News, Opportunities and Deadlines for April 2019
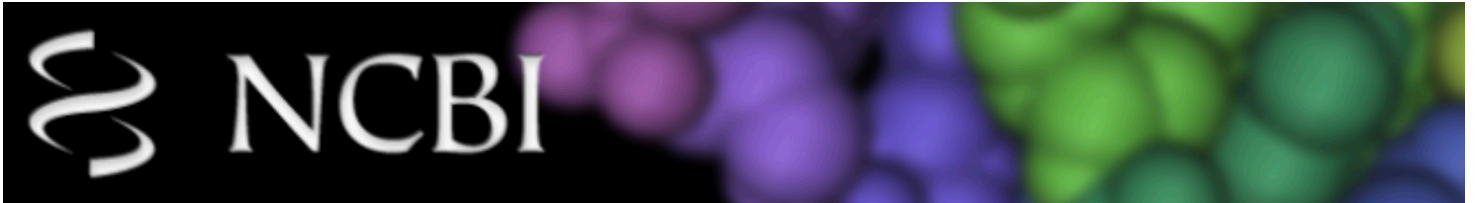

NCBI Computational Virology Workshop at LSU
New Orleans

SIGN UP HERE!

Computational virology learners will use data extracted from thousands of primary samples to characterize and/or phyletically cluster novel viruses and novel virus families. They will have the opportunity to bring their own datasets to the table as well!

All analysis will be taught in a computationally-reproducible way, and attendee insights will be made publicly-available on GitHub.

To be considered for inclusion, please fill out the form below in its entirety by Friday, April 5th. Particularly compelling applications may be accepted early.

To apply, please complete this form (approximately 5 minutes to complete). Again, initial applications are due **Friday, April 5th, 2019 by 5 pm CT**. Participants will be selected based on the experience and motivation they provide on the form.

If you confirm, please make sure it is highly likely you can attend, as confirming and not attending prevents other data scientists from attending this event. Please include an email address that you check regularly in case there are follow-up questions.

Note: Participants will need to bring their own laptop to this program. A working knowledge of scripting (e.g., Shell, Python, R) is useful but not necessary to be successful in this event. Employment of higher level scripting or programming languages may also be useful.

Applicants must be willing to commit to both days of the event.

It's unlikely that financial support for travel, lodging, or meals is available for this event.

There will be no registration fee or cost associated with attending this event.

For more information, or with any questions, please contact Ben Busby.

Health Disparties Conference

Louisiana is ranked near the bottom of all states in overall health. Substantial health disparities exist among minority and rural groups of people in incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of disease. Health and well-being disparities exist across racial and ethnic origin, as well as gender, sexual orientation, age, disability status, socioeconomic status, and geographic location. A systematic approach is needed to define major health disparities and well-being issues and generate and implement strategies to address these issues. LSU is committed to improving the health, well being, and longevity of Louisiana citizens through organized research, education and intervention strategies. The Health Disparities and Well-being Conference has three main goals: Outline the health disparities problem, Highlight current LSU and community efforts towards addressing health disparities, Foster collaborations to help develop and implement new intervention strategies. The Conference is open to all those interested to attend including the public. Registration is now open. Those registered will be receiving boxed lunch free of charge.

LBRN/CCT - Pine Biotech Fall/Winter Bioinformatics Program

Complex Gene Regulation in Neurodegenerative diseases

This project utilizes a multi-omics data integration approach that combines multilevel transcriptomics and epigenetics data to elucidate the underlying pathways in Angelman Syndrome pathology taken from the publication "UBE3A-mediated regulation of imprinted genes and epigenome-wide marks in human neurons." Lopez et al.; DOI: 10.1080/15592294.2017.1376151

BioInfoPLATFORM
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Bioinformatics Research Center

We are excited to share with you a new hands-on bioinformatics workshop on Epigenomics and Transcriptomics of Neurodegenerative Diseases. The workshop will take place at the Louisiana State University Center for Computation and Technology on **April 5, 2019 at 10:00 am** followed by a free lunch and the 7th Annual LA Conference on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics.

This workshop was prepared in collaboration with neurobiologists from University of Haifa, Israel

and is hosted by the [Louisiana Biomedical Research Network](#). The workshop will cover the various stages of RNA-seq, ChIP-seq, and Bisulfite-seq analysis including:

· Experimental design

· Alignment of raw reads

· Differential gene expression (RNA-seq)

· Peak calling (ChIP-seq)

· Differential methylation (Bisulfite-seq)

· Integration of different NGS signals across the genome

This is a **FREE event**, but we have limited seats, make sure to confirm your registration today to participate.

RSVP

LSU Computational Biology Seminar Series

April 8, 2019, 4:30 PM, DMC Rm 1034

LSU

Computational Biology Seminar Series

April 8, 2019
LSU Digital Media Center
4:30 PM – Room 1034

An Introduction to Deep Learning and Its Applications in Evolutionary Biology

Deep learning is an exciting new technology that powers things like self-driving cars and voice assistants. The success of deep learning methods comes from that fact that they are exceptionally powerful at pattern recognition. These methods are starting to catch on in biology too, especially in genomics where we often want to detect patterns in DNA sequences. In this talk I first provide a primer on deep learning methods. The goal of this primer will be to give you a gentle introduction to how deep learning models are built and trained. Then I will present some recent examples where colleagues and I used deep learning to make inferences in population genetic am an adjunct professor in the Plant and Microbial Biology Department at the University of Minnesota.

I am also a research scientist at Bayer Crop Sciences. At Bayer my work is focused on developing new methods to accelerate crop breeding, and in my faculty role I work on problems in deep learning and population genetics. In both cases I use genomic technologies to create large amounts of data, and computational and statistical approaches to gain insights.

Dr. Lex Flagel

University of Minnesota
Adjunct Professor

Department of Plant and Microbial Biology and Bayer Crop Sciences
Research Scientist

Meet n' greet with speaker
Free food and drinks!

LSU

LBRN

LA Conference on Computational Biology & Bioinformatics

7th Annual LA Conference on Computational Biology & Bioinformatics,
Friday **April 5-6, 2019**
@ **Center for Computation and Technology, LSU**

7TH ANNUAL LA CONFERENCE ON

COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY & BIOINFORMATICS

April 5-6, 2019 · LSU Digital Media Center · Baton Rouge, LA

- Cancer Informatics
- Microbiome and Metagenomics
- Health Informatics, Big Data, and Computing
- Translational Bioinformatics and Data Visualization
- Evolutionary Genomics and Phylogenetics
- Virology and Infectious Diseases

LSU
Center for Computation & Technology

LSU
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iSCB
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY
AFFILIATED CONFERENCE

LSU
CENTER FOR EXPERIMENTAL INFECTIOUS DISEASE RESEARCH
DIVISION OF BIOTECHNOLOGY AND MOLECULAR MEDICINE · SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Elodie Ghedin, PhD
Director of Center for Genomics and System Biology – New York University

Devin Absher, PhD
Faculty Investigator - Hudson Alpha Institute for Biotechnology

Byoung-Do (BD) Kim, PhD
Director of Research Computing - University of Virginia School of Medicine

Michael Robeson, PhD
Assistant Professor of Biomedical Informatics - University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Ying Xu, PhD
Professor of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology - University of Georgia

Jeremy M. Brown
Associate Professor at Biological Science - LSU

Isidore Rigoutsos, PhD
Director of the Computational Medicine Center, Professor, Thomas Jefferson University

Hanoch Kaphzan, MD PhD
Principal Investigator, Faculty member, University of Haifa

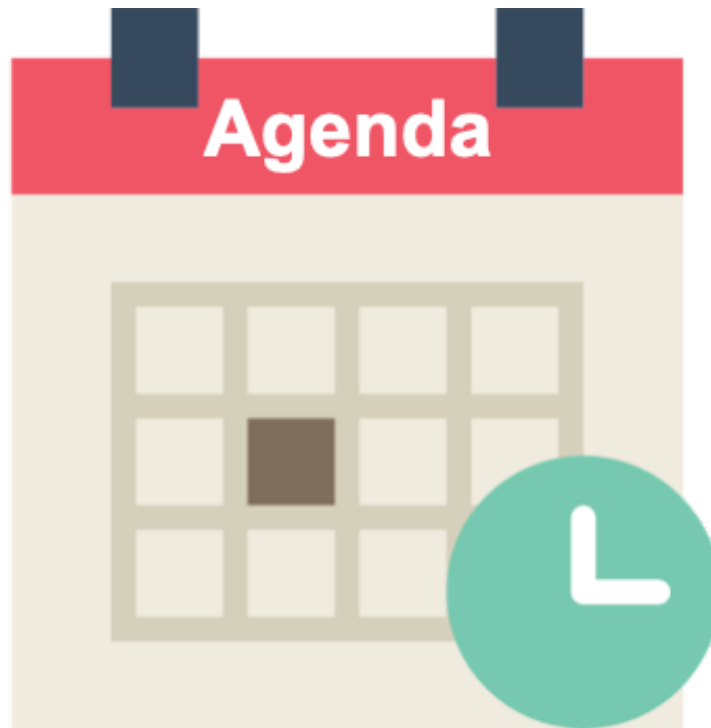Registration: https://lbrn.lsu.edu/conference-on-biology-and-bioinformatics.html

For a copy of our 2019 agenda, please click below.

The 7th Annual Louisiana Conference on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics is an ISCB Affiliated Conference.

We encourage attendees to consider joining the International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB) here

CFA for Short Term Core Pojects

Molecular Cell Biology Research Resources Core (**MCBRC**) and Bioinformatics, Biostatistics, and Computational Biology Core (**BBCC**) are calling for proposals to carry out short term projects in collaboration with the Cores. All LBRN researchers can submit a proposal for a defined project that can be carried out in collaboration with the Core facilities listed in the attached Call for Proposals (CFP) on a competitive basis. Each selected project will be allocated $1,500 to fully or partially offset Core expenses. More details can be found in the attached CFP.

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BBC Core Educational Resource

The BBC Core provides introductory educational lecture series on informatics topics that are recorded and streamed. Prior offerings that are available for on demand streaming include;

- An Introduction to Computers and Informatics in the Health Sciences

   http://metagenomics.lsuhsc.edu/lectures/introinformatics/

- An Introduction to Microbial Community Sequencing and Analysis

   http://metagenomics.lsuhsc.edu/lectures/intromicrobiota/

On demand streaming links are available by each lecture along with downloadable lecture slides.

LONI HPC Allocation for LBRN

We are happy to announce that High Performance Computing allocation for supporting LBRN/BBC Core community from the LONI HPC system.

This can be utilized in lieu of individual investigators having to apply for and acquire their own allocations to access the HPC resources. If any of your campus members need access to high performance computing, please have them interface with Dr. Nayong Kim.

NIH Extramural Nexus (NIH/OD)

- # CMS Seeks Input on Interoperability and Patient Access Proposed Rule and RFIs

Medicare and Medicaid claims data are a uniquely valuable, rich source of health information available to the NIH research community for observational and interventional research. On February 11, 2019, The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released a proposed rule to advance interoperability and patient access to health information. In addition, CMS released two RFIs to obtain feedback on 1.) interoperability and health IT adoption in post-acute care settings, and 2.) the role of patient matching in interoperability and improved patient care.

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- # NIH Annual Snapshot – FY 2018 By the Numbers

We recently released our annual web reports and success rate data with updated numbers for fiscal year (FY) 2018. These web products represent annual snapshots of NIH research investments, which are highlighted in this post.

The table below highlights these and some additional numbers from 2018 and past fiscal years as a comparison.

All Extramural Research (competing and non-competing, excluding contracts)	2016	2017	2018
Number of Awards	48,906	50,103	52,643
Total Amount (in million)	$23,541	$25,013	$27,112
Research Project Grants			
Number of research project grant (RPG) applications:	54,220	54,005	54,834
Number of new or renewal (competing) RPG awards:	10,372	10,123	11,071
Success rate of RPG applications:	19.1%	18.7%	20.2%
Average size of RPGs:	$499,221	$520,429	$535,239
Total amount of NIH funding that went to RPGs (both competing and non-competing): (in million)	$17,138	$18,321	$19,870

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- # Seeking Input on the Need to Enhance Access to NIH Grants Data

NIH has long been committed to transparency into who and what we fund. We have previously discussed the value of freely-available web tools that allow you to gain insight into NIH funding decisions. Award data available via RePORT and RePORTER, for instance, include non-sensitive information such as awardee institution, principal investigator, funding levels, research abstracts, as well as associated publications, patents, and other project outcomes. The data available through RePORT are quite powerful in their own right. However, compelling arguments exist for why researchers outside NIH should have access to even more information associated with the grants process.

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- # NIH IRL: Join Us at the NIH Regional Seminar

I recently mentioned how much I enjoy starting a conversation through the blog with you, the investigators, grants administrators, research staff, and others in the research community. At the NIH Regional Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration, I hold "Open Mike" sessions where I have no slides and no prepared remarks – I let the audience determine the topics we discuss. I love the opportunity for frank conversations about whatever is on your mind. While I meet with people in the grants community at many different events, the NIH Regional Seminar is one of my favorites because of the opportunity to hear in a common setting of the perspectives and challenges of investigators and research administrators.

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Top Stories

- # New Application Requirements for Institutional Training Grants: Letter of Institutional Commitment to Harassment and Discrimination Protections

NIH takes the issue of sexual harassment and discrimination very seriously. As such, beginning for

applications submitted for due dates on or after January 25, 2019, institutional training grant applications (T15, T32, T34, T35, T36, T37, T90/R90, TL1, TL4) must include a letter that describes the institutional commitment to ensuring that proper policies, procedures, and oversight are in place to prevent discriminatory harassment and other discriminatory practices. This letter should be included with other Letters of Support on the PHS 398 Research Training Program Plan form.

See NOT-OD-19-029 for additional details and instructions for this new requirement.

- # Revised NIH Grants Policy Statement for Fiscal Year 2019

NIH has released a revised Grants Policy Statement that applies to all NIH grants and cooperative agreements with budget periods beginning on or after October 1, 2018. This revised version does not introduce new policies, but it does incorporate all policy changes or updates made throughout the previous year and includes significant enhancements to improve the user interface, navigation, and search. Let us know what you think of the usability enhancements. We welcome suggestions for continued improvement!

Read the full announcement for details.

- # Note 2-Step Submission Process for RPPRs with Inclusion Enrollment Data

With the launch of the new Human Subjects System (HSS), there is now a new **two-step**submission process for any Research Performance Progress Reports (RPPR) reporting inclusion enrollment updates:

1. Submission of the inclusion data via HSS, followed by…
2. A separate submission for the full RPPR via eRA Commons

For additional details and instructions for signing officials and principal investigators, see this eRA Information page.

You Ask, We Answer

- # Where Should I Address the Inclusion Across the Lifespan Policy in My Application?

Applicants should include a rationale for the age range of study participants and justification for age-based exclusion in the Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Children section of the PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information Form (Section 2.4). This section will continue to have the heading "Inclusion of Women, Minorities, and Children" until the next forms update. See the instructions under Inclusion of Children in the application guide for additional information.

Have more questions on the Inclusion Across the Lifespan policy? Check out its FAQ page.

- # Still Have Questions on the NIH Early Stage Investigator (ESI) Policy?

Looking for answers to your questions on our Early Stage Investigator (ESI) policy? Check out the following highlighted frequently asked questions (FAQ) for information on how NIH defines and reviews ESI applications to promote the growth and stability of the biomedical research workforce.

How does NIH describe an Early Stage Investigator (ESI)?

An **ESI**, or **Early Stage Investigator**, is a Program Director / Principal Investigator (PD/PI) who has completed their terminal research degree or end of post-graduate clinical training, whichever date is later, within the past 10 years and who has not previously competed successfully as PD/PI for a substantial NIH independent research award. A list of NIH grants that a PD/PI can hold and still be considered an ESI can be found at https://grants.nih.gov/policy/early-investigators/list-smaller-grants. ESIs are encouraged to enter the date of their terminal research degree or the end date of their post-graduate clinical training in their eRA Commons profile to ensure their correct identification.

 Will all my research grant applications receive special consideration?

No. Only R01-equivalent applications will be identified as applications from Early Stage, or Early Established Investigators so that they can receive special consideration.

...Continue reading

New Resources

- ## Stay Updated on NIH Systems Changes Impacting Application Submission Through Award

What do a snow sled, a waltz, and an oriole have in common? They're all mentioned in past [eRA Items of Interest](#), a newsletter that delivers practical advice for using eRA services, and maybe even a smile or a laugh.

Stay up to date on eRA Items of Interest and more by subscribing to the [eRA-Information-L](#) listserv. Subscribers receive the latest on new eRA features, resources, planned system downtimes, system issues and solutions, and tips for avoiding common errors. For more on eRA listservs, see the [eRA Subscribe](#) page.

- ## New "All About Grants" Podcast on Using RePORT Web Tools Throughout the Grants Process

You probably know the NIH [RePORT suite of tools](#) as a useful hub of information where you can find reports, data, and analyses of NIH-funded research and answers to the most commonly asked questions on the NIH budget and extramural research programs. But do you know RePORT can be a helpful tool as you are developing your grant application?

In this next installment of the [NIH's All About Grants podcast series](#), Dr. Brian Haugen and Dr. Cindy Danielson from the NIH Office of Extramural Research join us to share their advice on applying these tools to help you throughout the grants process ([MP3](#) / [Transcript](#)). We touch on areas such as figuring out who to contact at NIH to discuss your research ideas, seeing what research projects NIH has funded, and how to apply these tools to strengthen your grant application. RePORT attracts over 120,000 unique visitors each month, so tune in to see what the excitement is all about and learn how you too can strategically use its tools.

- ## Uploading Studies to ClinicalTrials.gov Just Got Easier

When conducting clinical trials, NIH funding recipients are [required to register](#) their study at ClinicalTrials.gov. To make registration easier, a new feature in the eRA Human Subjects System (HSS) allows applicants and recipients to export study record entries as an XML file, and upload fields that are captured in both systems directly into ClinicalTrials.gov's Protocol Registration and Results System (PRS). With just a few clicks, users will have a good start on completing ClinicalTrials.gov registration.

For step-by-step instructions and more information, see [How to Upload Studies to ClinicalTrials.gov](#)and the [HSS: How to Export Study Record Data](#) video.

NIH LBRN Acknowledgement

So that we can most effectively communicate the scope and results of our funding support, we would like to know when you are planning news announcements about IDeA awards or program activities and achievements…

When you produce such material, please be sure to identify the IDeA program, not just the INBRE, COBRE or sub-program, and to provide context about the program's goals along the lines of:

The University of _____ has received $XXX from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Center of Biomedical Research Excellence. The IDeA program builds research capacities in states that historically have had low levels of NIH funding by supporting basic, clinical and translational research; faculty development; and infrastructure improvements.

In journal articles, news releases, or other materials about your program's activities or achievements, please use funding acknowledgement language such as:

Research reported in this {publication, release} was supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under grant number 5 P20 GM103424-15 and 3 P20 GM103424-15S1.

• In journal articles, oral or poster presentations, news releases, news and feature articles, interviews with reporters and other communications, acknowledge the IDeA program's full or partial support of the research. The citation in scientific publications should use the following format:

Research reported in this publication was supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under grant number P20GM12345.

• If you wish to acknowledge NIH/NIGMS funding on your Web site or other communication

product, you may use wording such as:

Funded by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institutes of Health.
or
Funded by the LBRN (P20GM12345)an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health.

Please do not use the NIH or NIGMS logo to acknowledge funding, as these logos are only to be used for material produced by NIH and its components.

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