With the onset of spring, RSG-India is glad to present before you the seventh edition of ‘CONNECT’. First, we give you a foretaste of ‘Google Calendar’ in the Initiatives section. We also focus on the regular sections, ‘Top 10 posts on the Message Board’ and ‘Topic of the Month (TOTM) – Bioinformatics and MATLAB’. Further, with the flourishing progression of the section titled ‘BIO-Innovation’, we include the link to a large number of Bioinformatics databases, called ‘Online Bioinformatics Resource Collection (OBRC)’. Lastly, we give you an update of the latest session held at CBDG-VIT. We also introduce a link to our Google Calendar Service at the bottom right corner of the newsletter.

We sincerely hope that you would find this edition much more informative and the RSG-India intent of academic excellence motivates you for all your current and future endeavors!

**RSG-India’s Initiatives – Spanning our wings…**

We have spoken about several initiatives of RSG-India including conferences, workshops and collaborations in the earlier issues of ‘CONNECT’. In this issue, we discuss one of our significant, but not yet widely used online initiative, the RSG-India Google Calendar. Google Calendar is a free time-management web application offered by Google. Events and tasks can be added to the calendar with dates, venue, deadlines and other related fields. Reminders can be configured to be sent at a time via e-mails, pop-ups and also as a SMS. Apart from this, invitations can also be sent to friends about personal events. Events can also be imported from Microsoft Outlook, etc. or synchronized with public calendars.

RSG-India Google Calendar is associated with our group since the past 2 years. It is updated daily by the core committee and all information pertaining to upcoming conferences, presentations and their respective deadlines for the submission of abstracts or papers. This is a more easy way to browse through events of interest rather than reading tons of mails/browse websites daily. You may subscribe to RSG-India Google Calendar service by following the steps illustrated at the following link: [http://tinyurl.com/6cr9teh](http://tinyurl.com/6cr9teh)

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**Post on the Message Board**

1. ADMISSION - Ph.D Program at ICGE, New Delhi
2. WORKSHOP - Introduction to Bio-medical Informatics at AIIMS
3. QUERY - Proteins and the calculation of RMSD
4. RESEARCH POSITION - M.Tech and PhD at IIT Kanpur
5. OPENING – M.Sc. in Bioinformatics and Biotechnology at IBAB

**CompBio Discussion Group (CBDG) – Updates**

The latest CBDG session at VIT focused on the discussion of a research paper ‘Identification and In silico Analysis of the functional SNP’s of the BRC1 gene’. The session was handled by Ambuj Kumar, a third year B.Tech Bioinformatics student at the VIT University.

The discussion started off with an introduction to SNP’s and in-depth explanation of each protocol used in the research. Further, each of these protocols were made clear to every member in the discussion. The session concluded with an overview of various servers and tools used in the research.

**BIO-Innovation - ‘Online Bioinformatics Resource Collection’**

The ‘OBRC’ contains links and annotations for over 2000 bioinformatics databases and software tools. The main purpose of ‘OBRC’ is to bridge the gap between the rising information needs of biological and medical researchers and the rapidly growing number of online bioinformatics resources. It is freely available, and has specificities such as:

- **Proteomics**
- **Resources, Enzymes and Pathways**
- **Structure Databases and Analysis Tools**

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**For queries and suggestions, Email us at:**
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**RSG-India Website:** [http://www.iscbse.org/rsrg/rsrg-india](http://www.iscbse.org/rsrg/rsrg-india)

**Google Group Message Board:** [http://groups.google.co.in/group/rsrg-india](http://groups.google.co.in/group/rsrg-india)