ISCBNEWSLETTER



SPRING 2017 ISSUE 001

ISMB/ECCB 2017 CALL FOR POSTERS

Have you recently completed exciting research or are in the process? Want to Share? Submit a Late Poster to ISMB/ECCB 2017!

Deadline: May 15, 2017

ISMB/ECCB 2017 ARRIVING IN PRAGUE

Prague, a city of bridges where the Bohemia and fairy tale world collide, is the location of this years' premier ISMB/ECCB (Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology) conference. Be sure to mark your calendars for this event, which will feature a world-class science intense multidisciplinary forum for disseminating the latest developments in bioinformatics/computational biology, fostering fresh dialogues and perspectives to learn about and shape the future of the field. 2017 brings to the forefront interest in the activities of the ISCB's Communities of Special Interest (COSIs) who have previously organized the Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings at the conference. With the active participation of the COSIs, ISMB/ECCB 2017 will be more streamlined and will have an outstanding scientifically effective program.

The new conference format will retain the key features that make ISMB a successful open conference specifically talks, poster sessions, and opportunities for scientific exchanges. ISMB is 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 2017 format will showcase cutting edge research that spans the realm of excellence, while promoting a new structure intended to bring a new energy and flow to the conference by centering it thematically around the vibrant ISCB COSI communities.

TISMB-ECCB 2017 will enable intensified community involvement and bolster its reputation as the leading conference in the field, with the strongest scientific and technical program that showcases the best international developments in bioinformatics and computational biology.

As in past conferences, ISMB/ECCB is looking forward to incredible science through the lens of five distinguished keynote presentations delivered by leaders in the fields of computational biology and bioinformatics.

Opening up the conference will be ISCBs 2017 Innovator Award Keynote ,Aviv Regev, a computational and systems biologist. Aviv Regev is a professor of biology at MIT, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator, and the Chair of the Faculty and the director of the Klarman Cell Observatory and Cell Circuits Program at the Broad Institute. She studies the molecular circuitry that governs the function of mammalian cells in health and disease and has pioneered many leading experimental and computational methods for the reconstruction of circuits, including in single-cell genomics. Her talk titled Reconstructing Cellular Circuits: From Cells to Tissues will be held Friday evening.

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WIN A FREE REGISTRATION TO ISMB/ECCB
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ISCB SUPPORTS NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH INTERIM RESEARCH PRODUCTS POLICY CHANGE

UPCOMING AFFILIATED CONFERENCES



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James Sharpe, EMBL-CRG Systems Biology Unit Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG), speaking on Saturday Originally captivated by computer programing, later at Oxford University James Sharpe saw the mystery of multicellular development as even more amazing: How the circuitry of gene regulation vaguely resembles electronic control circuits, but with a totally distributed control system (every cell containing the same genome, and thus the same circuit).

Presenting on Sunday, this years Overton Prize Award Keynote is Christoph Bock from CeMM Research Center for Molecular Medicine of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. Christoph Bock is a principal investigator at the CeMM Research Center for Molecular Medicine of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. His research focuses on dissecting the role of epigenetics in cancer and on developing high-throughput technologies for precision medicine.

Zhiping Weng, Director of Program in Bioinformatics and Integrative Biology Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology at the University of Massachusetts Medical School will present her talk titled ENCODE Encyclopedia: Featuring a Registry of Candidate Regulatory Elements and the Visualization Tool SCREEN for Searching Them Monday morning. Dr. Weng develops and applies computational methods to study biological problems, e.g., gene regulation by transcriptional and post-transcriptional (small silencing RNA) mechanisms and protein-protein interaction. Dr. Weng is a key member of the ENCODE consortium and heads its data analysis center. She is also a member of the data analysis center of the psychENCODE consortium. Her lab performs integrative analysis on the rich genomic, epigenomic, and transcriptomic data generated by the two consortia.

Rounding out the conference will be the ISCB 2017 Senior Scientist Award Keynote, Pavel Pevzner from the University of California at San Diego. Pavel Pevzner is Ronald R. Taylor Professor of Computer Science and Engineering and Director of the NIH Center for Computational Mass Spectrometry at University of California, San Diego. He holds Ph.D. from Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, Russia. He was named Howard Hughes Medical Institute Professor in 2006. He was elected the Association for Computing Machinery Fellow in 2010, the International Society for Computational Biology Fellow in 2012, and European Academy of Sciences member (Academia Europaea) in 2016.

The Career Fair is making a return to the exhibit hall and website! Post CVs and resumes, search recent job posting of available positions at top companies through the ISCB Career Center. ISCB members will again have access to the career center for free! After a successful introduction to the Recruiters area, ISMB/ECCB 2017 will be welcoming back a handful of prominent companies and institutions looking to recruit top leading talent. Apply, interview and Get that job all in one place! Be sure to check back closer to the conference for a full listing of recruiters!

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.

While in Prague be sure to join conference delegates for a fun evening in support of ISCB Travel Fellowships at U Fleků. The Brewery and Restaurant U Fleků is one of the most famous and most visited Czech cultural venues in Prague.

And don't forget to join us at the ISCB Town Hall! Open to all attendees, 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 direc- tion and scope of ISCB. Register now to make sure you are part of this world class computational biology meeting!

Don't miss your chance to discover, innovate and connect July 21 - 25, 2017 at the Prague Conventional Center in Prague, Czech Republic.

GLBIO 2017: MARK YOUR CALENDAR

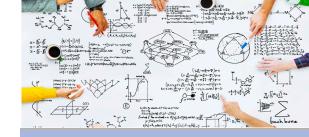
12th Annual Great Lakes Bioinformatics Conference: GLBIO 2017!

An official conference of the International Society for Computational Biology and organized by the Great Lakes Bioinformatics Consortium, is scheduled to be held May 15-17 this year in Chicago, IL. Hosted by the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC).

The conference program will include 4 outstanding keynote speakers from the Chicago area, oral and poster presentations as well as a variety of special sessions on various intriguing topics. From novice to expert, attendees have the opportunity to participate in a variety of workshops, tutorials, presentations, networking events and exhibits.

GLBIO has established a strong reputation for building relationships among a nationally prominent bioscience research community, showcasing the North American Great Lakes region as a perfect place to conduct computer-aided research. Additionally, there is a special event this year called Lunch N' Learn where students will have an opportunity to explore academic programs to continue their education in the Great Lakes region.

For more information please visit: www.iscb.org/glbio2017



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

ISCB Art in Science Competition --- Deadline: June 01, 2017

ISCB invites submission to the 2017 ISCB Art in Science competition

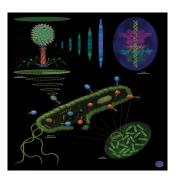
All interested members (hereafter referred to as "artists") may submit images that have been generated as part of a research project and other creative efforts that involve scientific concepts or employ scientific tools and methods.

https://www.iscb.org/iscb-art-in-science-competition











WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND THE COMP BIOCONFERENCE 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

Prague, Czech Republic July 21-25, 2017

The International Society for Computational Biology names eight members as the ISCB Fellows Class of 2017

The International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB) has elected eight deserving scientists as Fellows of the ISCB. The ISCB Fellows program honors members that have distinguished themselves through outstanding contributions to the fields of computational biology and bioinformatics. The ISCB Fellows Class of 2017 comprises:

Alex Bateman, European Bioinformatics Institute-EMBL
Anders Krogh, University of Copenhagen
Daphne Koller, Stanford University
Andrea Califano, Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center
William S. Noble, University of Washington
Lior Pachter, Caltech
Olga Troyanskaya, Princeton University
Tandy Warnow, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

These individuals will be recognized for their contributions to computational biology and bioinformatics at the ISCB members meeting on July 24, 2017, during the Society's 25th Anniversary annual international conference on Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB) in Prague, Czech Republic.

The elected individuals will join the distinguished ISCB fellow class that increases now to 64 members (https://www.iscb.org/iscb-fellows).

The outcome of this year's election is presented with tremendous pride. "ISCB Fellows represent the absolute pillars of our community," stated Alfonso Valencia, ISCB President. Each of these very accomplished researchers has made exceptional contributions to the ISCB's mission to advance the scientific understanding of living systems through computation. Valencia continued, "ISCB Fellows are an increasingly active group of the Society, driving the scientific excellence of our field and opening new avenues to our community."

According to Bonnie Berger, 2017 ISCB Fellows Selection Committee, Chair, "the ISCB Fellows represent the full range of our field, from contributions that are fundamental to computation to those that reveal novel biology through computationally-minded analyses. We hope to further emphasize diversity of research, gender, and geography next year."

Please join us at ISMB/ECCB 2017 to congratulate these distinguished individuals!

BUSY SPRING FOR FASEB PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) advocates for issues important to our members. The International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB) is a member of FASEB, and its delegate to the FASEB Board is Harel Weinstein, DSc. In addition, FASEB's Finance Committee is led by FASEB Treasurer and ISCB member, David Rocke, PhD. Their active engagement helps FASEB better represent ISCB and its members.

To support ISCB and other members of the Federation, FASEB develops and shares resources for biological and biomedical researchers. In December, FASEB launched a tool to help biomedical and life science investigators identify suppliers of research organisms ranging from algae to mice, fruit flies, and maize. The Database of US Providers of Research Organisms aids researchers searching for stock centers, living collections, and commercial providers. It contains more than 120 database entries spanning the academic, nonprofit, government, and commercial sectors. Researchers can search by type of organism and use a beta search feature to guery by genus and species.

FASEB also promotes the programs of its member societies. This spring, FASEB released a compilation of professional development opportunities for trainees at FASEB societies, including ISCB. The effort aimed to make it easier for trainees to identify and take advantage of the many benefits their professional societies provide.

To inform policy decisions, FASEB compiled updated information in February on research funding trends for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and on the education and employment of biological and medical scientists. Analyses of NIH grant funding showed increases in research project grants as well as R01-equivalent awards as a result of the \$2 billion increase in NIH appropriations in 2016. Further analysis showed that success rates for R01-equivant awards reached 20.0 percent, the highest since 2006.

FASEB also developed advocacy resources for researchers. On November 16, FASEB hosted a webinar on the effect of the 2016 elections on biological and biomedical research. The session also discussed the funding outlook for NIH, the National Science Foundation, and other research agencies operating under a continuing resolution (CR). In addition, the webinar offered an overview of tools individuals can use to contact their members of Congress via email and social media, tips to ensure that messages are effective, and data to explain the importance of NIH funding in states and districts. The archived presentation is freely available on the FASEB website. These advocacy tools were put to the test on March 9 during the Federation's annual Hill Day. A record-breaking 55 research advocates came to Washington, DC, for meetings with 113 congressional offices. FASEB volunteers, including ISCB's David Rocke, explained the importance of completing a budget for fiscal year (FY) 2017 and ending the CR.

Looking ahead, members of the FASEB Public Affairs Committee will meet with the directors of 13 NIH institutes in May. In June, FASEB will host its annual Science Policy Committee symposium on convergence science. FASEB is also collaborating with the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to host the Workshop on Responsible Communication of Basic Biomedical Research: Enhancing Awareness and Avoiding Hype. The workshop will bring together scientists, journalists, public information officers, and others to determine best practices for accurately and responsibly communicating science.

To learn more about FASEB's efforts to support science funding, sign up to receive the Washington Update newsletter and FASEB's e-action alerts.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

GLBIO 2017
May 15 - 17, 2017
Univ. of Illinois at Chicago

July 21-25, 2017 Prague, Czech Republic

RECOMB/ISCB
Conference Regulatory
and Systems Genomics
with DREAM

November 19 - 21, 2017 New York, NY



Communities of Special Interest (COSIs) are member communities of shared interest that are self-organized and have multiple activities or interactions throughout the year, rather than solely meeting during the SIG program of the ISMB conference. An important goal of any COSI is to foster a topically-focused collaborative community wherein scientists one another communicate with research problems and/or opportunities in specific areas of computational biology.



Find out more and join in... http://www.iscb.org/iscb-connect

MEMBER GET A MEMBER CAMPAIGN

Do you have a vast network of potential proffesional members?



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

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 fellow-ships, 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.

ISCB supports National Institutes of Health interim research products policy change

Open access to data, software and publications enables scientific progress and is a core and foundational principle of the International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB). ISCB was delighted to learn of and fully supports The National Institution of Health's policy, which allows investigators to cite their interim research products, such as preprints, and claim them as products of NIH funding.

Pre-print servers have emerged as a rapid and important means for molecular and computational biologists to make their data and discoveries widely available prior to publication in peer-reviewed journals. ISCB's two affiliated journals, Bioinformatics and PLOS Computational Biology, have for years encouraged the submission of papers previously deposited in pre-print servers.

The availability of these data forms are the basis of our ability as computational biologists to mine and integrate data from several sources in order to make new discoveries. This principle forms the basis of our professional activity as Bioinformatians and Computational Biologists and underlies our Society's mission to advance understanding of living systems through computation and to communicate scientific advances worldwide.

ISCB is pleased to learn that the National Institutes of Health also sees the great value of interim research products and therefore strongly supports the recent policy change. ISCB will continue to encourage the deposition of papers in preprint servers, in the same way that we support the deposition of software and data in the appropriate repositories prior to publication in peer-reviewed journals.

It is, however, still largely misunderstood how important this data is and ISCB will continue to work towards educating other funding agencies on this matter.

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-17-050.html



SCS @ ISMB/ECCB 2017

The ISCB Student Council is excited to announce the 13th Student Council Symposium (SCS) which will be hosted, preceding ISMB/ECCB 2017, at the Prague Congress Centre in Czech Republic on July 21, 2017. The SCS is an annual student-organised event, with a goal to highlight latest research from a wide variety of subfields of bioinformatics and computational biology.

SCS 2017 will bring an exciting program that includes keynote talks, contributed talks, poster session, and a social event in the evening. The symposium is a great opportunity to hear talks from an international group of students, learn about latest advances in computational biology, and build a worldwide scientific network.

We are pleased to announce our keynote speakers, Prof. Christine Orengo from University College London (UCL) and Dr. Johannes Söding from Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry. Additional keynote information can be found online.

Prof. Orengo is an expert in bioinformatics and her research group, at the UCL, focuses on understanding how protein domains are conserved over evolutionary time and developing methods to predict protein function. Our second keynote speaker, Dr. Johannes Söding, is mostly known for his work on developing advanced statistical methods for improving the detection of distant evolutionary relationships on protein sequences, improving multiple sequence alignments and p

There is still time to submit research to be presented at the 13th SCS! The deadline to be considered for an oral presentation is May 14, 2017. Poster abstracts must be submitted by June 23, 2017. Submission details are available at http://symposium.iscbsc.org

Key Dates

May 14, 2017
Oral presentations abstract & travel fellowship app deadline
June 23, 2017
Poster abstract deadline
July 21, 2017
13th Annual Student Council Symposium

You can help us spread the word by letting your colleagues know about the SCS 2017, and by using the hashtag #SCS17 on social media.

We look forward to welcome you in Prague this summer!

Julien Fumey (Chair) & Mehedi Hassan (Co-chair)

www.symposium.iscb.org

Career Corner @ ISMB/ECCB 2017

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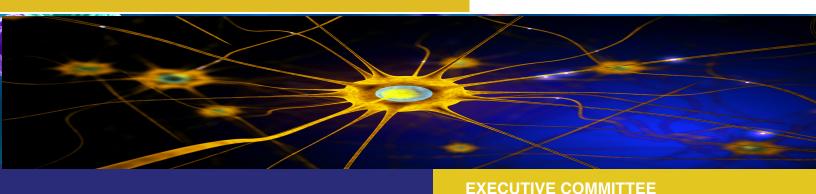
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ISCB AFFILIATE CONFERENCES

2nd Interdisciplinary Signaling Workshop Hungary - Pest County – Visegrad Jul 17, 2017 through Jul 21, 2017 http://signalingworkshop.org/

5th RECOMB Satellite Workshop on Computational Methods in Genetics United States - CA - Los Angeles Jul 27, 2017 through Jul 28, 2017 http://computationalgenomics.bioinformatics.ucla.edu

6th RECOMB Satellite Workshop on Computational Cancer Biology
United States - CA - Los Angeles
Jul 28, 2017 through Jul 29, 2017
http://computationalgenomics.bioinformatics.ucla.edu

InCoB 2017 (16th International Conference on Bioinformatics) China - Guangdong – Shenzhen Sep 20, 2017 through Sep 22, 2017 http://datamining-web.it.uts.edu.au/bioinformatics/index.html

Indian Conference on Bioinformatics 2017 (Inbix'17) India - Rajasthan – Jaipur Nov 07, 2017 through Nov 09, 2017 http://www.inbix.bioclues.org

BIOSTEC'18: International Joint Conference on Biomedical Engineering Systems and Technologies Portugal - Funchal, Madeira Jan 19, 2018 through Jan 21, 2018 http://www.biostec.org/ Alfonso Valencia, Ph.D. President Bonnie Berger, Ph.D. Vice President Terry Gaasterland, Ph.D. Vice President Thomas Lengauer, Ph.D. Vice President

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