



ICBO: International Conference on Biomedical Ontology

University at Buffalo, NY, July 24-26, 2009

Preliminary Call for Papers

Ontologies are being used in a variety of ways by researchers in almost every life science discipline, and their use in annotation of both clinical and experimental data is now a common technique in integrative translational research. Principles-based ontologies are being developed for the description of biological and biomedical phenomena of almost every different type. To be maximally effective, biomedical ontologies must work well together. But as ontologies become more commonly used, the problems involved in achieving coordination in ontology development become ever more urgent. To address these problems there is a need for a general overarching conference involving representatives of all of the major communities involved in the development and application of ontologies in biomedicine. The ICBO conference is designed to meet this need. It will be held in conjunction with four days of ontology tutorials and classes to be scheduled from July 20-23, 2009.

Papers are invited in the following areas:

Ontologies for Chemistry and Molecular Biology
 Ontologies in Literature Curation, Text and Data Mining
 Ontologies for Clinical and Translational Medicine
 Ontologies for Cell Biology

Ontologies for Biomedical Investigations
 Ontology Engineering
 Ontologies and Standards
 Disease Ontologies

Areas of special focus will include:

Ontologies and the treatment of patient data
 Biomedical ontology and the Semantic Web
 The OBO Foundry and other ontology federations
 Reasoning with biomedical ontologies
 Evaluation of biomedical ontologies

Minimal Information for Biological and Biomedical Investigations (MIBBI) and related standards
 Defining disease in a new era of molecular medicine
 Ontology and natural language processing
 The role of ontology in the future of scientific publishing

Deadline: The deadline for submission of papers for presentation at the ICBO conference is March 31, 2009. Guidelines for submission will be published at <http://ontology.buffalo.edu/icbo>. To register your interest in attending, please write to: ontology@buffalo.edu.

Organizing Committee:

Barry Smith (Chair), University of Buffalo

Michael Ashburner, Cambridge University
 Judith Blake, Jackson Laboratory
 Suzanna Lewis (Co-Chair), Lawrence Berkeley Labs
 Yves Lussier, University of Chicago

Mark Musen, Stanford University
 Alan Ruttenberg, Science Commons
 Susanna-Assunta Sansone, EBI
 Chris Stoeckert, University of Pennsylvania

Sponsorship: ICBO is sponsored by the University at Buffalo College of Arts and Sciences, the National Center for Ontological Research (NCOR), the National Center for Biomedical Ontology (NCBO) and Science Commons.

Participation in this meeting by women, minorities, and persons with disabilities is strongly encouraged.