The Swedish Bioinformatics Workshop has been arranged annually for over a decade with the aim to enable PhD students and post-docs from all over the country to meet and network amongst research peers. During this decade bioinformatics has evolved from being focused on sequence alignment and database mining to disparate research areas requiring specific skills and expertise, such as next generation sequencing data analysis, structural bioinformatics, and network science. The aim of SBW is to provide a friendly and welcoming place for young researchers in different areas of bioinformatics, regardless of methodological focus.

This year, the SBW will be held on 23-24 October in Gothenburg, at Lindholmen Science Center and is arranged by PhD students from both University of Gothenburg and Chalmers University of Technology. We believe that SBW should be focused on active participation and interaction and wanted to twist the standard format of keynotes and presentations with the help of problem-focused workshop sessions as examples of the interdisciplinary research environments where different bioinformatics methods are used.



The proposed program of this two day event includes three high-profile keynote talks, and the above mentioned workshop sessions where young senior researchers will lead pre-assigned workshop sessions proposing open questions that the participants will work around. Attendants will also have the opportunity to disseminate their research through poster presentations and selected short talks. This will give the participants the possibility to interact and identify potential future collaborators and learn where different skills are distributed in our research community. There will also be social activities in the evening for less formal networking opportunities.

We believe that SBW should be the natural meeting place for PhD students in fields related to bioinformatics in Sweden, and to incentivize this the workshop is by tradition free of charge for all young researchers. The Swedish Bioinformatics Workshop is also an event created for young bioinformatics by young bioinformaticians and the nature of this series of workshops hosted at different academic sites year after year, helps promote a bottom-up approach that actively includes rising researchers.

We believe SBW is an important opportunity in the academic career and hope that SBW2014 will be able to maintain this tradition!