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## News, Opportunities and Deadlines for March 2019

### LA Conference on Computational Biology & Bioinformatics

**Register Now!**

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



**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>

To register, please on the link below



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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](#)

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## Health Disparities Conference

**Save the Date!**

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**May 3rd, 2019**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**May 3  
2019**

Center for Computation & Technology  
Digital Media Center  
340 East Parker Blvd  
Baton Rouge, LA

**CONFERENCE**

# A STARK DIVIDE

Addressing Health Disparities  
in Louisiana

**LSU** | Office of  
Research & Economic Development

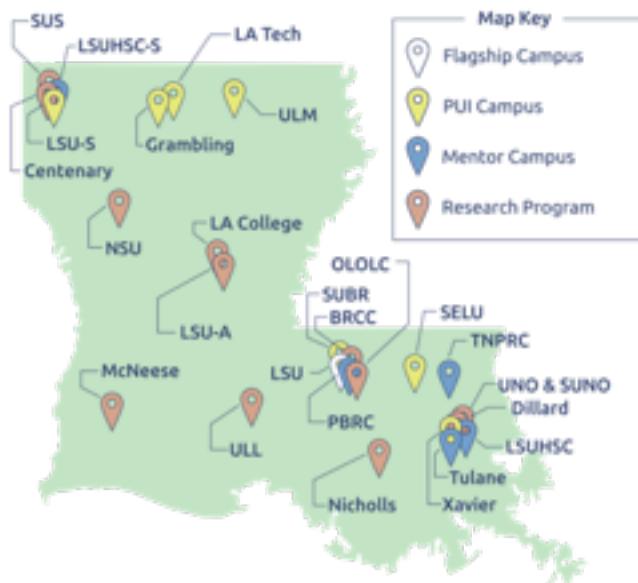
**LSU** | Center for Computation  
& Technology



*Online registration will open through LBRN webpage soon*

Summer Program and Recruitment

# Extended Deadline : February 15th, 2019



The aim of this network is to enhance the quality of biomedical research conducted throughout the state of Louisiana by increasing access to state of the art research infrastructure.

## What do students say about the LBRN program?

- Overall great view into the research world that is not given at my home institution.
- Gaining research experience and developing new friendships.
- Learning techniques in lab because that will be something I take with me forever.
- It gives students an opportunity to work in a research lab and it also allows them to determine what career path to follow.
- I've learned so much about research. My mentor has been very effective in delivering post-grad information.
- My research experience has reinforced my plans for the future.

## Program Date

May 20 - July 26, 2019



## Awards

- Undergraduate and Graduate students will receive support of \$4,000 and \$6,000 respectively
- Housing is provided, if needed

## Application Deadline

Friday, February 11, 2019

If you would like to know more about this program, please go to Research Programs at: <https://lbrn.lsu.edu/summer-research-program.html>

If you have any questions, please contact **Alexis M. White** at [lbrn@lsu.edu](mailto:lbrn@lsu.edu)

Louisiana Biomedical Research Network is supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health grant number 5P20 GM103424-15, 3P20 GM103424-1551 and the Louisiana Board of Regents for the purpose of improving the competitiveness of Louisiana biomedical researchers.



## Louisiana Biomedical Research Network

### Summer Research Program for Undergraduate and Graduate students

May 20—July 26, 2019



**Phone:** 225-578-9683  
**Email:** [LBRN@lsu.edu](mailto:LBRN@lsu.edu)  
**Web:** [LBRN.lsu.edu](http://LBRN.lsu.edu)

## Who are we?

Louisiana Biomedical Research Network was established in September 2001 with funding by NIH, NCRN's IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence Program (Grant P20RR016456) and National Institute of General Medical Sciences (Grant P20GM103424) and Louisiana Board of Regents, the LBRN program is committed to raising the research competitiveness of Louisiana researchers.

## What do we do?

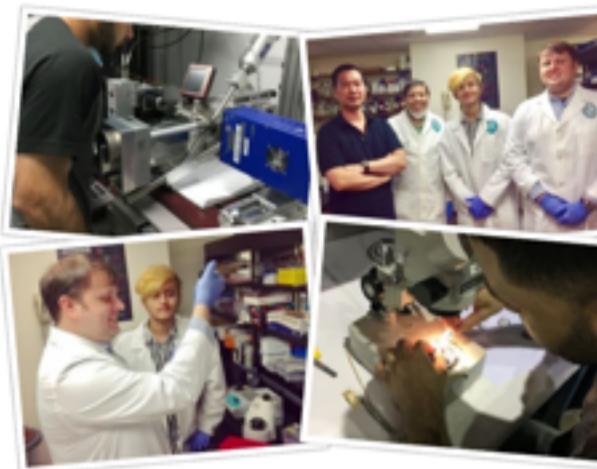
Louisiana State University A&M, in conjunction with the NIH/NIGM, is hosting research opportunities for eligible faculty, graduate and undergraduate students in Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, and Cell and Molecular Biology. Our focus is providing research opportunities to faculty and students from primarily undergraduate institutes in the state of Louisiana. Those interested in working on projects at the interface between the biological and computational sciences are encouraged to apply to this program. Women and members of under-represented minorities are urged to apply.

## Who can apply?

- Full-time undergraduate and graduate students with at least a 3.0 GPA.
- Students enrolled in a College or University in Louisiana (excluding LSU and Tulane).
- Students with research interests in the Biological or Computational Sciences.
- Students who have completed the appropriate science introductory courses.
- Students interested in attending graduate, medical or professional schools.

## What do you get out of the LBRN program?

- Hands on research experience in the laboratory and/or the field.
- Experience using different types of research instruments and techniques.
- Meet other young investigators from across the state and the country.
- Exposure to a wide range of ongoing research projects.
- Tips on scientific writing and presentation.



## Where will research be done?

- Work will be done in established laboratories at LSU School of Veterinary Science, Pennington Biomedical Research Center, LSUHSC in New Orleans or Shreveport, Tulane Medical Center and Tulane National Primate Research Center. Please contact the LBRN Program Office for details.

## Research Forum

The program culminates in a professional poster session (Summer Undergraduate Research Forum, SURF) where each participant presents the results of their summer project along with participants from multiple REU programs.



## Student Scholar Program

Eligible students will have the opportunity to continue their mentored research during the academic year.

## Future Plans

Participants are encouraged to attend local or regional science meetings to present their research.

## Mailing address

Louisiana Biomedical Research Network  
School of Veterinary Medicine  
Louisiana State University  
VMED 3110, Baton Rouge, LA 70803

The Summer Application are currently being accepted. Apply early and update as you go.

[Apply Here!](#)

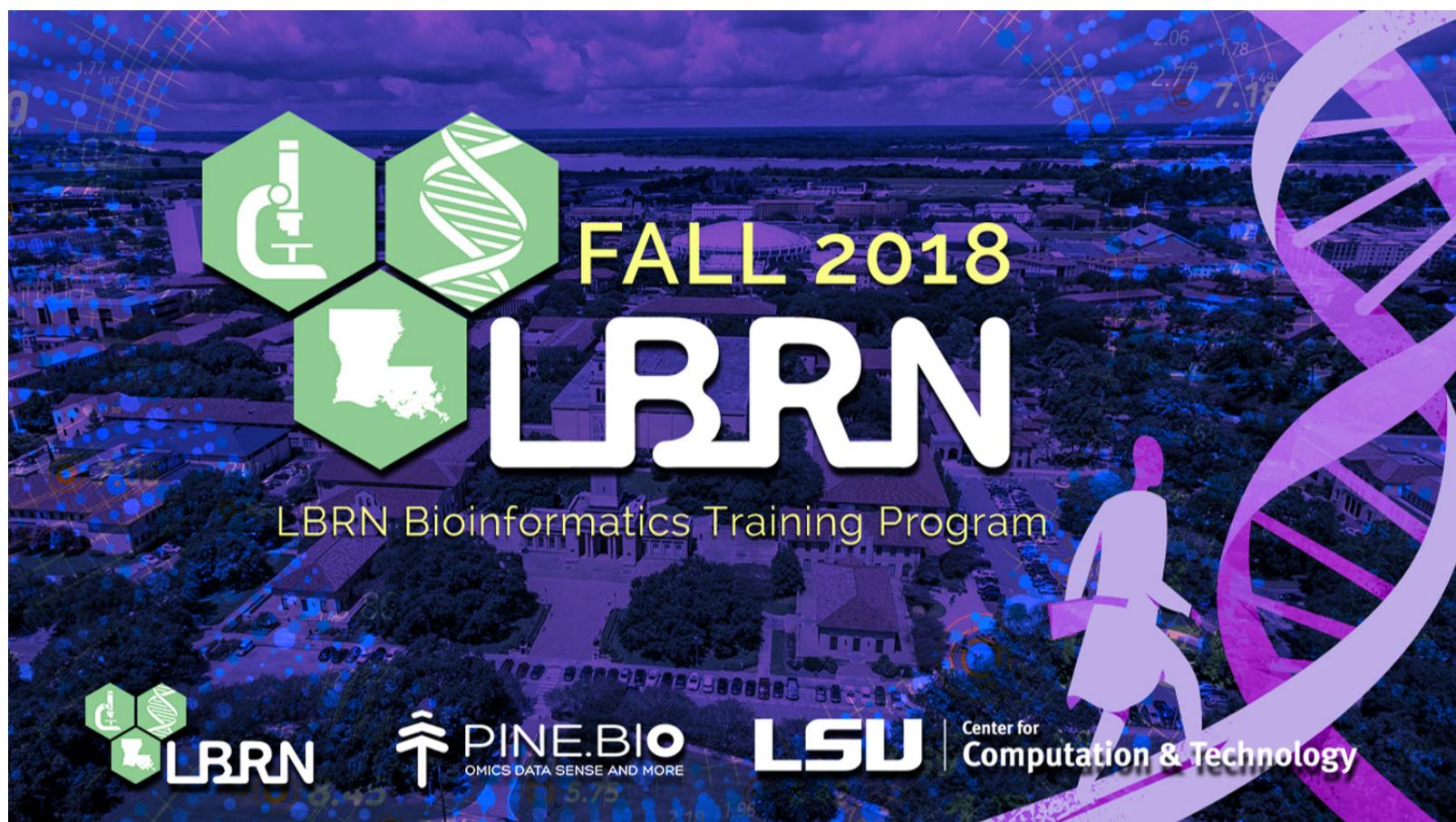
## CFA for Short Term Core Projects



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.

[More details can be found in the attached CFP.](#)

## LBRN/CCT - Pine Biotech Fall/Winter Bioinformatics Program



We are pleased to announce the CCT/LBRN - Pine Biotech Fall/Winter Bioinformatics Program for LSU/LBRN Network institutions Students, Grad and Undergrad, PostDocs and Faculty members.

- **Curriculum: The LBRN Fall/Winter Bioinformatics Training Program consists of 6 courses and 2 projects.**

In this curriculum, analysis skills are developed in a project setting that combines insight into the typical problems addressed by a bioinformatician and exposure to the analysis logic, highlighted by a unique online research and learning environment, the T-BioInfo platform (see more at <https://t-bio.info/>). The platform is a platform designed to be transparent and offers links to methods as well as downloadable code for some modules.

- **Modules Overview**

Program Modules descriptions: [LBRNCCT-2018-BioinformaticsProgram-modules-FALLWINTER-overview.pdf](#)

- **Program Sessions**

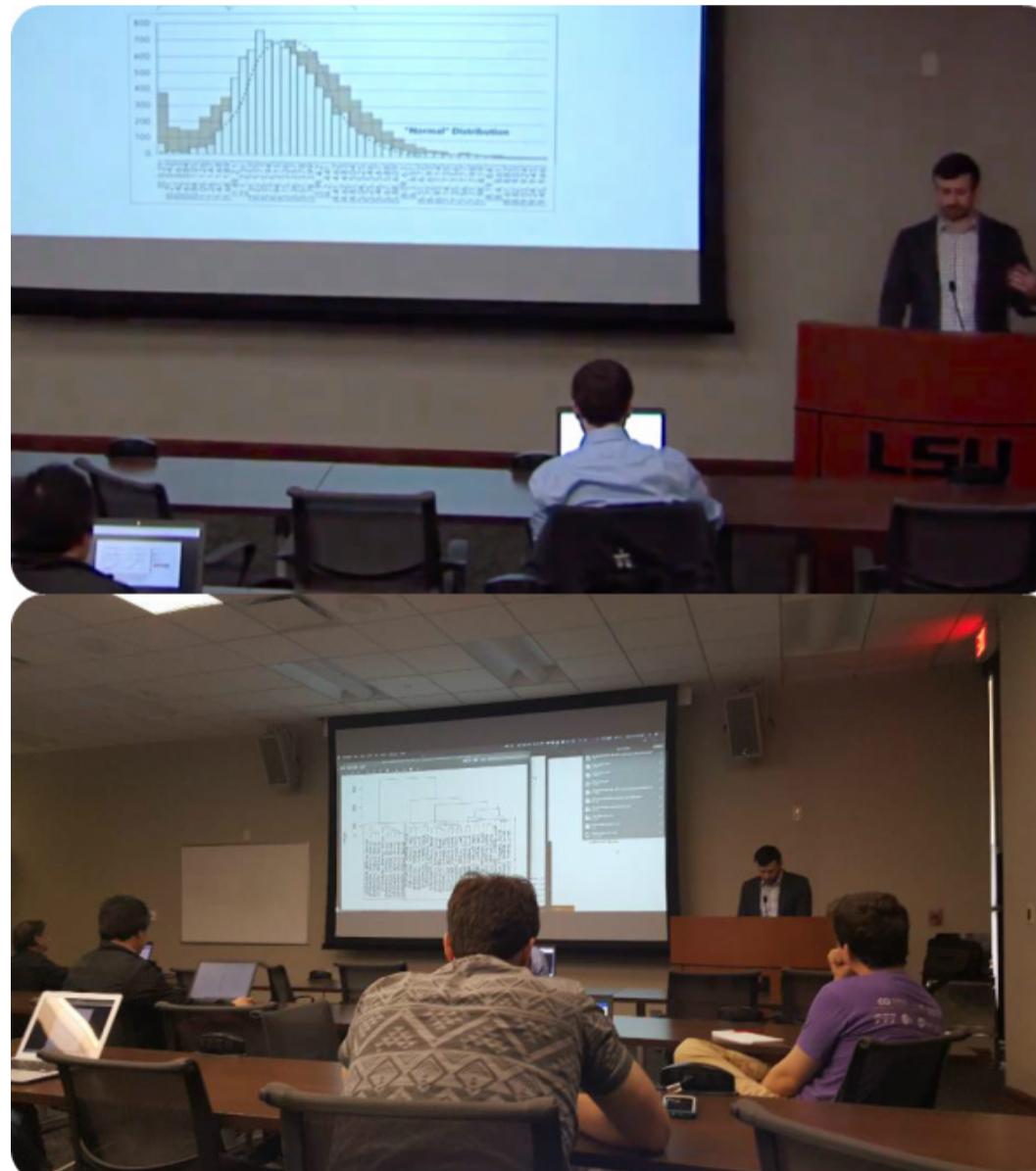
The program sessions will be available via (formerly ViewMe) Video conferencing software and on-site at Conference room# 1034 at Center for Computation & Technology, LSU, 340 E Parker Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70808. Details will be given to program registrants as the sessions progress.

Date	Topic	Date/Time
November 5, 2018	Introduction to Bioinformatics	10:00 am CST to 12:00 pm CST

November 9, 2018	Introduction to RNA Seq Course	10:00 am CST to 11:00 am CST
December 3, 2018	Introduction to Epigenetics Course	10:00 am CST to 11:00 am CST
December 10, 2018	RNA Seq Workshop	10:00 am CST to 12:00 pm CST
December 17, 2018	Introduction to Genomics Course	10:00 am CST to 11:00 am CST
January 18, 2019	Hands on Workshop	10:00 am CST to 12:00 pm CST
February 4, 2019	Genomics Workshop	10:00 am CST to 12:00 pm CST
February 25, 2019	Machine Learning Workshop	10:00 am CST to 12:00 pm CST
March 8, 2019	Introduction to MetaGenomics Course	10:00 am CST to 11:00 am CST
March 22, 2019	Machine Learning Workshop	10:00 am CST to 12:00 am CST
April 5-6, 2019	Bioinformatics Conference	TBA

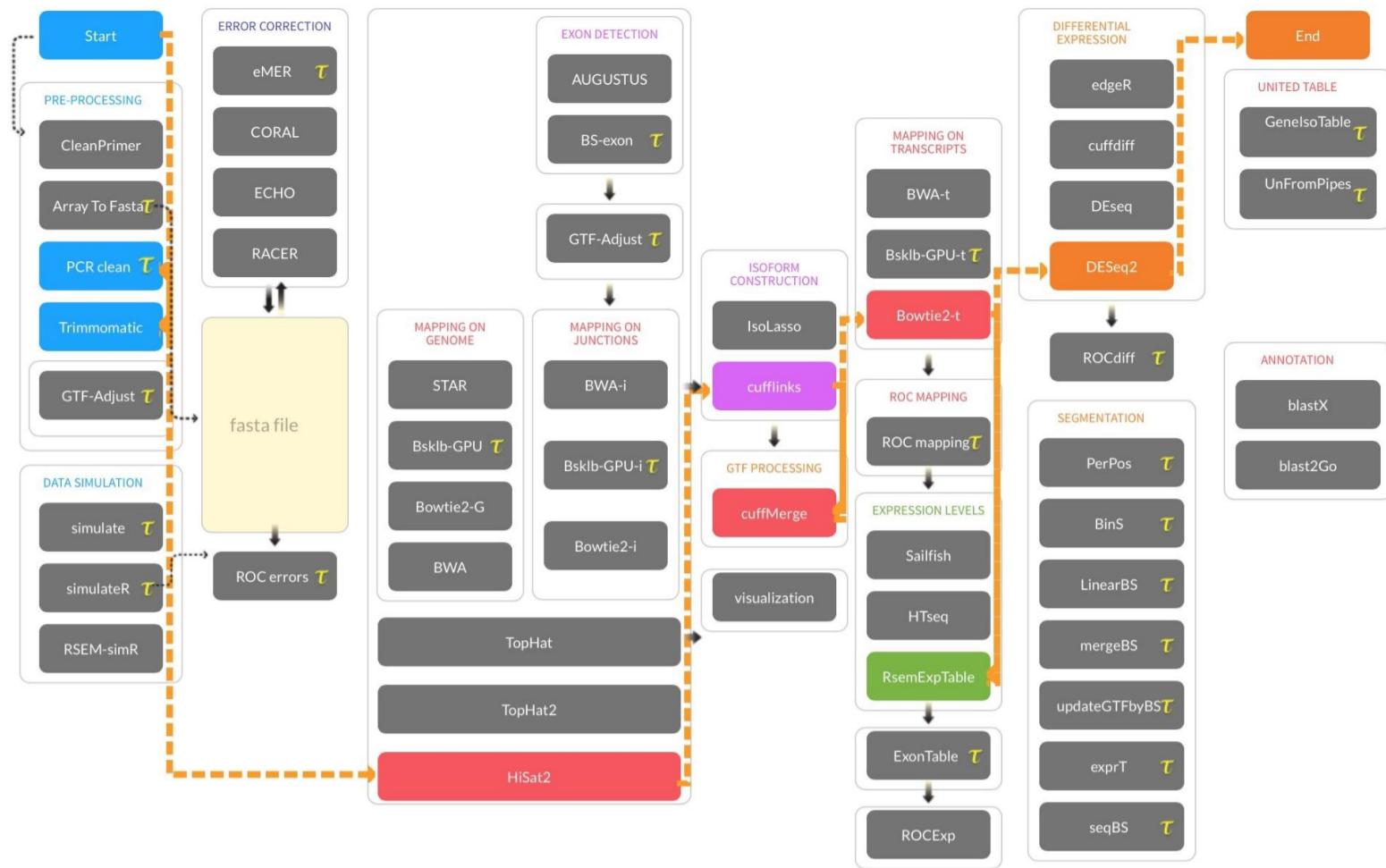
**\*\*March 22, 2019 (changed from March 28th)**

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On the last workshop, more than thirty researchers and students from the Louisiana Biomedical Research Network member campuses participated in the hands-on RNA-Seq workshop. The event was organized jointly by [Pine Biotech](#) and [LBRN](#) and was held at the [LSU Center for Computation and Technology](#) in Baton Rouge.

Before the workshop (see the video recording [here](#)), participants completed the online courses developed to prepare biologists for in-depth hands-on data analysis. These online courses on [Transcriptomics](#) cover processing raw sequence files and converting them to a table of expression ([Transcriptomics 1](#)), applying statistical methods and visualizing multi-dimensional datasets ([Transcriptomics 2](#)) as well as utilizing supervised and unsupervised machine learning techniques for data analysis and extraction of biologically meaningful signals from noisy data ([Transcriptomics 3](#)).



This RNA-seq training module is the first out of 6 planned modules for this academic year. All of the online materials are prepared in collaboration with bioinformatics specialists from [Tauber Bioinformatics Research Center](#) and other faculty from renowned US and international academic institutions. The program is designed for accessibility with non-technical users in mind. This user-friendly bioinformatics hands-on experience is made possible by utilizing the [T-BioInfo analytics platform](#) for multi-omics data analysis.

## 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.

## HPC Training



Our next HPC trainings will be held on Wednesday, February 13 at 9:00 AM in 307 Frey Computing Service Center and broadcast through WebEx for remote users.

Note that all HPC trainings will start at 9:00AM.

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### - Version Control with Git

Date: March 13,2019

Time: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Place: 307 Frey, LSU

Description: Version control system is used for tracking changes in computer files and coordinating work on those files among multiple people. It is primarily used for source code management in software development and also used to keep track of changes in any set of files. This tutorial gives an introduction to the Git version control software and will cover the following topics:

- Basic Git usage: create, manage and track changes in git repository
- Working with Git branch
- Remote repository

Prerequisites

- A laptop/desktop with Git installed, OR
- LONI or LSU HPC account to access the Git installed on cluster

### [Slides](#)

Registration: [Click Here](#)

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### - Data analysis in R

Topic: Data analysis in R

Date: March 20,2019

Time: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Place: 307 Frey, LSU

Description: R is a powerful language for data analysis. In this tutorial, you will learn the data analysis fundamentals with applications in R. The data pre-processing using R will be introduced first, then some basic statistical analysis methods such as linear regression, classification as well as re-sampling methods for the basic machine learning will be covered. A few examples of using R to process real-life data will be presented.

Prerequisites

- Laptop (Linux/Mac/Windows) with R installed. R can be downloaded from <https://cran.r-project.org/> or RStudio
- LONI or LSU HPC account & SSH client such as Putty for Windows
- Basic knowledge of R is not required, but will be helpful.

### [Slides](#)

Registration: [Click Here](#)

## - Introduction to Singularity: Creating and Running Containers on HPC

Topic: Introduction to Singularity: Creating and Running Containers on HPC

Date: March 27, 2019

Time: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Place: 307 Frey, LSU

Registration: [Click Here](#)

Please visit <http://www.hpc.lsu.edu/training/tutorials.php> for more details and register using the link provided.

Users who plan on joining remotely will be provided with a WebEx Link in their registration confirmation email.

Please see the system requirements at <https://grok.lsu.edu/Categories.aspx?parentCategoryId=3381>.

## 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)



### • Update on NIH's Efforts to Address Sexual Harassment in Science

Today we released a very important [statement](#) outlining actions NIH is taking to become part of the solution to address sexual harassment in science. I am including the full text of the statement below, as it speaks for itself. For additional information please visit our NIH [Anti-Sexual Harassment: for NIH Awardee Organizations and Those Who Work There](#) webpage.

*As the NIH Director [stated](#) in September, sexual harassment is about power. The goal of the perpetrator, most commonly but not exclusively a man, is to objectify, exclude, demoralize, diminish, and coerce the victim, most commonly a woman, to exert power over her. It's morally indefensible, it's unacceptable, and it presents a major obstacle that is keeping women from achieving their rightful place in science.*

*Victims of harassment know this all too well. Sexual harassment does not just damage the careers of those who have encountered it, it can leave deep scars and psychological effects that reverberate for a lifetime. The reports of scientists and students shared through the #MeTooSTEM movement portray a heartbreak story of opportunities lost, pain suffered, and a systemic failure to protect and defend. To all those who have endured these experiences, we are sorry that it has taken so long to acknowledge and address the climate and culture that has caused such harm. The [National Academies report on sexual harassment of women in science](#) found that "federal agencies may be perpetuating the problem of sexual harassment." We are concerned that NIH has been part of the problem. We are determined to become part of the solution.*

[...Continue reading](#)

### • 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. Better yet, if you want to see all of these data all at once, then [ExPORTER](#) allows you to download over 25 years' worth of such non-sensitive NIH grant award data.

Researchers have used this grant information in creative and thought-provoking ways to explore NIH funding decisions. For example, both [Fang, Bowen, and Casadevall](#) as well as [Li and Agha](#) analyzed post-award research productivity according to pre-award peer review scores. [Li, Azoulay, and Sampat](#) linked publications resulting from NIH awards to patents. [Boris et al](#) used RePORTER data to verify self-reported awards in the dermatology field. [Cleary et al](#) used RePORTER data to show that all recent new drug approvals were in some meaningful way linked to NIH funding. And as I wrote in [this 2017 post](#), Katz and Matter looked at some NIH data and described what they saw as [inequality and stasis in the biomedical enterprise](#).

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. In addition to the non-sensitive data, NIH maintains sensitive information collected via the grants process in its internal research administration systems. Such data includes information on peer review outcomes, progress reports, and demographics of individuals listed in NIH grant applications.

[...Continue reading](#)

## • 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. It's a great way to help connect you with my perspective, and mine with yours.

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 the perspectives and challenges of investigators and research administrators.

I'm not the only one who feels this way. We bring close to 100 staff from across NIH and HHS who are interested in making connections with you. The [1:1 Meet the Experts](#) is an invaluable chance to sit down face-to-face with NIH staff to get answers to your questions or to offer you further guidance, straight from the source. Our attendees have provided feedback that getting to know NIH staff on an individual basis during the 1:1 sessions is one of the best aspects of the seminar, and my NIH colleagues agree.

[...Continue reading](#)

## • Welcome the New Director for the NIH Center for Scientific Review – Dr. Noni Byrnes

It gives me enormous pleasure to extend my warm congratulations to a friend and colleague, [Noni H. Byrnes](#), Ph.D., for her [recent selection](#) as the new Director for the NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR).

CSR serves a vital role. Not only does CSR manage the receipt and referral of all grant applications for NIH and for other parts of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, dedicated CSR staff also oversee the peer review of approximately 75 percent of the more than 80,000 grant applications NIH receives each year. One can find more data on NIH peer review “in” the [NIH Data Book](#).

An analytical chemist by training, Dr. Byrnes first joined CSR in 2000 as a Scientific Review Officer. [Over the past 18 years](#), she has taken on increasing degrees of leadership and responsibility, most recently serving as Acting Director following [Dr. Richard Nakamura's retirement](#). Dr. Byrnes has led a number of high-profile efforts. She oversaw peer review activities related to [American Reinvestment and Recovery Act Challenge Grants](#), the [NIH Director's Common Fund](#), and the [All-of-Us program](#). She helped launch [a new framework](#) to increase collaborations with the scientific community and continuously evaluate all of CSR's 178 study sections. She spurred on the creation of CSR's [Review Matters Blog](#), a [Facebook page](#), and a [Twitter account](#) to communicate important issues around peer review. She has an extraordinarily deep knowledge and understanding of peer review and the critical role it plays in the health and future of the extramural biomedical research enterprise.

Please join me and welcoming Dr. Byrnes to this new role. My colleagues within the NIH Office of Extramural Research and I are excited to work closely with her.

## Top Stories

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### • **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.

Screenshot of the eRA Videos page on the NIH website.

The page title is "electronic Research Administration (eRA) Videos".

The left sidebar includes:

- eRA logo
- A program of the National Institutes of Health
- Other Web Resources
  - eRA Commons Registration & Accounts
  - eRA Training
  - Modules, User Guides & Documentation
  - Related NIH Guide Notices
  - PubRoster (Rosters of NIH Scientific Review Groups)
  - System-to-System
- Grants & Funding Info
  - NIH (OER)
  - AHRQ
  - CDC
  - SAMHSA
  - VA

The main content area displays a grid of video links:

Category	Link	Description	Length	Date Posted
eRA Commons: Features and Functions You Need to Know	<a href="#">eRA Commons: Features and Functions You Need to Know</a>	Tutorial to help principal investigators understand how to access important correspondence related to the receipt and referral of their grant application in eRA Commons.	4:06	9/24/2013
	<a href="#">Anchor link to distribute for video:</a> <a href="https://era.nih.gov/era_training/era_videos.cfm#grantapp">https://era.nih.gov/era_training/era_videos.cfm#grantapp</a>			
For Reviewers: Navigating Internet Assisted Review (IAR)	<a href="#">For Reviewers: Navigating Internet Assisted Review (IAR)</a>			
	<a href="#">For Reviewers: IAR Virtual Meeting</a>			
Institution Registration and Account Creation	<a href="#">Institution Registration and Account Creation</a>			
	<a href="#">Understanding Status</a>			
eRA Commons: Prior Approval	<a href="#">eRA Commons: Prior Approval</a>			
	<a href="#">xTRACT Features and Functions</a>			
Human Subjects	<a href="#">Human Subjects</a>			

## • Keep Filenames in Grant Applications Short and Sweet

Attaching a file to your grant application? Make sure the filename is under 50 characters.

eRA systems now enforce the long-standing 50-character limit for filenames used for attachments in grant applications. The file name length will be checked by ASSIST and other solutions that use our validation service pre-submission, so remember to keep those file names short!

For more details, see [eRA Submission Items of Interest](#).

## • 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](#).

## • 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.

### How are applications from ESIs identified in the review process?

The ESI status of the PD/PI(s), on any R01 Equivalent application will be determined at the time of submission. If the PD/PI(s) on the application is/are classified as ESI on the date the application is successfully submitted to Grants.gov, the application will be flagged as ESI and will receive special consideration during the review and funding process.

### What happens if I update my degree end date or my ESI extension request is approved after my application is submitted?

When NIH approves ESI extension requests or a PI updates their degree information in their eRA Commons personal profile after application submission, the ESI status for the application will be updated once the summary statement is released.

### If I have two different applications under consideration as an ESI and one is awarded, will ESI consideration be given for the other?

No. Only one substantial NIH independent research application can be awarded as an ESI. When an ESI-eligible application is pending and the PD/PI has been awarded another R01 or R01-equivalent application, the ESI status of the pending application will be updated after release of the summary statement to indicate the application is no longer ESI-eligible.

See the [Early Stage Investigators and Next Generation Researchers Initiative FAQ page](#) for more information.

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## New Resources

- **Roundup of R15 Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) and Research Enhancement Award Program (REAP) Resources**

As announced in [this guide notice](#), NIH now administers two programs using the R15 activity code. The Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) targeting undergraduate-focused institutions and the Research Enhancement Award Program (REAP) targeting graduate schools of arts and sciences and health professional schools that grant baccalaureate or advanced degrees. Both programs aim to expose students to research and strengthen the research environment of schools that have not been major recipients of NIH support.

Specific organization and principal investigator eligibility requirements are outlined in the funding opportunity announcements posted for each R15 program. Institutions must verify their eligibility at the time of application, as NIH no longer maintains the list of institutions ineligible for R15 grants.

To help you navigate these changes, please see the following resources:

- [Open Mike blog](#)
- [NIH Research Enhancement Award \(R15\) webpage](#)
- [Need Help Determining Organization Funding Levels for R15 Eligibility?](#)
- [Sample Provost Letters Certifying Eligibility](#)
- [R15 Frequently Asked Questions](#)

- **Quick Queries – Institutional Information on pending Reports and Award Dates are Just a Click Away**

Do you need to figure out if your institution is already registered in eRA Commons? Or which grants in your institution are due for closeout?

You can get to this information and more without even logging in to eRA Commons, thanks to eRA's [Quick Queries](#).

eRA offers five quick queries, each designed to retrieve specific information:

- **Grants Pending Closeout** (Find grants that will soon need to go through the closeout process)
- **Commons Registered Organizations** (See if an institution is already registered in Commons)
- **Progress Report Search by IPF (Institutional Profile) number** (Find grants with pending progress reports)
- **IPF Number Search** [Search for your institution's IPF number]
- **Issued Notice of (Grant) Award** (Get a list of awards made to your institution over a specific time period)

Three of these search options (Grants Pending Closeout, Progress Report Search by IPF number, and Issued Notice of (Grant) Award) require that you enter your institution's IPF number. The IPF number is assigned to your institution at the time the institution is registered in eRA Commons. If you don't know your IPF number, you can enter the name of your institution on the *IPF Number Search* screen and run the query to get it. Or you can log into eRA Commons and visit your Institutional Profile; the number is displayed on the top left side of the screen.

## **• Announcing a New Protection of Human Subjects Website**

On the new Protection of Human Subjects site, you can find useful information about proposing and conducting NIH extramural research involving human subjects, including policies, regulations, training, resources, and updated information on the revised human subject regulation (Common Rule).

We recently launched a new version of the human subjects protections website, moving it from its old url of <https://humansubjects.nih.gov> to its new home within our NIH Grants site, <https://grants.nih.gov/policy/humansubjects.htm>. Our new approach hopefully simplifies finding information about the protection of human subjects. Let us know what you think of the new site as it evolves over the upcoming weeks. Your suggestions are always welcome.

For those who have linked to or bookmarked previous human subjects site pages, please see this [table](#) listing the pages that have redirects.

## **Calendar**

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### **• Don't Let the Cold Weather Slow You Down...Spring Into Action & Register for the 2019 NIH Regional Seminar – May 15-17 in Baltimore, MD**

If you are new to working with NIH grants and ready to learn, engage and connect with others who are eager to gain a better understanding of NIH grant policies and processes...then register today for the Spring 2019 NIH Regional Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration! What can you expect?

- Over 100 NIH & HHS review, program, grants and policy experts in a central location, ready to meet and share with you.
- Over 650 fellow grant administrators, new investigators, grant writers and others who are also new to working with the NIH grants process.
- 15-minute personal chat times available with your choice of available NIH & HHS experts.
- 3 Tracks of Sessions: Administrators, New Investigators, & All Interests
- In-depth learning opportunities during the Optional Pre-Seminar Workshops (Wednesday, May 15). Topics include eRA Grant Application Preparation & Submission, eRA Accounts Post-Award Administration, Intellectual Property, Human Subject Reviews, and the basics of getting started with NIH (policies & process).
- Over 45 different topics during the 2-Day Seminar (Thursday-Friday, May 16-17)!
- A venue location at the beautiful Baltimore Inner Harbor with shopping, food, and fun things to do just steps away once the seminar is done for the day!



Want an inside look at what it's like at the NIH Regional Seminar and have 2 minutes? If so, check out this quick overview: [An Inside Look at the NIH Regional Seminar!](#)

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## 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:

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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:

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