

ISCB NEWSLETTER

ISMB 2009 FOCUS ISSUE



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WELCOME TO ISMB 2009! A NOTE FROM ISCB PRESIDENT

Burkhard Rost

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Frederic R. Coudert, a Trustee of Columbia University, quoted the phrase "May you live in an interesting age" as a Chinese curse (USA's *Academy of Political Science*, 1939). That may be incorrect, but he clearly meant it to be a curse describing the challenges of the 1930s. Instead, many of you may consider this a blessing rather than a curse. Clearly, the global financial crisis impacts us as global citizens and ISCB as a young society that at this early point may need growth and consolidation much more than challenge and struggle for survival. Be that as it may, fact is we either grow with the challenge and prosper or we perish. And who would not be better suited for challenges than the International Society for Computational Biology that connects the two most rapidly advancing aspects of today's life: computers and biology. Working in this interface as the connection between many worlds is both tremendously challenging and rewarding. Resources well spent, a good investment for the public and for our lives!

Communication may be THE most essential component that makes science worth investing in. We communicate by publishing, presenting, and meeting at ISMB/ECCB 2009. Thereby we continue to learn and to grow. Collaborations will start here that help find solutions quicker with our shared resources.

ISCB is making many efforts to grow ISMB in a way that increasingly involves many of you. Since the ISMB/ECCB in Vienna in 2007, the conference has grown into the massively parallel event that you can witness in Stockholm, with seven parallel tracks: two **Proceedings** tracks that present 46 original papers (published in a Special Issue of our official journal *Bioinformatics*), two **Highlights** tracks selecting 62 talks from last year's top publications, one track with seven **Special** sessions that focus on new evolving technologies, two **Technology** tracks with 49 presentations, i.e. a total of 189 talks not counting those presented in one of the satellites such as one of the 9 SIGs, 10 tutorials, or the Student Council Symposium. On top of that, 785 posters are presented. Numerically, this would imply that



~70% of the 1400 expected participants contributed directly.

I thank you all!

Creating a conference of this magnitude involved more than a full year of planning, consumed substantial financial resources, and required hundreds of volunteers working in concert with ISCB's professional staff. ISMB/ECCB 2009, the 17th International Conference on Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB) is held jointly with the 8th European Conference on Computational Biology (ECCB). This is the third time that ISCB manages the multi-track conference exclusively from Society resources. The successes of ISMB/ECCB 2007 (Vienna) and ISMB 2008 (Toronto) have given us confidence that we are fulfilling an important need within our science. You can make this happen again: seize the moment and make it your conference, make it a successful event!

Organizing the best possible international and multi-disciplinary computational biology conference without breaking the bank is a big one for us – possibly the biggest. In fact, the proceeds from this year's conference will largely go toward covering the advance funding needs of the next two ISMB conferences due to the extensive deposits required by the large venues (whose size is a necessity for this well-attended and massively parallel conference). We also need to cover the staff salaries incurred during the year of planning and preparation, all of which is spent long before the first conference registration fee is collected as income to offset these advance costs. The cycle of expense and income is delicately balanced, and certainly makes for the interesting times ISCB lives in! After two ISMB conferences lost money, ISCB was at the brink of bankruptcy; luckily



we have tightened the belt and achieved better returns than expected subsequently, thereby balancing out the losses with the gains. For 2009 we might miss the mark, but ISMB 2008 returned enough to keep us from going under. In 2010 we anticipate excellent attendance and strong interest from sponsors, which will serve to balance us out again. Keeping ISCB financially afloat is a demanding task!

Another aspect of running our main meeting is ISCB's ongoing effort to invite all branches of computational biology to join. Our community is still too fragmented and growing. Many *talk* about interdisciplinary research, for us this is a daily reality. However, this strength is exactly the weakness that leads to fragmentation: too many journals, conferences, and societies are of interest to our members. One important vision is that ISCB provides the unique opportunity to counter this trend, i.e. the forum that unites the newly forming field.

I extend the gratitude of ISCB to honorary conference chair Gunnar von Heijne, a Swedish computational biologist of international renown.

Marie-France Sagot and Gene Myers agreed to unite as conference co-chairs many years after each ran separate ECCB and ISMB meetings in 2003. Their efforts are evident throughout the conference and they are both to be commended for a job well done. Many thanks to the others on the Steering Committee: Arne Elofsson, Dan Gusfield, Janet Kelso, Michal Linial, Jill Mesirov, David Rocke, and Reinhard Schneider, as well as to the additional members of the Scientific Organizing Committee, Milana Frenkel-Morgenstern, Dietlind Gerloff, Rodrigo Lopez, Marco Punta and Hershel Safer. Thanks also to Sean O'Donoghue and Anita de Waard for realizing another ISMB party (*Matrix Reloaded*).

Hundreds of reviewers along with editors or area chairs selected the presentations for all tracks. Thank you! Thanks to your efforts we can present the high quality of the final selections that make up the scientific program.

ISCB Conferences Director Steven Leard has once again outdone himself in expertly managing the logistical arrangements. As a truly international

undertaking, this included coordination of efforts among his team in Edmonton, Canada, the Sweden-based professional conference organizing company, Congrex, our California-based ISCB administrative office, and the dozens of local and international volunteer students helping delegates find their way around the conference venue (and central train station!). Many of you will get help from Steven during the conference: please don't forget to thank him!

Looking ahead: ISMB 2010 will be in Boston, USA (July 11-14, 2010), and ISMB/ECCB 2011 will again be in Vienna, Austria. Please help us spread this news, make plans to come, commit to bringing others with you, and volunteer to help improve the meeting and the Society.

Most immediately and most importantly, enjoy the conference!

Burkhard Rost
ISCB President

Multi-year Memberships are Here!

By popular demand (yes, we have heard you loud and clear over the years!), Professional level members of ISCB can now register for multiple years worth of ISCB membership at one time. Effective immediately, in addition to the standard one-year membership that ISCB has always offered, Professional Members can opt for a multiple-year (5 years maximum) or lifetime membership.

Multi-year and lifetime members retain all the same benefits that 12-month members enjoy, but have the added advantages that they can skip the annual renewal AND are not subject to general membership dues increases that might occur during the term of their extended memberships. As dues usually increase when new benefits are added, multi-year and lifetime members get all the benefits but pay nothing extra for them. In today's economic climate, this is a sure bet. It's simple. It's straightforward. And it could save you money in the long run.

Some restrictions do apply, so please visit www.iscb.org/iscb-membership/365 for full details. Then, when your next annual renewal comes around, think about a multiple-year or lifetime Professional Membership option. If your membership has expired or you have never been a member, this is an excellent option to consider when joining ISCB.

ISCB HONORS WEBB MILLER & TREY IDEKER

ISCB 2009 Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award: Webb Miller

*By Clare Sansom, Bioinformatics
Consultant and Science Writer*

Ten years ago, Webb Miller was already well known to bioinformaticians worldwide for two very highly cited classic papers on the BLAST algorithms for searching sequence databases. Today Miller's name is equally well known for the alignment, comparison, and analysis of complete vertebrate genomes. Much of the code written in his group is embedded in the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC) Genome Browser.

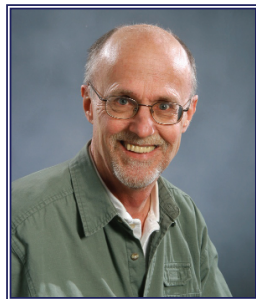
Miller's initial training was in mathematics. In the mid-1960s, at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, he found a book in the library on the theoretical limits of what is computable, and he decided that he could undertake real, publishable research in this field. This led to graduate work in Computer Science, to his Ph.D. in Mathematics, and, by 1969, to an assistant professorship in Computer Science at The Pennsylvania State University (Penn State). At this time he still had no experience of practical computing or writing code.

In 1980, Miller was looking around for new challenges and applications of his computational knowledge. He found them through a most unexpected source. "My mother started sending me newspaper clippings about the beginnings of the Human Genome Project," he says. "This fascinated me, although I knew no biology at the time."

Soon after entering bioinformatics, Miller turned his attention from general sequence alignment algorithms to the specific problem of aligning long DNA sequences. "Most bioinformaticians spent the 1990s waiting for the human genome sequence," he said. "My question was: How soon would the second vertebrate genome come out, so I could try a genome-wide sequence alignment?" That second genome—of the mouse—was published in 2002. "I originally anticipated that we would have two vertebrate genomes by the time I reached retirement age in 2008. Instead, thanks to improvements in sequencing technology, we now have over forty."

He and his collaborators have now taken on a new challenge: sequencing the genomes and understanding the biology of rare, endangered, and even extinct species. He has published sequences of the nuclear genome of the woolly mammoth and the mitochondrial genome of the Tasmanian tiger (*Thylacinus cynocephalus*), which became extinct in 1936. Miller says he is hoping that similar sequencing techniques will help preserve endangered species from extinction. One of these is the so-called Tasmanian devil, a ferocious marsupial that is now under threat from a mysterious, contagious tumor: Devil Facial Tumor Disease. "We are sequencing two specimens, one with the disease and another that seems immune, and hope to use the differences to guide a breeding program," he says.

Miller acknowledges that he owes much of his success to "great"



collaborators, from Gene Myers (Howard Hughes Medical Institute, USA) and David Lipman (National Center for Biotechnology Information, USA) in the late 1980s to David Haussler (UCSC, USA) and Haussler's colleagues Jim Kent and Tom Pringle. And it may be that great collaborators make each other. "Time and time again, Webb has made major contributions and taken little credit for himself, preferring to put younger researchers in the limelight, whether or not they were his students. I've never worked with a more generous collaborator," says Haussler.

In respect for his ISCB 2009 Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award, Miller offers his "10 Steps to Success in Bioinformatics" at www.iscb.org/iscbpublications/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=324.

This article is excerpted from the April 2009 issue of *PLoS Computational Biology*. To link to the full journal article please visit www.ploscompbiol.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1000375.

ISCB 2009 Overton Prize: Trey Ideker

*By Clare Sansom, Bioinformatics
Consultant and Science Writer*

Trey Ideker initially trained in computer science. A friend who was a molecular biologist in graduate school gave him the names of potential advisors, one of who was Leroy Hood, co-founder of the Institute of Systems Biology (ISB) in Seattle, Washington. In 1996, and before the ISB was founded, Ideker moved to Seattle to join Hood as one of his first graduate students there. This move set the stage for a career that has already produced some groundbreaking work in the area of network biology.

Ideker's graduate studies coincided with the later years of the Human Genome Project. "When I joined the lab, everyone there was working on sequence analysis," he remembers. "I was working with a talented physician and postdoc, Pete Nelson, who was studying the pathways in cells that led to the development of prostate cancer. I started trying to model these pathways; this project fell on its face, as it was far too complex for a single graduate student, but the ideas it generated have become the basis for my whole career." Working closely with Hood, he—while still a student—was one of the first to publish an integrated computational model of a metabolic network; this paper,

published in 2001, has already been cited more than 850 times.

With this very promising start, he initially moved to the prestigious Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts, before family drew him back to the West Coast. He is now settled at the University of California San Diego (UCSD) as an associate professor. "UCSD is a fantastic place to do science. I can't imagine being more productive anywhere else. The growth of biotechnology in the San Diego area in recent years has been overwhelming."

While at the Whitehead Institute and in collaboration with others looking at similar problems, Ideker further developed a prototype network modelling program that he had worked on in Hood's lab into what is now the widely used online tool Cytoscape. Cytoscape is now freely available under an open source license, and this has attracted a far larger pool of both users and developers than would have been attracted to a commercial enterprise.

Ideker has been turning his attention to medical applications of network modeling. He has compared the complete map of protein–protein interactions for the malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*, generated using the yeast-two-hybrid method, against other eukaryotic networks, and proposed unique features of its metabolism that might be targeted



in designing drugs against this destructive disease. He has also showed that grouping proteins into pathways and taking the average of the levels of each protein in a single pathway can add 8%–9% to the accuracy of prognostic predictions in breast cancer. And he is about to take his involvement in medical applications to a new level, as, in mid-2009, he takes up the position of head of genetics at a new institute within the University of California San Diego School of Medicine. "I will be moving from the periphery into the center of genomics-based medical research," he says. "My vision is to integrate network analysis into medicine and develop useful clinical tools."

This article is excerpted from the April 2009 issue of *PLoS Computational Biology*. To link to the full journal article please visit <http://www.ploscompbiol.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1000375>.



ANNOUNCING ISMB 2010

CONFERENCE BLOGGING



Calling all Bloggers! This year ISCB is paving the way to create a link between the ISMB/ECCB scientific program, ISCB's web portal and our community's bloggers. To accomplish this we have collaborated with last year's core blogger team from ISMB in Toronto (see <http://www.ploscompbiol.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pcbi.1000263>) and are planning the following:

A designated blog tech team will trigger the creation of a new blog on the FriendFeed (<http://friendfeed.com/>) platform a few minutes before the start of each talk in the conference schedule. The feed link will be posted into our online program schedule for all subscribers to easily find. Anyone can then join that feed to participate in real-time blogging of the talk with colleagues that might be seated on the opposite side of the aisle, or the opposite side of the globe! You do not need to be attending ISMB/ECCB in Stockholm to blog along with the rest of them.

By embracing blogging as a valuable conference activity we hope to help speed the dissemination of the science presented in Stockholm. If you are not already subscribed to FriendFeed and think you might want to participate in this activity, sign up in advance and get ready to jump right into the discussions without delay!

ISMB 2010 BOSTON
18th Annual International Conference on Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology

Mark your calendar to attend!

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Olga Troyanskaya
Princeton University, USA

CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS
Michal Linial
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

Jill P. Mesirov
Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, USA

www.iscb.org/ismb2010

ISMB 2010 BOSTON MAY 11-14

SIGS AND TUTORIALS
July 9-10
CONFERENCE
July 11-14

John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center
Boston, USA

ISCB
International Society for Computational Biology

PLOS COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY OVERVIEW



PLoS Computational Biology averages 80 monthly submissions and 20 published papers each month across a wide variety of biological disciplines. The journal is pleased to announce to the ISCB membership the launch of a new Software Research section this summer. Research articles describing outstanding open source software of proven importance will be invited by the Software Editor and peer-reviewed by experts in the field. Bob Murphy (Carnegie Mellon) is our first Software Section Editor, and we are delighted to welcome him to the board. Our first article will be from Sean Eddy, describing the latest updates to HMMER. By highlighting outstanding open source and available software, we hope to encourage all programmers to consider deposition in an open source repository when creating new tools.

This past year the journal has published some outstanding work in fields ranging from neurobiology, to protein-protein interaction networks, to disease modelling in large populations. Some highlights based, in part, on the number of downloads, are:

- Broadband Criticality of Human Brain Network Synchronization.

Kitzbichler MG,
Smith ML, Christensen SR,
Bullmore E
(www.ploscompbiol.org/doi/pcbi.1000314)

- Unraveling Protein Networks with Power Graph Analysis. Royer L, Reimann M, Andreopoulos B, Schroeder M (www.ploscompbiol.org/doi/pcbi.1000108)
- A Dynamic Network Approach for the Study of Human Phenotypes. Hidalgo CA, Blumm N, Barabási A-L, Christakis NA (www.ploscompbiol.org/doi/pcbi.1000353)

In a diverse discipline with scientists of many backgrounds, education is an important feature. Some important contributions this year to our Education section included coverage of specific projects (Analyzing ChIP-chip Data Using Bioconductor. Toedling J, Huber W, www.ploscompbiol.org/doi/pcbi.1000227), to guides for making a choice about the best tool to use (The Rough Guide to In Silico Function Prediction, or How To Use Sequence and Structure Information To Predict Protein Function. Punta M, Ofra Y, www.ploscompbiol.org/doi/pcbi.1000160).

And finally, our Ten Simple Rules perspectives on professional development were translated by a reader into Chinese, greatly enhancing the distribution and value of this series. The translation is available here:

<http://collections.plos.org/ploscompbiol/tensimplerules.php>

Beyond free content, and the ability to translate content without fear of copyright infringement, open access provides new opportunities for scholarly communications that are only just beginning to be realized. The following publications this year highlight these possibilities:

- Adventures in Semantic Publishing: Exemplar Semantic Enhancements of a Research Article. Shotton D, Portwin K, Klyne G, Miles A (www.ploscompbiol.org/doi/pcbi.1000361)
- I Am Not a Scientist, I Am a Number. Bourne PE, Fink J (www.ploscompbiol.org/doi/pcbi.1000247)
- Defrosting the Digital Library: Bibliographic Tools for the Next Generation Web. Hull D, Pettifer SR, Kell DB (www.ploscompbiol.org/doi/pcbi.1000204)

This promise will be discussed during PLoS's "Future of Scientific Publishing" session at ISMB/ECCB 09 as part of the BioLINK SIG. We invite you to come and contribute to a future marked by the improved comprehension and dissemination of your science.



ISCB ANNOUNCES INAUGURATION OF FELLOWS PROGRAM WITH THE ISCB FELLOWS CLASS OF 2009

The International Society for Computational Biology is pleased to announce the inauguration of an ISCB Fellows Program to honor members that have distinguished themselves through outstanding contributions to the fields of computational biology and bioinformatics. During this inaugural year of the program, ISCB will confer Fellows status on the seven winners-to-date of the ISCB Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award, and recognize these distinguished scientists during the ISMB/ECCB 2009 conference in Stockholm, Sweden.

Honoring outstanding members through a class of Fellows has been a long-standing goal of the ISCB board of directors. "The decision of the board to make this a reality by selecting the first class of ISCB Fellows, while establishing criteria and putting a process in place for future selection, is a welcome addition to our Society," said ISCB President Burkhard Rost. He added, "There are very few honors or

awards specific to computational biology and bioinformatics, and by creating a Fellows program we are able to bestow much deserved recognition on exceptional members of our ISCB community."

Although all members of the inaugural class of Fellows have previously been honored with ISCB's highest award, the distinction of ISCB Fellow for future years will be based on the following criteria:

- Limited to 1% of the average ISCB membership of the preceding three years.
- Nomination by an ISCB member, supported by letters of endorsement from five members.
- Nominees must have demonstrated excellence in research, service to the ISCB Community, education and/or administration.

- Nominees must have been a member of the Society for at least the five years immediately preceding the date of nomination.
- Fellow status is automatically bestowed upon the Accomplishment by a Sr. Scientist Award winner.

The ISCB Awards Committee will select the Fellows from among nominations received each year. Upon selection, Fellows may use the title immediately and will be recognized at the ISMB meeting following their selection. The 2009 ISCB Fellows and their affiliations at the time of designation are listed below.

Additional information about the ISCB Fellows Program, current fellows, the nomination process and a nomination form can be accessed at www.iscb.org/iscb-awards/award-form.

ISCB 2009 Fellows



David Haussler, 2008
ISCB Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award; University of California, Santa Cruz, USA



David Lipman, 2004
ISCB Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award; National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), USA



Webb Miller, 2009 ISCB
Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award; Pennsylvania State University, USA



David Sankoff, 2003 ISCB
Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award winner; University of Ottawa and Université de Montréal, Canada



Temple Smith, 2007
ISCB Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award; Boston University, USA



Janet Thornton, 2005 ISCB
Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award; European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI), UK



Mike Waterman, 2006
ISCB Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award; University of Southern California, USA

RECOMB EDUCATION SATELLITE MEETING



The new RECOMB Satellite Conference on Bioinformatics Education (RECOMB-BE; <http://casb.calit2.net/bioed/>) hit the circuit March 14-15, 2009, with Pavel Pevzner (University of California, San Diego) and Ron Shamir (Tel Aviv University) serving as the conference chairs, and Nitin Gupta, Sangtae Kim, Mark Chaisson, Alex Wong and Laura Gracia making up the program committee. Over 135 participated in this event at the Center for Algorithmic and Systems Biology (CASB) on the UCSD campus.

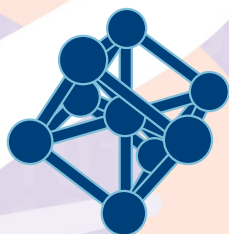
Pevzner and Shamir felt the field was ripe for an in depth meeting on this topic, noting "a dramatic paradigm shift in biology education" resulting from the increasing number of universities now offering undergraduate bioinformatics programs, coupled with the frequent discussions about adding new computational courses to the standard biology curriculum. The question of "How to teach bioinformatics to biology students?" is therefore coming up more and more with each passing year. But they decided on an unusual format, focusing on "how bioinformatics should be taught" by showcasing how leading bioinformaticians actually teach. Speakers gave short, introductory-level lectures aimed at undergraduates, and the lectures were videotaped for post-conference access from the conference website.

This inaugural meeting was intended to feature best practices and discuss existing challenges in bioinformatics education, with an emphasis on undergraduate education. To achieve this, the chairs and organizing committee members brought an exceptional lineup of local and international speakers together for a day and a half of 20 invited talks four lively discussion panels, and poster sessions of research projects conducted by undergraduate students.

The meeting generated lots of great energy and momentum, and plans are already underway for a follow up event next March. Nothing to announce yet, but do stay tuned. Until then, enjoy the video archive on the conference website.



European Conference on Computational Biology 2010



**ANNOUNCING
ECCB'10 – BELGIUM**
September 26-29, 2010
Ghent, Belgium

A joint organization of the Belgian–Dutch





BIOINFORMATICS JOURNAL

Bioinformatics is happy to once again become an official journal of the ISCB in 2009. ISCB members are well represented among the *Bioinformatics*' editorial team, we publish the ISMB Proceedings each year, and going forward we see many possibilities for forging further links between *Bioinformatics* and the ISCB.

Submissions to *Bioinformatics* continue thick and fast – we received over 2000 submissions in 2008, and 30% were accepted for publication. During 2008 we introduced a policy of seeking three high quality peer review reports where possible. We are pleased to say that this has not impacted on our fast review times, with the time from submission to first decision averaging 31 days in 2008. Once accepted, papers are usually published online within one week and in an issue within 8 weeks.

Next-generation sequencing technologies have begun to revolutionise genomics and their

effects are increasingly widespread.

Bioinformatics publishes many relevant tools and algorithms on this topic, and to celebrate this contribution we have gathered these together in a 'Bioinformatics for Next Generation Sequencing' virtual issue (http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/bioinformatics/nextgenerationsequencing.html). This is a living resource which will continue to be updated to include the very latest papers in this area. We are also offering a prize for the best paper presented at the ISMB/ECCB 2009 SIG on Short Read Sequencing.

Bioinformatics Open policies

In all our activities we aim to help researchers disseminate their work easily and widely. Articles are published within days of acceptance online; the journal is accessible to thousands of institutions around the world including through the Oxford Journals Developing Countries initiative; and all articles are made freely available online after 12 months. This is also why we have an

established software availability policy – requiring authors to make their software accessible – and an option of immediate open access, giving authors the choice of whether to publish under this model depending on the funds available to them. Did you know that *Bioinformatics* also deposits all articles that acknowledge NIH funding, and all open access articles, into PubMed Central on the authors' behalf?

Finally we'd like to take this opportunity to thank ISCB members for their valued support of *Bioinformatics* as authors, reviewers and editorial board members.

With best regards,

Alex Bateman, Alfonso Valencia, and the *Bioinformatics* Editor team



Your Opinion Please! ISCB Poll on NIH Public Access Policy

In 2008 the U.S. Congress required the National Institutes of Health to implement a Public Access Policy that requires investigators funded by the NIH to submit, or have submitted for them, an electronic version of their final, peer-reviewed manuscripts upon acceptance for publication to PubMed Central for posting publicly within 12 months after the official date of publication.

Similarly, in England the Wellcome Trust implemented a like-minded

policy for investigators funded with its resources, and in Germany the Max Planck Society committed to paying for all open access publications from any of its institutes.

Bill HR 801 was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives earlier this year to prohibit any U.S. federal agency from mandating a public access policy as a condition of funding.

Supporters of open access have taken a strong position against HR 801, while organizations that stand to benefit from limiting or

eliminating the current NIH policy are standing in favor of it.

ISCB's senior leadership supports the current NIH Public Access Policy. However, before making any public statements on this issue in the name of ISCB, your input is important in guiding ISCB's next steps on this topic with international implications.

Please participate in the brief poll to help determine if ISCB shall make a public statement on this issue: www.iscb.org/cms_addon/survey/09/NIHPublicAccess.php

We thank you!

SPOTLIGHT ON ISCB AFFILIATED REGIONAL GROUP: OHIO BIOINFORMATICS CONSORTIUM



The Ohio Bioinformatics Consortium (<http://ohiobioinformaticsconsortium.org>) has recently become an affiliate of the ISCB in the Affiliated Regional Groups program (see www.iscb.org/iscb-affiliates). The OBC strives to enhance educational opportunities and research infrastructure throughout Ohio to facilitate new discoveries in data-intensive biomedical research.

This mission is carried out through several activities:

- Developing a statewide, comprehensive bioinformatics curriculum.
- Providing scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students who are studying bioinformatics.
- Performing outreach to encourage K-12 students to pursue careers in bioinformatics.
- Organizing the annual Ohio Collaborative Conference on Bioinformatics (OCCBIO).
- Developing bioinformatics infrastructure to facilitate new discoveries in biomedical research.
- Performing basic research that will lead to better bioinformatics algorithms and models.
- Discovering new knowledge by utilizing bioinformatics capabilities.
- Interacting with the bioinformatics-related industry to understand their needs.
- Facilitating industry internships and research experiences for students.

Ohio researchers, educators and practitioners have collaboratively organized the annual Ohio Collaborative Conferences on Bioinformatics (OCCBIO)

since its inaugural meeting in June 2006. OCCBIO 2009 (www.occbio.org/2009/) was held June 15-17 at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

In August 2007 the OCCBIO conference leadership formally united to form a consortium to leverage the existing statewide research community to enhance Ohio's national role in the area of bioinformatics.

In May 2008 the consortium was awarded \$9M from the University System of Ohio and 11 academic institutions. The funds provide scholarships to hundreds of graduate and undergraduate students who are studying bioinformatics in universities across the state of Ohio.

The Consortium is led by the founders and Chairs of OCCBIO, Lonnie Welch of Ohio University and Terry Lewis of the Ohio Supercomputer Center. The OBC carries out its mission via the following committees:

- research and infrastructure:
 - Michael Raymer, Wright State University
 - Ashok Krishnamurthy, Ohio Supercomputer Center
 - Bruce Aronow, University of Cincinnati and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
- internships and research experiences:
 - Bill Tacon, BioOhio
 - Victor Chan, Air Force Research Laboratory

- Kari Green-Church, Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center

• curriculum and education:

- Zhong-Hui Duan, University of Akron
- Steve Gordon, Ohio Supercomputer Center
- Helen Piontkivska, Kent State University

• K-12 outreach and recruitment:

- Eric Stahlberg, Wittenberg University
- Kelly Hall, Clark State Community College

• scholarships:

- Sarah Wyatt, Ohio State University

• OCCBIO:

- GQ Zhang, Case Western Reserve University
- Jing Li, Case Western Reserve University

It was while attending the ISCB Affiliates Committee meeting during ISMB 2009 in Toronto last July that Lonnie Welch met with the representatives of ISCB to initiate discussions about establishing the OCB as an Affiliated Regional Group. The official affiliation began just a few months ago and we are looking forward to close collaborations in the future.



MentorNet[®]

The E-Mentoring Network for Diversity in Engineering and Science

What is it and how can it benefit you?

ISCB partnered with MentorNet (www.mentornet.net) three years ago to provide our diverse and growing student and post doc membership with a mentoring option befitting a society whose members are spread across the globe (in nearly 70 countries!) and who rely on computers to do their research as much as to communicate with colleagues and collaborators, near and far. Participation grew slowly in the first two years, but then shrank by half this past year.

So, we are back to the drawing board to assess this benefit, and we encourage members at all levels to explore MentorNet if the possibility of a mentoring relationship (as either a protégé or mentor) via email can add value to your ISCB membership. From a simplified perspective, MentorNet is a matching service for students and junior researchers (protégés) seeking mentors outside their normal circle of advisors, to help address any number of questions ranging from CV critiques to tips on how to balance work, school, home, and outside interests. Mentors join in order to volunteer a small amount of their time to protégés they would otherwise never know, but whom they can positively impact at an important juncture in their careers.

Where MentorNet excels as a program is behind the scenes, through the matching algorithm they have developed that relies on each enrollee's profile to make the best possible match from within the pool of all candidates. If a profile is too restrictive, a match may never be found (as has been the case for some ISCB members). If a profile is too broad, the matched protégé and mentor might discover very early on that their chosen fields or interest are too far apart to sustain a beneficial mentoring relationship. The devil is always in the details and small profile adjustments can help bring about the best possible matches. Please try it out!



ISCB STUDENT COUNCIL OVERVIEW



SCS5 Highlights

Commemorating its 5th anniversary, the ISCB Student Council Symposium (SCS5), as of this writing (just days before the event), is anticipated as a great success. We are proud to have significantly impacted the student computational biology community by providing young researchers an international platform to present their findings. A total of eight oral presentations by students were selected on the basis of the outstanding quality of their submitted abstracts.

More than 120 delegates registered for the June 27th SCS5 in Stockholm. The organizing committee went to great lengths to secure funds and was able to provide nine travel fellowships for students, including two of 1500 € each exclusively for students from developing nations.

An impressive array of invited speakers included keynote addresses by this year's ISCB Overton Prize awardee Trey Ideker, as well as Michal Linial and Peer Bork. We introduced a new section in SCS5 where Wolfgang Huber prepared a tutorial on a specific application of R/Bioconductor package. The event also involved a panel discussion on "Bioinformatics in the era of personal genomics," a poster session and reception.

The mission of the ISCB Student Council (SC) is to promote the development of the next generation of computational biologists. We achieve our goal through scientific and networking events, soft-skills training, educational resources and career services.

By spreading its mission and creating awareness about SC initiatives in the international computational biology community, the SC has gained recognition amongst leaders of the community and student researchers. We have been successful in attracting student volunteers who are pivotal to the future growth of the organization. As a result, the SC has engaged in these new initiatives:

- **Student Council Career Central**

The SC is starting a career development initiative for early-career computational biologists. The first event under this initiative is the Career Central/ Student Council Lounge at ISMB/ECCB 2009. This event addresses the needs of recruiters and job seekers at the conference by providing a forum for interaction that will lead to matching recruiters with job hunters. Individual sessions by a qualified career counselor, including career advice and resume critique services to students and post-docs searching for jobs, is possible thanks to the generous support of FASEB (www.faseb.org). We are also gathering resumes online to will be compiled into a booklet and made available to interested recruiters after the conference. More at <http://symposium.iscb.org/content/career-central>

- **Regional Student Groups – Worldwide Committee (RSG-WC)**

RSGs were conceived to spread the mission of the SC and cater to student needs at a regional level.

Since 2007 the SC has successfully established 11 RSGs spanning four continents. Activities of the RSG-India were recently published in the educational supplement of "The Hindu," a leading national news daily in India. Owing to an overwhelming response to initiate new RSGs, in 2008 the SC formed the RSG-WC as a channel for communication between the SC and the RSGs. Progress of scientific research thrives on the fruits of active collaborations. The RSG-WC has been a strong advocate of collaborative endeavors where different RSGs come together to research scientific problems of mutual interest. The present success of the RSGs can be attributed to the enthusiasm of SC members turned RSG leaders and the strong support of ISCB. More at <http://rsg.iscb.org>

- **New Website – Launched June 1, 2009**

We are now able to better integrate various initiatives of the SC. Some new features are an iCal compatible calendar to keep track of SC and RSG events, a dedicated section for all our RSGs, and forums for members to communicate with their peers. Check it out at www.iscb.org

The current leadership and members of the SC are working hard to make the computational biology student community accessible to every interested student in the world. If you are a student or post doc, please join us! If you are already well into your career, please support your own students' involvement in the ISCB Student Council! You will be contributing to their development and the preparedness of the next generation of computational biologists.

FASEB UPDATE



Since 2003 ISCB has been one of 22 member societies of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States, representing over 80,000 scientists. FASEB's mission is to advance health and welfare by promoting progress and education in biological and biomedical sciences through service to its member societies and collaborative advocacy. To fully appreciate this robust federation and the multitude of issues and initiatives it addresses you are invited to visit their website at www.faseb.org.

ISCB joined specifically to provide our members with a voice in the U.S. Government on issues relating to science policy, and we continue to invite members who can help develop similar arrangements in other countries or regions of the world to contact us at admin@iscb.org.

Our members are involved in FASEB in many ways: John Wooley and Barbara Bryant on their board of directors, Greg Tucker-Kellogg on the science policy committee's international issues subcommittee, Scott Markel on the publications and communications committee, BJ Morrison McKay on the executive officers advisory committee, and other members that volunteer from time to time to serve on the committees that develop U.S. federal funding recommendations. We thank these members of ISCB for their past and current service, and invite other interested members to contact us at policy@iscb.org.

U.S. Visas Issue

Eighteen months ago ISCB worked feverishly with FASEB to produce data

for a U.S. congressional hearing on the topic of visa regulations and their impact on scientific exchange by providing data from our survey of ISCB members' experiences in obtaining US entry visas. The survey and its results were reported in last year's newsletter (see www.iscb.org/images/stories/newsletter/newsletter11-1/visa.htm).

In December of 2008 news resurfaced that science and engineering researchers seeking to obtain or renew U.S visas were once again routinely encountering months-long delays. Particularly, applicants from China and Russia were experiencing delays exceeding three months. The problem became so acute that researchers who left the country often found themselves stranded abroad, not knowing when their visas might be approved. ISMB Toronto was hampered by this problem, with many foreign nationals studying or working in the U.S. unwilling to jeopardize their visa status by crossing the border into Canada to attend the conference.

Just recently, the deputy assistant secretary of state for consular services, David Donahue, said the State Department started attacking the backlog of requests. "I am not sure when we will get all of them cleared up," he said, but eventually routine requests should be dealt with in two weeks. He said the department had brought in extra staff to handle the applications and had revised procedures to speed reviews.

"Science diplomacy presents a unique and essential opportunity to develop and sustain friendships and collaborations into the future," said Rep. Brian Baird (D-Wash.), chairman of the Science and Technology Committee's Energy and Environment Subcommittee, who introduced the Science Diplomacy Bill (H.R.1736) in March to provide for the

(continued on page16)



LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS Notice of President-Elect Nominations

*Submitted by Dietlind Gerloff,
ISCB Nominations Committee Chair*

It's that time again: President-elect nominations are due by July 16, 2009 at www.iscb.org/nominate (you must login to your membership record to access the nomination form).

The one-year President-elect term begins January 21, 2010, automatically transitions into the next ISCB President for an additional two-year term, and is followed by one additional year as a Board Member. As this is the most important elected position of the Society, each President-elect nominee must have served at least one year on the ISCB Board of Directors and be a current ISCB member or can renew an expired membership by the end of July. The nomination form includes the list of possible nominees based on their current or past Board service eligibility.

All President-elect candidates must pledge to make every reasonable effort to attend the weekly Executive Committee teleconferences, the bi-monthly Board of Directors teleconferences, and the annual in-person Board meeting at ISMB through completion of the combined three year President-elect/President term, plus the additional year on the Board.

Full information regarding the 2009 nominations/elections timeline, call for nominations, and Director and Officer responsibilities can be found at www.iscb.org/iscb-leadership-a-staff-officers-and-board-directors/nomination-election-procedures.

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



ISCB AFRICA ASBCB

ISCB Africa ASBCB Joint Conference on Bioinformatics of Infectious Diseases

Bamako, Mali, 30 November - 03 December 2009

WORKSHOPS: 04 - 05 Dec 2009
Malaria Research & Training Center



Roud Zwart (2009)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Erik Bongcam-Rudloff • Hagai Ginsburg
Karine Leroch • Marc Marti-Renom
Sarah Melville • Andrew Rambault • David Roos
Charles Rotimi • Anna Tramontano

WORKSHOP SPEAKERS

Erik Bongcam-Rudloff • Olivier Gascuel
Tulio de Oliveira • Christine Orengo

IMPORTANT DATES

01 June 2009 • Opening calls
Paper & poster submission, travel fellowship
application and registration
05 August 2009 • Deadlines
Paper & poster submission and travel
fellowship application
01 October 2009 • Notification
Papers, posters and travel fellowships
14 October 2009 • Deadline
Early registration discount

www.iscb.org/iscb-africa

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: Manuel Corpas (co-chair) • Nicola Mulder (co-chair) • Seydou Doumbia (local chair)
Ezekiel Adebiyi • Alia Benkhalil • Segun Fatumo • Olivier Gascuel • Winston Hide • Janet Kelso • Daniel Masiga
BJ Morrison McKay • Burkhard Rost • Reinhard Schneider

STUDENT COMMITTEE: Arun Gupta • Sheila Ommeh • Kavisha Ramdayal

The organizers wish to acknowledge: University of Bamako • ISCB Student Council • RSG Africa



ANNOUNCING ROCKY '09



7th Annual Rocky Mountain Bioinformatics Conference



December 10 - 12, 2009
Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado
Silvertree Hotel

Rocky is an official conference of the
International Society for Computational Biology



ISCB presents the seventh Rocky Mountain Bioinformatics Conference (Rocky '09) in Snowmass/Aspen, Colorado from December 10 - 12, 2009. The meeting brings together computational scientists from around the world to share research results and build community.

A mixture of invited lectures, discussions on topics of special interest and short talks from many research groups fills the scientific program. Informal community building opportunities include discounted lift tickets and a catered off-site dinner.

The conference features keynote speakers, flash presentations and posters. Abstract submissions for oral and poster presentations are encouraged! See key dates below and make your plans to participate now!

❖ KEY DATES ❖

Abstract submission opens	August 1
- Abstract submission deadline	October 16
- Abstract notification	November 2
Registration opens	September 1
MARC Travel Fellowship Application Deadline	November 4
Early Registration Deadline	November 11
Housing Cut-off deadline	November 11
Rocky Conference Dates	December 10-12

❖ KEYNOTE SPEAKERS ❖

Philip E. Bourne, Ph.D.

Professor, Skaggs School of Pharmacy
& Pharmaceutical Sciences, UCSD
Associate Director RCSB Protein Data Bank
Editor in Chief *PLoS Computational Biology*

Kirk E. Jordan, Ph.D.

Emerging Solution Executive
Computational Science Center
IBM T.J. Watson Research Center

Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

Conference Chair

Lawrence Hunter, Ph.D.

Director,
Center for Computational Pharmacology
University of Colorado
School of Medicine
<http://compbio.uchsc.edu/hunter>

Contacts

Rocky Conference Coordinator
Stephanie Hagsstrom
rocky@iscb.org
360-239-9177

Registration Coordinator
Suzi Smith
admin@iscb.org

❖ ACADEMIC RETREAT ❖ ❖ AN AFFORDABLE OPPORTUNITY ❖

Plan an off-site retreat, bring your colleagues to Rocky and SAVE!

This is the perfect opportunity to roll your conference attendance funds into a very affordable academic group retreat experience in the spectacular setting of the Colorado Rocky Mountains - during ski season!

Rocky registration rates are among the most reasonable in computational biology and domestic travel fares are the lowest they have been in years.

Last year four schools from California to Indiana combined the experience of attending Rocky together with group activities on the slopes, at the hotel, and in Snowmass and Aspen Villages. Education and bonding were abundantly fun and memorable for all.

Rocky'09 is now offering academic retreats* the following group package benefits:

- ▶ One free conference registration (\$195 minimum savings)
- ▶ One free suite upgrade (\$200 minimum savings)
- ▶ Two free lift tickets per group or \$100 food & beverage credit at the conference hotel
- ▶ Special scheduling of flash presentations for all members of the group to ensure a full morning or afternoon can be spent outside the conference for a group activity (activity not included)

Contact Rocky@iscb.org for information or a customized package for your academic group today!

* Academic retreats are defined as a minimum of 10 or more paid attendees from the same school, staying in the conference hotel a minimum of two nights (single or double occupancy), and utilizing at least 5 sleeping rooms per night. All academic retreat offers noted above must be secured by November 11.

www.iscb.org/rocky09



ANNOUNCING CSHALS 2010



CSHALS 2010

SAVE THE DATE!

Conference on Semantics in Healthcare & Life Sciences

February 24-26, 2010 ~ Cambridge, MA, USA



The ISCB Conference on Semantics in Healthcare & Life Sciences returns for its third year as the premier annual event focused on the use of semantic technologies in the pharmaceutical industry, including hospitals/healthcare institutions and academic research labs.

CSHALS is a single forum for the presentation and discussion of practical semantics-based approaches, including challenges faced and applications that are working. The conference features keynote lectures, invited talks and discussion sessions guided by leaders and visionaries of intelligent systems for drug discovery and development. Rather than a Semantic Web conference, CSHALS is a conference focused on specific applications of semantic technologies to show where advances have been made, determine what the current needs are, and anticipate where the field is headed in order to prepare and advance with the field. The conference is organized along specific topics and moderated to stimulate interactive discussions around sets of key questions determined in advance with input from registered attendees.

CSHALS is intended for anyone already participating in this groundbreaking field, and a pre-conference tutorial is offered to help interested researchers come up to speed on the practical approaches of applying intelligent information technologies in pharmaceutical R&D.

If this describes you, save the date now and follow the website for updates on CSHALS 2010.

Conference participants will take part in discussion sessions that explore answers to technology questions such as the following:

- Where are semantic applications having the biggest impact?
- What support exists for using semantics for automated reasoning and agent technologies?
- How well do semantic tools enable the visualization and utilization of information and knowledge?
- What are the measurable benefits of Semantic Web standards, such as RDF, OWL, and SPARQL?

Themes of past CSHALS conferences:

- Clinical Information Management
- Discovery Information Integration
- Integrated Healthcare and Semantics in Electronic Health Records
- Translational Medicine / Safety
- Search and Document Management/Business Intelligence/Text Mining
- Text Mining/ Information Extraction

CSHALS will be preceded by a half day Tutorial focused on the current Semantic Web standard RDF tools to show participants how this technology meets drug development needs.

This conference is presented by the International Society for Computational Biology.

All ISCB members receive a substantial discount off registration fees.

Join ISCB now to ensure your savings! www.iscb.org/iscb-membership/

C-SHALS Scientific Organizing Committee

- Ted Slater, Pfizer, Conference Chair
- Mike Bevil, Merck & Co.
- Lee Fiegenbaum, Cambridge Semantics
- Joanne Luciano, MITRE Corporation
- Eric Neumann, Clinical Semantics Group

Logistical Organizers

- Steven Leard, ISCB Conferences Director
- BJ Morrison McKay, ISCB Executive Officer

Contact Us

cshals@iscb.org

www.iscb.org/cshals2010/



establishment of a committee to identify and coordinate international science and technology cooperation. "The exchange of scientists and their students help to build mutual trust and understanding between people who may otherwise be inclined to avoid or even fear each other."

The legislation states that the new panel will plan and coordinate cooperative research and training partnerships, establish federal policies for aligning research and training with partners from other countries, identify opportunities for new partnerships, solicit input from non-federal stakeholders, report to Congress, and address broad issues that affect collaboration. Visas definitely affect collaboration. The bill was referred on June 9th to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Another step toward a long-term solution implemented by the Office of the Scientific Advisor to the Secretary of State, has been to seek scientific expertise, when needed, on applications from science and engineering researchers. Carrie Wolinetz of the FASEB Office of Public Affairs will serve as a point of contact for the FASEB Societies, so that when the State Department needs scientific expertise, she will be able to quickly distribute that request to the appropriate member societies.

Other FASEB updates in a nutshell
FASEB President Richard Marchase recently released a statement about science funding through the Recovery Act, raising serious concerns about the sustainability of the biomedical research enterprise past Fiscal Year 2011 when current funds expire. The full statement can be downloaded at <http://opa.faseb.org/pdf/2009/Final%20Visa%20Delay%20Statement.pdf>.

The Office of Public Affairs has created a slide presentation titled, "Education and Employment of Biological and Medical Scientists: Data from National Surveys." The figures in the presentation serve as an introduction to the major sources of nationally representative data on education and employment of biological and medical scientists. The informative presentation is downloadable from http://opa.faseb.org/pages/PolicyIssues/training_datappt.htm.

A "Conflict of Interest Toolkit" website provides several new tools and resources, including information regarding teaching trainees about conflict of interest issues and a resource document for association conflict of interest policies. Access the toolkit at <http://opa.faseb.org/pages/Advocacy/coi/Toolkit.htm>.

FASEB is seeking new topic ideas for the Breakthroughs in Bioscience series (<http://opa.faseb.org/pages/Publications/breakthroughs.htm>) that describes basic or clinical research discoveries that have a clearly demonstrable societal impact, such as by the development of a current therapy or diagnostic technology. Write to admin@iscb.org if you are interested in submitting a topic idea and contributing to the publication.

FASEB Sponsorship of ISCB's Student Outreach Efforts

FASEB administers a multi-year NIH Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) grant to help U.S. citizen and permanent resident minority students with, among many other things, the costs of attending conferences, including ISMB and Rocky. See <http://marc.faseb.org/pages/page2a.htm> for information.

In November 2008 FASEB sponsored ISCB's participation in the Annual

Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS; <http://www.abrcms.org/index.html>) in order to support our Society's efforts to reach out to underrepresented minorities to help create awareness and foster interest in higher education and the possibility of careers in bioinformatics.

Through the MARC program FASEB is fully supporting all travel and registration costs for two students to come to ISMB/ECCB 2009 in Stockholm.

FASEB is also sponsoring the Student Council Lounge/Career Central (<http://www.iscb.org/content/career-central-student-council-lounge-ismbeccb-2009>) booth space at ISMB/ECCB 2009 in Stockholm and covering the travel and registration costs of Dr. Clifford Mintz to provide CV critiques from the booth for students and post docs wishing to tap into his expert advice, as well as a career development seminar during the event.

Between the effective advocacy efforts of FASEB's Office of Public Affairs, the many other working committees and the MARC program, and the federations financial support of our student outreach efforts, ISCB benefits greatly as a member society. Although traditionally focused on U.S. policies and funding, the international issues subcommittee of the science policy committee is propelling FASEB into areas of universal importance to scientists worldwide. It is our hope that through all of these activities ISCB members around the world ultimately achieve personal benefits from our investment in FASEB.



UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

ISCB Annual Conferences

ISCB Africa ASBCB Joint Conference on Bioinformatics of Infectious Diseases
Mali - Bamako
Nov 30, 2009 - Dec 02, 2009
ISCB Member Discount: up to 220 USD
www.iscb.org/iscb-africa

Rocky '09
United States - CO - Snowmass/Aspen
Dec 10, 2009 - Dec 12, 2009
ISCB Member Discount: up to 220 USD
www.iscb.org/rocky09

CSHALS 2010
United States - MA - Cambridge/Boston
Feb 24, 2010 - Feb 26, 2010
ISCB Member Discount: up to 220 USD
www.iscb.org/cshals2010

ISCB Latin America
Uruguay - Montevideo
Mar 01, 2010 - Mar 31, 2010
ISCB Member Discount: TBD
www.iscb.org/iscb-latin-america

ISMB 2010
United States - MA - Boston
Jul 09, 2010 - Jul 14, 2010
ISCB Member Discount: up to 220 USD
www.iscb.org/ismb2010

ISCB Co-Sponsored & Affiliated Meetings

InCoB 2009 - International Conference on Bioinformatics
Singapore
Hosted By: Association for Medical and Bio Informatics Singapore (AMBIS)
Sep 09, 2009 - Sep 11, 2009
ISCB Member Discount: 10%
<http://incob.apbionet.org/incob09/index.html>

BioIT World EUROPE Conference & Expo
Germany - Hanover
Hosted By: CHI & BIOTECHNICA
Oct 06 - Oct 08, 2009
ISCB Member Discount: TBA
Event URL: www.Bio-ITWorldExpoEurope.com

PSB 2010 - Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing
United States - HI - Kohala Coast
Jan 04, 2010 - Jan 08, 2010
ISCB Member Discount: 75 USD
<http://psb.stanford.edu/>

APBC2010 - Asian Pacific Bioinformatics Conference
India - Karnataka - Bangalore
Hosted By: National Centre for Biological Sciences and Indian Institute of Science
Jan 18, 2010 - Jan 21, 2010
ISCB Member Discount: TBA
<http://ics.nyu.edu/parida/APBC2010/index.html>

RECOMB 2010 - Conference on Research in Computational Molecular Biology
Portugal - Lisbon
Apr 25, 2010 - Apr 28, 2010
ISCB Member Discount: TBA
<http://kdbio.inesc-id.pt/recomb2010/>

Other Events of Interest

Wellcome Trust/P3G Biobank Summer School
United Kingdom - Cambridge - Hinxton
Hosted By: Wellcome Trust and P3G
Jul 01, 2009 - Jul 05, 2009
www.wellcome.ac.uk/Professional-resources/Courses-and-conferences/Scientific-conferences/index.htm

BCBGC-09 - 2009 International Conference on Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, Genomics and Chemoinformatics
United States - FL - Orlando
Hosted By: Promotersearch
Jul 13, 2009 - Jul 16, 2009
www.promotersearch.org

BIOCOMP - The 2009 International Conference on Bioinformatics and Computational Biology
United States - NV - Las Vegas
Hosted By: Various research labs, centers, and chapters of associations
Jul 13, 2009 - Jul 16, 2009
www.world-academy-of-science.org

Neuropeptide Festival 2009
Niue - Salzburg
Hosted By: The European Neuropeptide Club and the Summer Neuropeptide Conference
Jul 20, 2009 - Jul 23, 2009
www.salk.at/neuropeptides

MCCMB'09 - Moscow Conference on Computational Molecular Biology
Russia - Moscow
Jul 20, 2009 - Jul 23, 2009
<http://mccmb.belozersky.msu.ru/2009/index.html>

Solving Basic and Clinical Research Challenges in Cancer and Beyond: 2009 caBIG@ Annual Meeting
United States - DC - Washington
Hosted By: National Cancer Institute
Jul 20, 2009 - Jul 22, 2009
<http://cabig.nci.nih.gov/2009AnnualMeeting>

BSB 2009 - Brazilian Symposium on Bioinformatics
Brazil - RS - Porto Alegre
Hosted By: Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul - PUCRS, BRAZIL
Dates: Jul 29, 2009 - Jul 31, 2009
www.inf.pucrs.br/~bsb2009/

11th International Congress on Amino Acids, Peptides and Proteins
Austria - Vienna
Hosted By: Prof. Gert Lubec
Aug 03, 2009 - Aug 07, 2009
www.meduniwien.ac.at/ICAAP09/

IJCBS - ISIBM International Joint Conferences on Bioinformatics, Systems Biology and Computational Intelligence
China - Shanghai
Hosted By: ISIBM, USM and Tongji University
Aug 03, 2009 - Aug 06, 2009
www.isibm.org/IJCBS

Third q-bio Conference on Cellular Information Processing
United States - NM - Santa Fe
Hosted By: Center for Nonlinear Studies / Los Alamos National Laboratory
Aug 05, 2009 - Aug 09, 2009
<http://q-bio.org>

Genomic and Proteomic Approaches to Complex Heart, Lung, Blood, & Sleep Disorders
United States - ME - Bar Harbor
Hosted By: The Jackson Laboratory
Aug 06, 2009 - Aug 14, 2009
http://courses.jax.org/2009/hlb_shortcourse09.html

Workshop on Computational Biophysics
United States - IL - Champaign
Hosted By: Theoretical and Computational Biophysics Group
Aug 10, 2009 - Aug 14, 2009
www.ks.uiuc.edu/Training/Workshop/Champaign09A/

Third Annual CompuCell3D User-Training Workshop: Developing Multi-Cell Developmental and Biomedical Simulations with CompuCell3D
United States - IN - Bloomington
Hosted By: Indiana University Biocomplexity Institute
Aug 17, 2009 - Aug 21, 2009
www.compuCell3d.org

WYRMB - Workshop for Young Researchers in Mathematical Biology
United States - OH - Columbus
Hosted By: Mathematical Biosciences Institute
Aug 24, 2009 - Aug 26, 2009
www.mbi.osu.edu/wyrmbyrmb2009.html

Protein Structure Prediction Workshop
Hungary - Budapest
Hosted By: Renyi Institute
Aug 26, 2009 - Aug 29, 2009
www.renyi.hu/conferences/psp2009/

UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND EVENTS



Other Events of Interest (*continued*)

The EMBO Meeting 2009
Netherlands - Amsterdam
Hosted By: European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO)
Aug 29, 2009 - Sep 01, 2009
www.the-embo-meeting.org/

DFT09 - 13th edition of the International Conference on the Applications of Density Functional Theory in Chemistry and Physics
France - Rhône-Alpes - Lyon-Villeurbanne
Hosted By: Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1
Aug 31, 2009 - Sep 04, 2009
www.dft09.org

CMSB'09 - Computational Methods in Systems Biology
Italy - Bologna
Hosted By: University of Bologna, Italy
Aug 31, 2009 - Sep 01, 2009
<http://cmsb09.cs.unibo.it/>

Machine Learning in Systems Biology, 3rd International workshop
Slovenia - Ljubljana
Hosted By: Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana
Sep 05, 2009 - Sep 06, 2009
<http://mlsb09.ijs.si>

2nd INCf Congress of Neuroinformatics
Czech Republic - Pilsen
Hosted By: INCf
Sep 06, 2009 - Sep 08, 2009
www.neuroinformatics2009.org/

PRIB 2009 - International Conference in Pattern Recognition for Bioinformatics
United Kingdom - Sheffield
Hosted By: IAPR
Sep 07, 2009 - Sep 09, 2009
www.dcs.shef.ac.uk/ml/prib2009/prib2009.html

WABI - Workshop on Algorithms for Bioinformatics
United States - PA - Philadelphia
Hosted By: The University of Pennsylvania
Sep 12, 2009 - Sep 13, 2009
www.wabi09.org

Workshop on Parallel Computational Biology
Poland - Wrocław
Hosted By: Czestochowa University of Technology
Sep 13, 2009 - Sep 16, 2009
<http://pbc.ppam.pl/>

Next Generation Sequencing Workshop
Italy - Bari, Italy
Hosted By: University of Bari, Italy
Sep 16, 2009 - Sep 18, 2009
http://mi.caspur.it/workshop_NGS09/

International Conference on Biotechnology and Bioinformatics
India - Bangalore City
Hosted By: Century Foundation
Sep 18, 2009 - Sep 20, 2009
www.cenfoundindia.org

2009 International Workshop on Computational and Integrative Biology
China - Zhejiang - Hangzhou
Hosted By: Bioinformatics Lab of College of Life Sciences, Zhejiang University
Sep 18, 2009 - Sep 20, 2009
www.cls.zju.edu.cn/binfo/IB/2009/

IJCBS - International Joint Conferences on Bioinformatics, Systems Biology and Intelligent Systems
China - Shanghai
Hosted By: ISIBM and ISIBM's official journals: *IJFIBM* and *IJCBD*
Sep 24, 2009 - Sep 27, 2009
www.isibm.org/IJCBS

RECOMB CG 2009
Hungary - Budapest
Hosted By: Hungarian Society for Bioinformatics
Sep 27, 2009 - Sep 29, 2009
www.renyi.hu/conferences/recomb-cg2009/

German Conference on Bioinformatics 2009
Germany - Halle (Saale)
Hosted By: Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg
Sep 28, 2009 - Sep 30, 2009
www.gcb2009.de

Workshop on Techniques in Modeling Human Colon Cancer in Rodents
United States - ME - Bar Harbor
Hosted By: The Jackson Laboratory
Sep 29, 2009 - Oct 03, 2009
<http://courses.jax.org/2009/colontech09.html>

International Workshop on High Performance Computational Systems Biology
Italy - Povo (TN)
Hosted By: The Microsoft Research - University of Trento Centre for Computational and Systems Biology
Oct 14, 2009 - Oct 16, 2009
www.cosbi.eu/hibi09/

VipIMAGE 2009 - II Ecomas Thematic Conference on Computational Vision and Medical Image Processing
Portugal - Porto
Hosted By: University of Porto, Portugal
Oct 14, 2009 - Oct 16, 2009
www.fe.up.pt/vipimage

X-meeting 2009
Brazil - Rio de Janeiro - Angra dos Reis
Hosted By: Brazilian Association for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology
Oct 18, 2009 - Oct 22, 2009
<http://lgmb.fmrp.usp.br/xmeeting2009>

Systems Biology for Biochemists - ASBMB Small Meeting
United States - California - Tahoe City
Hosted By: American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Oct 22, 2009 - Oct 25, 2009
www.asbmb.org/Page.aspx?id=2096

Computational Structural Bioinformatics Workshop in conjunction with IEEE BIBM 2009
United States - D.C. - Washington D.C.
Hosted By: IEEE
Nov 01, 2009 - Nov 04, 2009
www.cs.nmsu.edu/~dsi/bioworkshop09/

IEEE International Conference on Bioinformatics & Biomedicine
United States - MD - Bethesda
Hosted By: IEEE
Nov 01, 2009 - Nov 04, 2009
www.itc.ku.edu/bioinformatics/BIBM09/home.php

EMBO Workshop on Visualizing Biological Data (VizBi)
Germany - Heidelberg
Hosted By: European Molecular Biology Laboratory
Mar 03, 2010 - Mar 05, 2010
www.vizbi.org

Bioinformatics Track @ ACM Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC) 2010
Switzerland - Sierre
Hosted By: HES-SO & EPFL, Switzerland
Mar 22, 2010 - Mar 26, 2010
www.nrcbioinformatics.ca/acmsac2010/

Cover Image:

Forming part of the Old Town (Gamla Stan) Riddarholmen Island is home to many 17th century luxury hotels and one of the most beautiful and authentic medieval churches in Stockholm, the Riddarholmskyrkan.

Built in 1200 AD, the oldest part of the church was occupied by the Grey Friar monastery. The church later became a Franciscan monastery, and is now one of the best preserved Franciscan cathedrals in northern Europe. Since the 16th century, this church has been the burial place for Sweden's royalty.

The church is no longer used for religious purposes and is now only a royal memorial and open to the public for guided tours.

How are We Doing?

Please email ISCB at admin@iscb.org with any comments, questions, or concerns regarding the website (www.iscb.org), this newsletter, or any other ISCB effort. The ISCB staff aims to meet the needs of ISCB's membership — member advice helps in meeting this objective.

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www.iscb.org

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