RSG-India is glad to present before you the third edition of ‘CONNECT’. First, we give you a foretaste of our new collaborations in the Initiatives section. We also focus on the regular sections, ‘Top 10 posts on the Message Board’ and ‘Topic of the Month (TOTM) – NGS – Next Generation Sequencing’. Further, with the flourishing progression of the section titled ‘BIO-Innovation’, we include the link to a online tool which is helpful to annotate viral metagenomic sequences - METAVIR. Lastly, we give you an update of the latest session held on Drug Discovery 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!

Contents

- Note to Readers.
- RSG-India’s Initiatives – ‘Google Calendar’.
- Top-10 posts on the Message Board.
- Topic of the Month (TOTM) – NGS – Next Generation Sequencing’.
- CompBio Discussion Group (CBDG) – Updates from VIT, Vellore.

RSG-India 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 throw light upon one of our significant, yet unpopular 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 an 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

NGS: Next Generation Sequencing: Summary

NGS - The high demand for low-cost sequencing has driven the development of high-throughput sequencing, which is also termed as Next generation sequencing (NGS). It is most commonly used and resourceful tool for biomedical research for the analysis of next generation sequencing data, which involves quality testing and mapping to a reference genome; it also includes variant detection, RNA sequencing and ChIP sequencing and SNP detection.

The various platforms available for NGS data generation are: 1) Illumia MiSeq 2) Illumina HiSeq 2000/2500 3) Roche 454 4) Ion Torrent 5) ABI SOLid 6) Pacific Biosciences 7) Illumina Genome Analyser and few others.

To retrieve meaningful information from NGS sequences, it needs to proceed using various online and offline softwares. Each sequencing platform has their own specific protocol and so are the tools to study and identify what is significant in biological perspective.

CompBio Discussion Group (CBDG) – VIT, Vellore

A Drug Discovery workshop on ‘insilico approach to Drug Discovery’ by Educept- Healthcare Solutions was held in VIT, Vellore as a session of CBG during graVITas’14 (Tech Fest) on 27th September. It was handled by 2 speakers- Akanksha Srivastava and Devashish Das. It was an interactive session, where in the participants cleared their doubts and queries while performing. The workshop gave an insight on the topics like Homology Modeling, QSAR, MDS, and several other softwares involved in the process. The participants were provided with a reference handbook and the required softwares as the part of workshop kit along with the participation certificate.

BIO-Innovation – METAVIR

METAVIR is a web server designed to annotate viral metagenomic sequences (raw reads as assembled contigs). A set of published viromes, identified as “public projects”, is already available, and your own data sets can be processed in a private environment.

For queries and suggestions, Email us at: rsg-india@iscb.org
RSG-India Website: http://www.iscb.org/rsg/rsg-india
Google Group Message Board: http://groups.google.co.in/group/rsg-india