analysis
- Theory and Applications in Bioinformatics
- The Bioinformatics of Protein Structure
- The Science of Proteomics
- Medicinal Chemistry (provided by the University of California, San Diego)
- Molecular Modelling and Structure-based Drug Design
- Biocomputing
- Object-oriented analysis and design with UML

URL: [www.cs.man.ac.uk/biomed/bioinformatics.html](http://www.cs.man.ac.uk/biomed/bioinformatics.html)

---

**News Title: FASEB Directory of Members 2006 is Now Available**

Date Posted: Dec 21, 2005

The FASEB Directory of Members 2006 is now available for purchase through the FASEB website at [www.faseb.org](http://www.faseb.org). This version of the directory comprises an alphabetical listing with contact information for nearly 60,000 FASEB Society Members. Click [here](#) to purchase your copy of the 2006 Directory of Members. Data in the directory reflects information received by October 25, 2005. For a number of years several FASEB societies have provided a print version of the directory to their members. Due to prohibitive costs, the print directory will no longer be provided to those members. The limited interest of FASEB Member Societies to purchase print copies of the directory in bulk has resulted in FASEB's decision to focus on enhancing the online directory while making the print available through individual purchase. The electronic version of the directory is accessible to all FASEB society members at. For additional information, please contact the FASEB Office of Publications at [directoryinfo@faseb.org](mailto:directoryinfo@faseb.org).

---

News Title: **Search Tool for Life Sciences Researchers**

Date Posted: Oct 21, 2005

A community based search tool for life scientists was recently launched and can be found at [www.siphs.com](http://www.siphs.com). Siphs aims to simplify the process of searching for relevant scientific content by leveraging the combined knowledge of researchers world wide. Traditional information search tools rely upon cataloguing, indexing, and ranking a wide variety of scholarly sources found on the web. Unlike traditional search engines, Siphs search queries are tagged with "areas of expertise" and then distributed to scientists who are members of the Siphs community for review. The tool was designed by taking a clue from the offline world in that the most relevant search results can be found by asking the people with the right set of experiences. For more information, please visit [www.siphs.com](http://www.siphs.com).



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY