



International Society for Biocuration

Newsletter August 2013



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ISB ELECTIONS

Election Calendar

- ☞ **17 July**, Call for candidates
- ☞ **13 August**, Potential candidates must have registered their intention to run with the Nominating Committee.
- ☞ **28 August**, Letters of intent and conflict of interest must be submitted.
- ☞ **4 September**, Final list of Candidates and their letter will be announced on the ISB website.
- ☞ **11-17 September**, Election Week!



2013 Election of the ISB Executive Committee



Call for Candidates

The election of the new ISB Executive Committee will be held in September.

The Executive Committee is composed of nine (9) members, each with a 2-year term. This year there are five (5) open positions, as the terms of Alex Bateman, Chisato Yamasaki, Marc Robinson-Rechavi, Renate Kania and Teresa Attwood come to completion.

Membership of the Executive Committee is a great way to become directly involved with the work of our society, and contribute to the decisions that are taken on behalf of the biocuration community.

We would like to encourage all members interested in running for election to become involved in the process.

Electoral Process

- § To run for election, candidates are required to submit a short biographic sketch, and complete a 'Conflict of Interest' statement describing any activities, memberships of other associations, editorial positions on journals, etc. In the first instance however, you should register your intent to run with the nominating committee at isbelection@gmail.com
- § The nominating process started on July 25 and will end on August 28, 2013.
- § The Nominating committee will review the candidacies and make them available to the ISB membership on the 4th of September.
- § Voting will take place online over the course of one week on September 11 - 17 (details will soon follow).
- § Only paying members with registration fees cleared on or before September 11 will be entitled and allowed to vote.

News and Views from the ISB Community

GigaDB: Revolutionizing data dissemination, organization, and use



With the goals of making research articles more transparent, the research itself reproducible and reusable, and large-scale data easily accessible and citable, GigaScience hosts the complete data sets associated with each published article in a comprehensive public database, GigaDB (<http://gigadb.org/>). Some datasets from the BGI (our parent organization) are also included in GigaDB, although we are not yet taking direct submissions. To maximize utility to the research community and beyond, all datasets in GigaDB are placed under a CC0 waiver, which means data are free from any restrictions on reuse.

Datasets are assigned a permanent DOI, which resolves to a dataset landing page. This contains an overview of the dataset, links to all associated resources and articles, as well as all the data. The use of DOI's provides users with a familiar method for citation in articles that make use of the data, which in turn enables the data producers to obtain credit and usage metrics through citation, indicating the value of datasets.

To handle transfer of enormous datasets, GigaDB has adopted the Aspera Connect Server (<http://goo.gl/hkW1D6>), which includes the downloadable Aspera Connect Web Browser Plug-in, providing a free, fast download option for all users via the web interface.

Our newly released version of GigaDB features a search with filters to allow users to find relevant datasets directly in the database without the need to know the DOI. To further facilitate the identification of useful datasets we intend to expand the sample-metadata database and encourage submitters to provide extensive sample metadata, allowing us to extend and improve future search features.

Submitted by Chris Hunter.

Upcoming Conferences

The 12th International Conference on Ontologies, DataBases, and Applications of Semantics (ODBASE 2013).

<http://goo.gl/NYDj73>

When: Sept 10-11, 2013

Where: Graz, Austria

What: The conference on Ontologies, DataBases, and Applications of Semantics for Large Scale Information Systems (ODBASE'13) provides a forum on the use of ontologies and data semantics in novel applications. Of particular relevance to ODBASE 2013 are papers that bridge traditional boundaries between disciplines such as databases, social networks, mobile systems, artificial intelligence, information retrieval, and computational linguistics. The organizers also encourage the submission of research and practical experience papers concerning scale issues in ontology management, information

integration, and information extraction, as well as papers that examine the information needs of various applications.

7th Int'l Workshop on Modular Ontologies (WoMO)

<http://lat.inf.tu-dresden.de/~dwalth/womo2013/>

When: September 15, 2013

Where: Corunna, Spain

What: Topics include, but are not limited to: What is modularity? Logical/foundational studies; Algorithmic approaches; Evaluation of modularizations; Applications: semantic web; life sciences; earth sciences; bio-ontologies; natural language processing; collaborative ontology development, ontology versioning, and others.



Upcoming Conferences (Continued)

Workshop on Ontologies and Data in Life Sciences

<http://tinyurl.com/odls-2013-en>

When: Sep 19-20

Where: Koblenz, Germany

What: This workshop integrates workshops of two series: the workshop series Data in Life Sciences and Ontologies in Biomedicine and Life Sciences (OBML), thereby connecting two important areas of biomedical research. This connection covers the overall spectrum of biomedical information processing, from experimental data acquisition and data management, across analysis, structuring and interpretation of data, up to the development of structures of knowledge in the form of ontologies with their various applications.

Notes: Paper submission deadline: Apr 22, 2013

12th International Conference on Bioinformatics - InCoB2013

<http://ictbi.imed-cn.org/incob2013>

When: Sep 20-22, 2013.

Where: Taicang (China).

What: InCoB2013 has overall objective to provide a platform for experts and budding bioinformaticians to discuss and exchange ideas and thoughts on the development of bioinformatics in the Asia Pacific region.

HGV2013: 14th International meeting on Human genome variation and complex genome analysis

<http://www.hgv2013.org/home>

When: September 30th - October 2nd, 2013

Where: JW Marriott Hotel (19-3 Banpo-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul, South Korea)

What: HGV2013 will bring together human geneticists from around the world to explore and share the latest in genetic technology, cancer genetics, population genetics, genomic medicine and more.

BioCreative IV Critical Challenge & Workshop

<http://www.biocreative.org/events/biocreative-iv/CFP/>

When: October 7-9, 2013

Where: NCBI, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland.

What: BioCreative is a community-wide effort for evaluating text mining and information extraction systems applied to the biological domain. One key goal of BioCreative is the active involvement of the text mining user community in the design of the tracks, preparation of corpus and the testing of interactive systems.

NETTAB 2013: Semantic, Social, and Mobile Applications for Bioinformatics and Biomedical Laboratories

<http://www.nettab.org/2013/>

When: Oct 16-18, 2013

Where: Lido of Venice, Italy

What: The NETTAB 2013 workshop will explore mobile, social, and semantic solutions for bioinformatics and laboratory informatics. A savvy combination of these technologies could greatly enhance the research outcome of life scientists and markedly simplify workflows in biomedical laboratories.

Notes: September 13, 2013: Early registration deadline.

(Upcoming Conferences Continued)

Data wrangler. Oregon Health & Science University, Eugene, OR, USA. Posted August 4, 2013. More information available at <http://goo.gl/WkQQIk>

Young investigators. The Institute for Computational Biology of Montpellier, France. Posted on August 4 2013, Closing Date: 15 September 2013. For further details visit <http://goo.gl/Zrh3VQ>

PhD position. Semantic Web, biomedical ontologies, multilingualism, Montpellier, France. Posted July 2, 2013. Please find more information at <http://goo.gl/q7zb6>

Biocurator, Genestack, Cambridge, UK. Posted on May 24, 2013. Find more about this positions at <http://www.genestack.com/careers>

Biocuration Job Opportunities



Scientific Curator. Eugene, OR, USA. Posted March 23, 2013. Details available at <http://goo.gl/0pJMC>

Software Engineer. Zebrafish Model Organism Database, Eugene, OR, USA. Posted March 15, 2013. Find more about this position at <http://goo.gl/T5ZPh>

ISB is
social!

The International Society
for #Biocuration is on
Twitter @biocurator
#Bioinformatics
#BigData
#FollowUs



Follow the ISB group on
LinkedIn at
<http://goo.gl/kpmiH>



Share your ideas with members of ISB! Prepare a news article written to biocurators as the audience. In 260 words or less spread the word about new tools in your site, or tools for distribution to the wider community. Broadcast announcements and advances from your team to all the members of ISB by sending an email to intsocbio@gmail.com. The submission deadline for the September Newsletter is Monday, September 2nd at midnight (GMT).

Executive Committee Meetings

The ISB Executive Committee meets monthly. Minutes from the meetings are posted on the ISB website http://www.biocurator.org/executive_committee_minutes.html

ISB Newsletter Archive

Previous issues of this Newsletter can be found on the ISB website at <http://biocurator.org/newsletter.shtml>
M. Munoz-Torres edits the ISB Newsletter.

Kind regards,
The ISB Executive Committee.