

# ISCB NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2016 ISSUE 001

## ISMB 2016 CALL FOR LATE POSTERS

Have you recently completed exciting research or are in the process? Want to Share? Submit a Late Poster to ISMB 2016! Deadline: May 5, 2016

## 2016 ART & SCIENCE COMPETITION

Submit your image to the ISMB 2016 Art & Science Submissions - The winning image will be featured in the next ISCB Newsletter!

Deadline: May 20, 2016

## ISMB 2016 ARRIVING SOON IN ORLANDO

Orlando, Florida is home to this year's ISMB (Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology) meeting, which will feature a world-class program of talks, poster sessions, and opportunities for scientific exchanges. ISMB is the the flagship conference of ISCB and is renowned for bringing together scientists from diverse disciplines, including molecular biology, biophysics, medicine, computer science, mathematics and statistics. The ISMB program showcases cutting edge research that spans the realm of computational biology from algorithm development to applications in medicine and agriculture. This year's meeting will take place from July 10 - 12, 2016 at the Swan and Dolphin Hotel in Orlando, Florida and will be preceded by satellite meetings, special interest group (SIG) meetings, and applied knowledge exchange sessions (AKES) on July 8th and 9th.

Pierre Baldi of the University of California, Irvine and Teresa Przytycka of the National Center for Biotechnology Information at the National Library of Medicine, NIH are co-chairs of ISMB 2016. Baldi said, "ISMB remains the premier international conference in bioinformatics. ISMB 2016 has an outstanding technical program of invited and accepted presentations, awards, and other activities. In addition to scientific

excellence, I am also personally impressed by the outreach activities of our society and how it strives for inclusiveness and broad participation. As an example, this year eight women scientist were elevated to the title of ISCB Fellow." Przytycka added, "An important aspect of the conference is that presentations often describe computational solutions utilizing cutting edge technological advances in experimental science."

### THE CAREER FAIR @ISMB

is making a return! ISCB members will have access to an online jobs board and will be able post CVs and resumes through the ISCB Career Center. Stay tuned for news about employers and recruiters that will be onsite during ISMB.

Highlights, late-breaking research, proceedings and posters will be categorized thematically under the data, disease, genes, proteins, or networks theme areas. This organizational approach was launched successfully at ISMB/ECCB 2015 and

enabled conference attendees to identify and attend more relevant talks. This organization also streamlined the conference schedule to reduce the number of concurrent sessions.

As in past conferences, ISMB is anchored by six keynote presentations delivered by leaders in the fields of computational biology and bioinformatics. Ruth Nussinov of the National Cancer Institute/National Institutes of Health is the ISCB Fellows speaker and will open up the conference with her keynote presentation on the morning of Sunday, July 10. This

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UPCOMING AFFILIATED CONFERENCE



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR  
COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY

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

## INTRODUCING MEMBER GET A MEMBER CAMPAIGN

Do you have a vast network of potential professional members?

Recruit those members to ISCB and win a complimentary registration to ISMB 2016!



**You've seen first-hand the value in ISCB membership, and now its time to share that value, your stories of ISCB with your students, colleagues, and friends.**

Through our member-get-a-member campaign, we are asking members to be advocates of ISCB, to help us recruit new members and encourage previous members to come back. Our goal is to grow our membership, be the leading professional society for computational biology and bioinformatics, and the voice of our science.

Why is membership growth important? ISCB strives to develop a variety of programs for our members. Unfortunately, implementing these programs comes at a cost to the organization. Through our Student Council, ISCBconnect, ISCBtv, and worldwide conferences, we strive to get our members connected and engaged. Through increased membership participation, we can do even more! Imagine more travel fellowships, online training, complimentary e-books, or even recorded talks from all of the official ISCB conferences. As membership grows, ISCB can use the additional funding to invest back in the organization and offer new programs.

<http://www.iscb.org/member-get-a-member>

### ISMB 2016 Continued...

year's Overton Prize winner, Debora Marks of Harvard Medical School, will give a keynote presentation on Sunday afternoon in recognition of her award. Monday, July 11 will include keynote presentations by Sandrine Dudoit of the University of California, Berkeley and Sarah Teichmann of the EMBL-EBI and Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute. Keynote presentations on July 12, the final day of the meeting, will showcase the recipients of the inaugural ISCB Innovator award Serafim Batzoglou of Stanford University and the Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award winner Søren Brunak of the Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Protein Research, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

Several special sessions have been organized for ISMB 2016 and highlight topics of growing interest for computational biologists, including ribosome profiling, data compression, tertiary data analysis, and molecular communication and nano-networking with applications to precision medicine. The Industry Advisory Council (IAC) is hosting a Special Industry Session called "Industrial Biotechnologies - Opportunities and Challenges." This session will showcase computational biology opportunities and challenges in industry, and will include industry representatives discussing areas such as protein production, vaccine development and biofuels.

Several Birds of a Feather (BoF) sessions are being organized during ISMB 2016 including Navigating the Career Path: Industry, Diversity and Science, Open Science Publishing, and Exploring and Refining Core Competencies in Bioinformatics.

The Career Fair @ ISMB is making a return! ISCB members will have access to an online jobs board and will be able post CVs and resumes through the ISCB Career Center. Stay tuned for news about employers and recruiters that will be onsite during ISMB.

The annual ISCB open business meeting will be held at ISMB 2016 under its new title of ISCB Town Hall. This event is open to any attendee and is a great opportunity for ISCB members to hear first hand about the state of the Society and programs, and includes an awards ceremony for Student Council Symposium winners and a question and answer period to help shape the direction and scope of ISCB.

The exhibit hall will be a hub of activity for attendees throughout the conference where they can learn about cutting edge technologies, resources, and products from exhibitors and take in poster sessions during the early evenings. Exhibitors will be presenting their latest developments in technology track presentations throughout the meeting as well. The ISMB Art & Science Exhibition will also be on display in the exhibit hall and will offer unique perspectives of scientific content.

Register now to make sure you are part of this world class computational biology meeting! And because ISMB 2016 is meeting in "the happiest place on Earth," check out ISMB-associated discounts for access its world famous amusement parks.



# GLBIO/CCBC 2016: MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Lakes Bioinformatics Conference is joined by a new partner, the Canadian Computational Biology Conference (GLBIO/CCBC 2016), creating a joint venture to be held May 16-19, 2016 in Toronto, Canada. GLBIO/CCBC 2016 will be hosted by the University of Toronto on the Victoria University campus.

An official conference of the International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB), GLBIO/CCBC 2016 provides an interdisciplinary forum for the discussion of research findings and methods for researchers within the Great Lakes Region, which consists of 8 states in the U.S. and 2 Canadian provinces. Additionally, this conference fosters long-term collaborative relationships and networking opportunities within the domain of computational approaches to biology.

The addition of the first Canadian Computational Biology conference will offer Canadians the opportunity to bring stakeholders together to explore the possibility of an action plan for the formation of a national network. The meeting will serve as a platform

upon which like-minded individuals will inform others on the potential benefits that such a

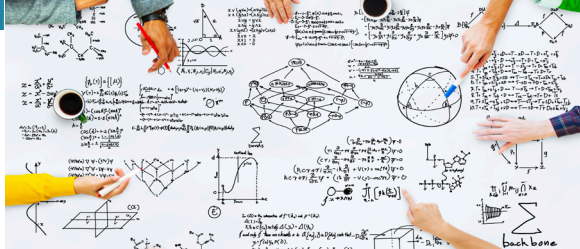
**Want to learn about open source drug development, precision medicine breakthroughs, pathogen-host evolution and paleogenomics?**

**Join us in May 2016 for the exciting, cosmopolitan city of Toronto for the largest and most diverse GLBIO ever - and the first national Canadian Computational Biology Conference**

meeting would bring to the Bioinformatics/ Computational Biology community in Canada.

The combined conference program will include 8 outstanding keynote speakers, oral and poster presentations as well as several tutorials and workshops. From novice to expert, attendees have the opportunity to partake in a variety of workshops, tutorials, presentations, networking events and exhibits.

For more information please visit:  
<http://www.iscb.org/glbioccbc2016>



## INNOVATION FORUM

The ISCB Innovation Forum is a **unique** and productive opportunity for industry to contribute in a sustained manner to the ISCB mission and to gain prominence in its expert and influential constituency. We look to the ISCB Innovation Forum to provide our corporate and industry partners the opportunity to influence directly and actively the future of ISCB and its growing membership.

The mission of the International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB) is to be the leading professional society for researchers, practitioners, technicians, students, and suppliers in the field of computational biology and bioinformatics. ISCB is dedicated to the advancement of life science research, the dissemination of knowledge in the field, and the responsible preparation of the next generation of experts. By building the networks and bridges necessary to support research developments by passionate groups of researchers from a variety of backgrounds, we believe that the ISCB enables computational biology and bioinformatics to transform and accelerate basic biological research.

For more information, visit:  
[www.iscb.org/iscb-innovation-forum](http://www.iscb.org/iscb-innovation-forum)

## The ISCB COMMUNITY JOURNAL

### MEET THE EDITORS!

At ISMB 2015 we were pleased to announce the launch of the ISCB Community journal, a fully open access online publication that is freely available to everyone. To work alongside our affiliate journals *Bioinformatics* and *PLoS Computational Biology*, the ISCB Community Journal is intended to support our growing conference program and Communities of Special Interest (COSIs) by providing a platform to disseminate not just research articles, but all of the presented conference research in one centralised place.

However, the ISCB Community Journal is different compared to a journal in the traditional sense. Articles are published under a post publication peer review model, where papers are published immediately (after some pre-publication checks) followed by an invited, open peer review process. The journal also has a robust data sharing policy; all primary research articles must include the submission of the data underlying the results, together with details of any software used to process results.

Within the journal there are individual “channels” for each conference or community, and in these channels researchers can publish a range of articles types such as research paper, method papers, software tools, data only papers and any other piece of research that is written up to be peer-reviewed. In addition to peer-reviewed articles, the channel also enables attendees to share and publish all the academic posters and slides that are presented at the various ISCB conferences.

We believe the new publishing model of the ISCB Community Journal enables us to go further in supporting all of the society's publishing needs. It will allow us to help support and showcase research from all regions, including our US and European conferences, but also those in Africa, Asia and Latin America. It also helps us build communities around our conferences by providing a place to further the discussion through the publication of the presented



## WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND THE COMP BIO CONFERENCE OF THE YEAR!

**The Science** – Choose from scientific talks, posters, tutorials, workshops, and special interest group meetings representing a multidisciplinary forum for the dissemination of the latest developments in computational biology/bioinformatics.

**Connect** – Meet and Network with over **1,400** scientists representing more than **45** countries from computer science, molecular biology, mathematics, statistics and related fields.

**Training & Professional Development** – Learn the latest techniques in our Technology Track. Check out the **ISMB Career Fair** if you are looking for a job in your field.

Mark your calendars and join us for ISMB 2016

Orlando, Florida  
July 8 - 12



## Program Bytes - Satellite Meetings, SIGs, and AKEs at ISMB 2016

ISMB 2016 is a world class conference for computational biologists because it also is host to several smaller meetings prior to the main ISMB meeting. As in the past, satellite meetings and special interest group (SIGs) meetings, will be held on Friday, July 8th and Saturday, July 9th, prior to the main conference at the main meeting venue, the Swan and Dolphin Hotel. Several applied knowledge exchange sessions (AKEs) have also been scheduled for Saturday and are smaller in size in order to provide a more intimate meeting environment. Check out this year's [satellite meetings](#), [SIGs](#), and [AKEs](#) and be sure to register for these unique events along with your main meeting registration.

### *Satellite Meetings*

This year, two popular satellite meetings are convening once again for two days on Friday, July 8th and Saturday July 9th. 3DSig: Structural Bioinformatics & Computational Biophysics will be holding its 12th meeting and has become one of the largest meetings that brings together world class scientists studying structural computational biology. Keynote speakers include David E. Shaw of Columbia University, Ruben Abagyan of UCSD and Molsoft LLC, Heather Carlson of the University of Michigan, Bruce Donald of Duke University, Koby Levy of the Weizmann Institute, Rafael Najmanovich of the Université de Sherbrooke, and Shoshana Wodak of the Free University of Brussels.

The 15th annual International Conference on the Critical Assessment of Massive Data Analysis (CAMDA) is the other major satellite meeting being held on July 8th and 9th. CAMDA focuses on the analysis and integration of massive data sets, and the scientific committee of CAMDA has posted [three data analysis challenges](#) for its annual contest. Scientists present their analyses of these data set challenges and prizes are awarded for best analyses/presentations.

### *SIGs*

ISMB is fortunate to host numerous one- and two-day SIGs prior to the main meeting. Many of the SIGs are organized by ISCB's Communities of Special Interest (COSIs). These SIGs span all topic areas in the field of computational biology including bio-ontologies, high-throughput sequencing, open source bio-

informatics software, data visualization, and RNA biology. There really is a SIG for everyone, and these smaller meetings provide an atmosphere conducive to scientific discussion and exchanges. Two new SIGs are debuting this year:

SysMod: Computational modeling of biological systems and TransMed 2016: Translational Medicine Informatics & Applications. SysMod aims to close the gap between bioinformatics and systems biology modeling and will include talks on modeling metabolism and modeling biochemistry. TransMed will cover topics related to the burgeoning field of translational medicine informatics,



including clinical and molecular data storage and integration infrastructure, curation and harmonization of clinical, 'omics and imaging data, and computational approaches for target selection and drug discovery, as well as other related topics.



The International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB) is pleased to announce the Fellows Class of 2016. Fellow status is given to ISCB members that have distinguished themselves through exceptional contributions to the fields of computational biology and bioinformatics. The ISCB Fellows program began in 2009, and 56 members have been conferred with this status to date. 13 Fellows have been selected for this year's class, and they will be introduced at ISMB 2016 in Orlando, Florida in July.

**Helen Berman** Distinguished Professor / Board of Governors Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Rutgers University, USA. For her roles in creating and leading the Protein Data Bank and Nucleic Acids Database, her innovations in computational biology including methods and standards, as well as her distinguished contributions to structural biology.

**Steven Brenner** Professor, Department of Plant and Microbial Biology, University of California, Berkeley, USA. For his significant research contributions to protein analysis and genetics, and notable organizational service to the field, especially through CAGI and DREAM competitions.

**Dan Gusfield** Professor, Department of Computer Science, University of California, Davis, USA. For his notable contributions to computational biology, particularly his algorithmic work on building evolutionary trees, molecular sequence analysis, optimization problems in population genetics, RNA folding, and integer programming in biology.

**Barry Honig** Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, Columbia University, USA. For his seminal contributions to protein structure prediction and molecular electrostatics, and his more recent work on protein function prediction, protein-DNA recognition, and cell-cell adhesion.

**Janet Kelso** Group Leader, Department of Evolutionary Genetics, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Germany. For her excellence in pursuing novel research in computational genomics and her devoted scientific service to the global community through leadership roles in ISCB and bioinformatics journals, support for bioinformatics education, and involvement in the global development of bioinformatics.

**Michal Linial** Professor, Biological Chemistry / Director, Sudarsky Center for Computational Biology / Director, Institute for Advanced Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. For her pioneering work on automatic classification of protein sequences and function prediction, for bringing Bayesian networks and compressed sensing to our community for expression data analysis, and for her above-and-beyond service and numerous contributions to ISCB.

**Christine Orengo** Professor, Division of Biosciences, University College London, UK. For her outstanding contributions to protein structure classification in the CATH resource, the development of novel robust algorithms to determine structural and functional relationships between proteins, and her numerous contributions to ISCB.

**Aviv Regev** Core Member, Broad Institute, and Associate Professor, Department of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA. For her outstanding research in systems biology, particularly her work on molecular circuitry, gene regulation, and, more recently, cancer genomics.

**Lincoln Stein** Professor, Department of Molecular Genetics, University of Toronto, and Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, Canada. For his roles in the formative consortia of computational biology, including the Human Genome Project, HapMap, Reactome, BioPerl, Wormbase, co-leading bioinformatics for ModEncode, and developing and leading GMOD.

**Sarah Teichmann** Group Leader, European Molecular Biology Laboratory - European Bioinformatics Institute, UK. For her work on elucidating the domain characteristics of prokaryotic proteins, introducing graph theory to represent protein domain combinations as networks, developing predictive models for transcription factor-DNA interactions in gene regulation, and statistical methods for single-cell transcriptomics,

as well as her service on numerous editorial boards and conference committees.

**Anna Tramontano** Chair Professor, Department of Biochemistry, University of Rome "La Sapienza", Italy. For being a world leader in the field of bioinformatics, in particular protein structure prediction and analysis, and making numerous contributions to bioinformatics research, ISCB leadership, and education.

**Shoshana Wodak** Scientific Director, Centre for Computational Biology, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada. For her exceptional work in the field of protein modeling and her efforts to promote making data available.

**Haim Wolfson** Professor, Department of Computer Science, Tel Aviv University, Israel. For pioneering the introduction of Computer Vision motivated 3D pattern discovery algorithms into computational structural biology, co-developing the geometric hashing methodology, and developing highly efficient algorithms for protein structural alignment, protein-protein docking, binding site comparison, and integrative modeling of large multi-molecular assemblies.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**GLBIO CCBC 2016**  
May 16 - 19, 2016  
University of Toronto, Canada

**ISMB 2016**  
July 8 - 12, 2016  
Orlando, Florida

**RSG with DREAM Challenges**  
November 7 - 10, 2016  
Phoenix, AZ

**ISCB-Latin America 2016**  
November 21 - 23, 2016  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

# ISCB Call for Leadership Nominations

**Nominations for Board of Directors Deadline: April 26!**

**Nominations for President-elect, Vice President and Student Council Deadline: May 26!**



**NOMINATE NOW**

SIGS CONTINUED...

## AKEs

AKEs debuted at ISMB/ECCB 2015 as a new version of workshops. These small meetings are limited in space to promote scientific discussion and exchange and are also held prior to the main ISMB meeting. This year five AKEs have been organized and they will cover a wide range of relevant and timely topics. The sessions are:

- AKES01: Clouds, Clusters, and Containers: Tools for responsible, collaborative computing
- AKES02: Community Efforts to Enable Scalable, Reproducible, and Portable Biomedical Data Analyses
- AKES03: Synthetic Biology Open Language – standards, tools and guideline on managing both the functional design and the sequence details of your experiments
- AKES04: Living on the Edge (of Translational Informatics) - Opportunities and Challenges for Integrating Bioinformatics into the Clinical Realm
- AKES05: Cytoscape 3 User Tutorial: Introduction to network visualization and analysis using Cytoscape

Make sure you consider all of these pre-meeting sessions during your conference planning and make the most of your time at ISMB 2016.

## BUSY SPRING FOR FASEB PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) and its Office of Public Affairs provide a policy voice for the 27 FASEB societies and more than 120,000 biological and biomedical researchers from around the world that they represent. We are currently in appropriations season, when the US Congress makes decisions about agency budgets. It is a particularly busy and important time to advocate for predictable and sustainable federal funding of research.

FASEB's Capitol Hill Day provides member societies the opportunity to discuss the challenges facing the research community with members of Congress and their staff. Despite steady rain and gray skies, 50 scientists from 27 states participated in the largest Capitol Hill Day to date for FASEB on April 14.

Representatives of 21 FASEB member societies and nearly all of the basic biomedical science chairs associations met with more than 100 congressional offices to advocate for sustainable and predictable funding increases for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy Office of Science, and the competitive research program at the Department of Agriculture.

Judith Blake, PhD, who represents the International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB) on the FASEB Board of Directors and provides input as a member of the Data Science and Informatics Subcommittee, participated in the event. Dr. Blake and her colleagues met with congressional offices, offering FASEB's fiscal year (FY) 2016 funding recommendations for the federal science agencies and sharing state and district factsheets summarizing the impact of federal science investment on local institutions and businesses.

FASEB regularly issues comments on agency proposals and policies, which ranged this spring from recommendations on ways to reduce regulatory burden to strategies to improve the impact and sustainability of research. Throughout the spring, FASEB has prioritized work with lawmakers in the House and Senate to help shape bills proposing strategies to increase research funding. With swift moving legislation addressing funding for federal agencies, dialogue with policymakers will be key to ensuring that the voices of our members are heard.

For up-to-date information on FASEB's Public Affairs activities, sign up to receive FASEB's Washington Update at <http://washingtonupdate.faseb.org/>.

## Søren Brunak, Debora Marks, Burkhard Rost and Serafim Batzoglou Named 2016 ISCB Award Winners

The International Society of Computational Biology (ISCB) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2016 Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award, Overton Prize, Outstanding Contributions to ISCB Award, and the Innovator Award. Søren Brunak of the Technical University of Denmark is the winner of the Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award. Debora Marks of Harvard Medical School is the Overton Prize winner. Burkhard Rost of the Technical University of Munich has been selected as the winner of the Outstanding Contributions to ISCB Award, and Serafim Batzoglou of Stanford University is the inaugural winner of the ISCB Innovator Award.

### *Søren Brunak*

The ISCB Accomplishment by a Senior Scientist Award recognizes leaders in the fields of computational biology and bioinformatics for their significant research, education, and service contributions. Søren Brunak is being honored as the 2016 winner of the Senior Scientist Award.



Brunak is Director of the Center for Sequence Analysis at the Technical University of Denmark and is a pioneer in the field of bioinformatics. He founded the Center for Sequence Analysis at the Technical University of Denmark in 1993, one of the first departments dedicated exclusively to bioinformatics. Brunak's research is deeply rooted in combining computer science, physics, biology and biotechnology, and his early work on neural networks and other predictive methods led to the development of several widely-used bioinformatics methods. Brunak has made significant contributions to the field of network biology, particularly his work on the analysis of the evolution of protein complexes during the cell cycle. He has also been deeply involved in many large-scale studies of human genomes, ancient genomes and metagenomics. More recently, Brunak has developed methods to extract information about diseases and drugs from medical records, and he is studying the relationship between comorbidities, and the influence of different drugs on disease progression.

### *Debora Marks*

The Overton Prize recognizes the research, education, and service accomplishments of early to mid-career scientists who are emerging leaders in computational biology and bioinformatics. The Overton Prize was instituted in 2001 to honor the untimely loss of G. Christian Overton, a leading bioinformatics researcher and a founding member of the ISCB Board of Directors. Debora Marks is being recognized as the 2016 winner of the Overton Prize.



Marks is an Assistant Professor of Systems Biology at Harvard Medical School and is an emerging leader in the field of computational biology. She has used her background in mathematics and computational biology to create an interdisciplinary research program that develops computational methods aimed at tackling fundamental biological questions. Marks's early work revealed the extent by which microRNAs regulate gene expression, and these results have been critical for advancing the development of small RNA therapeutics. Marks has recently made significant contributions to understanding protein structure based solely on sequence information.

### *Burkhard Rost*

The Outstanding Contributions to ISCB Award recognizes an ISCB member for his or her outstanding service contributions toward the betterment of ISCB through exemplary leadership, education, and service. This award debuted in 2015, and the 2016 winner is Burkhard Rost.



Burkhard Rost is the Chair of Bioinformatics at the Technical University of Munich and past President of ISCB. Rost has been a seminal force in the formation and growth of ISCB since its inception through his many years of service, which include serving on the founding Board of Directors, serving as ISCB President from 2007 to 2014, and co-chairing and shaping ISCB's flagship meeting, ISMB (Intelligent Systems of Molecular Biology), for several years. As an example, his highly successful Highlights Track has greatly enhanced the meeting. Rost increased the worldwide reach of ISCB by starting a series of international meetings in places such as Africa and South America, and he advocated for the greater involvement of ISCB trainees through the formation of the ISCB Student Council. Rost's contributions to computational biology research have also been recognized by his election as a 2015 ISCB Fellow.

### *Serafim Batzoglou*

2016 marks the launch of the ISCB Innovator Award, which is given to a leading scientist who is within two decades of receiving his or her PhD degree, has consistently made outstanding contributions to the field and continues to forge new directions. Serafim Batzoglou, Professor of Computer Science at Stanford University, is the inaugural winner of the ISCB Innovator Award.



Batzoglou has made many critical research contributions throughout his career, including his early work developing the ARACHNE algorithm and program for the assembly of whole genomes from shotgun sequencing data, which was critical to the efforts of the Human Genome Consortium. He has been a leader in the field of comparative genomics and has also developed widely-used tools for multiple sequence alignments including LAGAN and multi-LAGAN.

ISCB will present the Senior Scientist Award, Overton Prize, Outstanding Contributions to ISCB Award, and Innovator Award at ISMB 2016, which is being held in Orlando, Florida on July 8-12, 2016. Brunak, Marks, and Batzoglou will also present keynote addresses during the conference.

Full bibliographical articles profiling the award recipients will be available in the ISMB 2016 focus issue of the ISCB newsletter later this year, as well as the ISCB Society Pages in *PLOS Computational Biology*, *OUP Bioinformatics*, and *ISCB Community Journal*.



The Student Council Symposium (SCS) is a yearly meeting of students and early career scientists interested in computational biology, bioinformatics and related fields. This year's symposium will feature oral and poster presentations, keynote lectures by two top computational biology researchers, talks by industry partners and a social event at a nearby pub.

Submit your abstract now for the chance to present your research and make connections with other computational biologists from around the world! Visit [symposium.iscb.org](http://symposium.iscb.org) for more information, to submit an abstract or apply for a travel fellowship.

Keynote speakers at SCS2016:

**John Quackenbush, Ph. D.**

Dr. Quackenbush is a professor of biostatistics and computational biology at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and a professor of bioinformatics at the Harvard School of Public Health. His current research involves using genomic and computational approaches to understand the complex factors that mediate the link between genotype and phenotype in cancer and other diseases.

**Janet Thornton, Ph. D.**

Dr. Thornton is a group leader at the European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI). She is a leading scientist in the field of structural bioinformatics and uses computational methods

to understand protein structure, function and evolution. Dr. Thornton is a Fellow of the Royal Society, a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences, a member of EMBO and a foreign associate of the US National Academy of Sciences.

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS ARE OPEN!**

April 22, 2016: Abstract Call Closes  
May 13, 2016: Abstract Acceptance  
May 23, 2016 Student Council Travel Fellowship Deadline  
June 03, 2016 Student Council Travel Fellowship Acceptance  
May 27, 2016 Late Poster Submission Deadline  
June 6, 2016 Late Poster Acceptance Notification  
July 8, 2016 Student Council Symposium



## Career Corner @ ISMB 2016

Connect with over 1,400 researchers, students, & postdocs from around the world!

Promote, Discuss, & Interview -- All in one place!

[www.iscb.org/ISMB2016-career](http://www.iscb.org/ISMB2016-career)

# CompBio Jobs

Recruit

Inform

Engage





research enabling others who were unable the meeting sees the latest work that was discussed. Each conference, event and workshop related to the ISCB will be able to extend the visibility of everything presented at a meeting and therefore broadcast their research beyond the conference hall to the wider scientific community.

The Executive Officers of the ISCB recently published their reaction (<http://f1000research.com/articles/5-157/v1>) to a controversial editorial published in the New England Journal of Medicine around data-sharing. Open data is something as a society we fully support and so the ISCB Community Journal is dedicated to making sure that underlying data is open to allow others to see the raw data to be able to replicate a study and analyse the data, and as in some circumstances, reuse it.

Over the past few months we have been working on how best to integrate the ISCB Community Journal with our conferences and communities, and soon we will see our first articles being published.

During this time, we have appointed four Chief Editors, who will oversee the development of the journal, and help us support our global community. We are pleased to introduce them to you below:

**Christine Orengo:** My group is based at University College London and manages the CATH-Gene3D classification of domain structure superfamilies. We develop algorithms for structural and functional annotation of proteins and for functional genomics. For example we are collaborating with several UK groups using proteomics studies to understand how splicing rewires protein networks in the different stages of fly development. We also participate in a functional effects domain of Genomics England which is seeking to interpret the effects of mutations linked to rare diseases and certain cancers. We are involved in a number of UK and European structural bioinformatics training initiatives. The ISCB Community Journal is a very exciting opportunity to publicise all the activities of communities in ISCB – one of the most established societies in computational biology. It will be wonderful to have a record of the exciting new work presented in the ISCB-X and Affiliated conferences and in the annual meetings of the Communities of Special Interest (COSIs) who run the SIGs and satellite meetings at ISMB.



**Christos Ouzounis:** Was recently appointed as a Director of Research at the Centre for Research & Technology Hellas (CERTH) in Thessalonica, Greece – following his return from the UK. His research interests encompass



computational genomics, systems and synthetic biology. Experimenting with a new publishing model, he thinks that the ISCB Community Journal can provide an ideal conduit for fast publication of scientific reports, conference proceedings and opinion articles, in a single space with an identical look-and-feel for the ISCB community.

**Michael Sammeth:** My group is affiliated with the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), where we are mainly doing research on transcriptomics and functional genomics across multiple organisms, including human and also an increasing amount of relevant tropical species such as pathogens of neglected diseases and their corresponding vectors. As a professor at the Institute of Biophysics Carlos Chagas Filho (IBCCF), I am also giving regular classes in bioinformatics to under-/graduate students. When the ISCB as one of our communities with the longest tradition in computational biology recently implemented the idea of a dedicated publication platform in form of the Community Journal, I felt that this will be a great chance to increase the visibility of all contributions from the numerous conferences and Special Interest Group satellites.



**Louxin Zhang:** He is currently an Associate Professor at the National University of Singapore. My research interests lie in bioinformatics in comparative and evolutionary genomics. With adopting the post publication peer review policy, the ISCB Community Journal is perfect complement to other affiliate journals of the ISCB.



As the name reflects, the new society journal is for the ISCB community and we want to be inclusive to all of our society members and allow them to have a say in the direction we go. We have created the foundations but we are more than happy to receive input on the journal and new ideas on how we can make it as valuable as possible with regards to publishing and communicating research in computational biology.

We are keen to create a pool of peer reviewers for the journal to help review any published articles, and we will soon be sending out a request to all of our members to volunteer to be a part of this reviewing board. All the reviews in the ISCB Community Journal are completely open, citable and include the name and affiliation of the reviewer, so it will be a chance for all participating reviewers to receive credit for the work they have done, and will enable others to see the contributions you have made to the society.

If you have any questions about the ISCB Community Journal or would like to be more involved, please feel free to contact our Editors.

# CALL FOR TED TALKS!

## DO YOU HAVE A RECORDED RESEARCH PRESENTATION THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHAIRE?

## SUBMIT TO THE COMMUNITY ON ISCBtv!

Send your video to [ncostello@iscb.org](mailto:ncostello@iscb.org)







## UPCOMING AFFILIATED CONFERENCES

### **SolBio International Conference and Workshop 2016**

Mexico - Quintana Roo - Riviera Maya

Apr 22, 2016 through Apr 26, 2016

Event URL: <http://www.soibio.org/en/icmexico2016>

ISCB Member Discount: 15%

### **XIII Symposium on Bioinformatics**

Spain - Valencia – Valencia

May 10, 2016 through May 13, 2016

Event URL: <http://jbi2016.org/>

ISCB Member Discount: 50 EUR

### **15th European Conference on Computational Biology**

Netherlands - The Hague

Sep 03, 2016 through Sep 07, 2016

Event URL: <http://www.eccb2016.org/>

ISCB Member Discount: 80 EUR

### **Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing 2017**

United States - HI - Big Island of Hawaii

Jan 03, 2017 through Jan 07, 2017

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

ISCB Member Discount: 50 USD

### **BIOSTEC'17: 10th International Joint Conference on Biomedical Engineering Systems and Technologies**

Portugal – Porto

Feb 21, 2017 through Feb 23, 2017

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

ISCB Member Discount: 60 EUR

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