

The AP* Retreat, SRHS, PJ, Feb 23, 2014

Report on APBioNet Asia Pacific Bioinformatics

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The Asia Pacific Bioinformatics Network

Endorsed By    

About APBionet (apbionet.org)

- Oldest and geographically most extensive regional bioinformatics society
- Founded to encourage, support and extend computational biology for translational research
- Primarily aimed at the infusing bioinformatics into life science research
- Provide a forum for networking

About APBioNet: 15 years old

- www.apbionet.org started in 1998!
- Incorporated on 22 October 2012
- **APBioNet – transforming bioinformatics in the Asia-Pacific region.** Khan AM, Tan TW, Schönbach C, Ranganathan S. PLoS Comput Biol. 2013 Oct;9(10):e1003317.

APBioNet Historical Milestones (selected)

- 1997: Bioinformatics survey of the region
- 1998: First Meeting at PSB Hawaii
- 1998: Endorsement by APEC TEL; APBioNet as first project of APAN
- 1999: APAN-APBioNet BioMirrors Project
- 2000: Involvement in S* Alliance; outreach start to Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei
- 2002: InCoB conference series
- 2003: IDRC Grant for BioGrid software
- 2004: APBioKnoppix; later BioSlax (2006)
- 2004: ASEAN-China Bioinformatics Workshop
- 2005: Affiliation with ISCB; ASEAN-India Cooperation; KOBIC cooperation
- 2006: InCoB Conference publishes in BMC Bioinformatics; outreach to Cambodia; Saudi Arabia; Pakistan; Vietnam
- 2007: IDRC grant for P2P dissemination of biomirror datasets; CanalAVIST project
- 2008: 2nd ASEAN-China; 3rd East Asia Bioinformation Network; 7th InCoB; BioSlax Server version; Dialogue with EMBnet.
- 2009: Formation of Asian Bioinformation Centers with A-IMBN
- 2010: InCoB 2010 conference in Tokyo
- 2011: InCoB/ISCB-Asia Joint Conference 2011 in Kuala Lumpur
- 2012: InCoB 2012 in home origin Bangkok, celebrating a decade run
- 2013: InCoB 2013 in Taicang, China

Transformation in past 15 years

- Build on Networks
- Build Database Resources
- Build Computational Services
- Develop training software
- Hold training courses
- Coordinate and organise conferences, workshops, meetings
- Inject bioinformatics into curriculum
- Publication of special journal issues in more than 3 different journals
- Policy meetings at governmental and intergovernmental level
- Reported in 2009/2010; all the following in progress
- Minimum Information about a Bioinformatics Investigation (MIABI proposed standard)
- BioDB100 initiative: 100 miabi-compliant integrated databases
- Partnership with International Society for Biocuration
- AuthorID, DocID data deposition
- EUAsiaGrid 1 Project
- etc
- etc

Institutional Support



- ASEAN
- ASEAN Dialogue Partners – China, India
- KOBIC
- ISCB
- FAOBMB
- IUBMB
- UNESCO
- Many universities
- Many national bioinformatics societies



- 2002: Bangkok, Thailand
- 2003: Penang, Malaysia
- 2004: Auckland, New Zealand
- 2005: Busan, South Korea
- 2006: New Delhi, India
- 2007: Hong Kong
and Vietnam by video link
- 2008: Taipei, Taiwan
- 2009: Singapore
- 2010: Tokyo, Japan
- 2011: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
co-located with ISCB-Asia
- 2012: Bangkok, Thailand
- 2013: Taicang, China
- 2014: Sydney, Australia
satellite of 18th IUPAB
- 2015: India or Indonesia ?
- 2016: Central Asia or Western Asia ?

InCoB

International Conference on Bioinformatics



*Connecting the Bioinformatics
Community in the Region*

12th International Conference on Bioinformatics (InCoB2013)

Taicang • China 20-22 Sept 2013



□ Highlights

- Theme – Biomedical Informatics in the Big Data Era: Data-Driven Biology and Medicine
- Keynote and invited speakers
- InCoB accepted papers
 - BMC Genomics (16 papers); BMC Bioinformatics (13)
 - New additions: BMC Systems Biology (10) & PeerJ (6)
- ICTBI co-located
- APBioNet Open meeting
- Student/Post-doc Travel Grant: US\$6000

International Conference on Bioinformatics (InCoB)

<http://incob2014.org>

incob2014.org

NOVOTEL SYDNEY BRIGHTON BEACH, SYDNEY NSW

31st July -
2nd August
2014



Keynotes (incl. Nobel Laureates)
Invited Plenary Speakers
Discussion Forums
Research talks
Workshops
Posters

CU@InCoB2014

Meet peers
Hear experts
Present your work
Publish your research
Interact with Bioinformaticians

13th Annual Conference of the Asia-Pacific Bioinformatics Network: Fostering bioinformatics in the Asia-Pacific region
Satellite meeting to IUPAB2014 Congress (iupab2014.org)



MACQUARIE
UNIVERSITY
SYDNEY ~ AUSTRALIA



Trade &
Investment

APBioNet Membership & Benefits

- A modest annual membership fee structure is proposed. Rationale
 - To attract Membership by providing tangible and visible membership benefits.
 - To encourage long term APBioNet Membership
 - To maintain low attrition rates
- General Benefits
 - Eligibility to apply for APBioNet Travel Fellowships and ISCB Travel Fellowships
 - Discounts at APBioNet events
 - Eligibility to represent APBioNet at key meetings and events
 - Mailing Lists
 - APBioNet Book Publication Discounts



APBioNet at BTN/GOBLET meeting

Amsterdam,
November 28, 2012
Bruno Gaeta (VP Education)

facilitate capacity development

- Champion: Erik (SGBC, SeqAhead). Members: Cath Brooksbank (EBI), Nicky (ASBCB), Pedro (IGC), Eija (CSC), Bruno (APBioNet)

iii) develop standards & guidelines

Action/tasks:

- Members: Cath (EBI), Nicky (ASBCB), Pedro (IGC), Celia (NBIC), Eija (CSC), Fran (ISCB), Erik (SGBC, SeqAhead), Bruno (APBioNet), Vicky (TGAC), Patricia (SIB).

vi) foster the international community of B3CB trainers

- Virtualisation task-force. Champion: Michelle (bioinformatics.ca) (Members: Bruno (APBioNet), Pedro (IGC))

Network

Participation in APAN TEIN2/3 and national RENs

- 1997 Singapore Research & Education Network (SINGAREN)
- Today every country has NREN of some kind or plans for one
- Bioinformatics is a big user



Asia-Pacific Advanced Network

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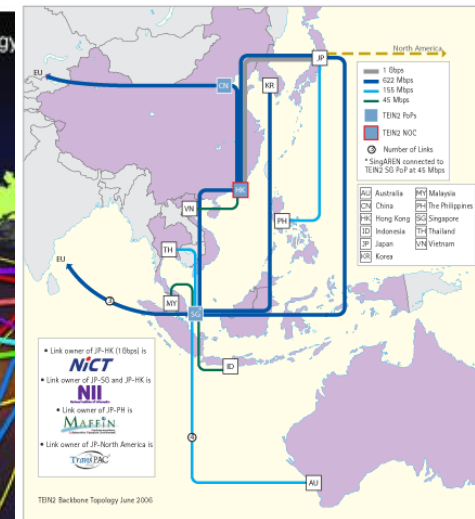
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The TEIN2 Network



Password

Collaboration with APBioNet

- We need **10 Terabytes** of disk space on grid or cloud to host MIABi/BioDB100 initiative
- We need **full hardware virtualisation platforms for our BioSlaxCloud version** for instantiation-on-demand of bioinformatics databases
- We need partners who will offer to **build interfaces** of bioinformatics grid applications and **integrate them in workflow** management systems

Please contact tinwee@bic.nus.edu.sg if you are interested. Thank you!

Feedback from you

- Join APBionet: <http://www.apbionet.org>
- Suggestions/comments to: sec@apbionet.org

