

# ESMTB Infoletter

## August 2007



[www.esmtb.org](http://www.esmtb.org)

Dear colleague

with this ESMTB Infoletter you receive information about conferences, workshops, schools and open positions. Please send relevant information to be included in the next ESMTB infoletter to [info@esmtb.org](mailto:info@esmtb.org).

Best regards, Andreas Deutsch  
Dresden, 7 August 2007

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## Conferences

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**Biology without Borders at University of Trento, Italy**

**Date: 2007-10-02 to 2007-10-05**

As we try to increase our understanding of biology, the focus of research is shifting from parts to systems. This shift brings with itself a blending of tools, scientific fields, expertise, and people in order to properly address the new challenges that arise.

Biology without Borders recognizes such shift and aims to embrace it with a unique open format. Its focus will be theoretical and experimental approaches which are allowing a more complete and system level understanding of biology and which recognize the importance of evolution for achieving such understanding. Expected attendees are scientists with such a research agenda, irrespective of the tools they use or their background. The scientific exchange in this highly interdisciplinary setting will be catalyzed by the invited speakers.

A blend of conference and workshop, Biology without Borders is intended to provide the right stage to interact and discuss. Organized by the Microsoft Research - University of Trento Centre for Computational and Systems Biology (CoSBI), the meeting found the perfect setting for such stage in the beautiful medieval town of Trento, Italy. Over two full and two half days, participants will attend 30 talks in 6 sessions. Afternoons will be open, featuring small walks in and around Trento to refresh the mind. To enhance the quality of dis-

cussion and interaction, attendance will be limited to 60, including selected and invited speakers.

<http://www.cosbi.eu/events/bwb07.php>

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## Workshops

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**User Training Workshop on Multi-Cell Modeling Using CompuCell3D at Indiana University, Biocomplexity Institute**

**Date: 2007-08-13 to 2007-08-17**

CompuCell is an open source software modeling environment and pde solver. It is largely used for cellular modeling (foams, tissues, etc.), however, efforts are being made to include fluid simulation capabilities. Created in collaboration between groups at IU and Notre Dame, CompuCell provides an easy user interface for complex cellular modeling.

<http://www.compuCell3d.org/>  
<mailto:mawat@indiana.edu>

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**From Genetics to Mathematics at Zbaszyn, Poland**

**Date: 2007-10-18 to 2007-10-20**

It is going to be a "low-budget" event and because of that we want to know the number of participants as soon as possible. Please let me know before the end of May if anyone of you or your RTN young researchers is going to come. Everybody is welcome.

<mailto:lachowic@mimuw.edu.pl>

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## Open Positions

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### 8 Job Opportunities in Epidemiology at University of Lisbon (UL)

**Deadline for applications: 2007-08-31**

It is a pleasure to announce the Lisbon Epidemiology Consortium (CEL) recently launched as a joint venture of the University of Lisbon (UL) and Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciencia (IGC).

I would like to bring to your attention the open call for applications for seven 5-year research positions and one programme manager and ask you to bring this opportunity to the attention of potential candidates. We are seeking researchers with a diversity of profiles, including mathematical and statistical modelling, evolutionary biology, clinical epidemiology.

Deadlines are in August. For more information about the consortium, the positions and how to apply visit the link below.

Please contact: [M. Gabriela M. Gomes](mailto:M. Gabriela M. Gomes)  
<http://cel.igc.gulbenkian.pt/>

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### Postdoctoral fellowship on Classification methods for DNA barcoding at Unité Mathématiques et Informatique Appliquées of the INRA - Jouy-en-Josas

**Deadline for applications: 2007-09-01**

DNA Barcoding consists in assigning an individual to a given species according to the sequence of this individual at a given locus (for the animals, often a fraction of the COI mitochondrial DNA gene). The technique consists first in sequencing a sample of reference individuals for which the taxonomic status is unambiguous. This reference sample is then used as a training data set for a classification algorithm, which aims at assigning newly sampled individuals to a given species on the basis of their DNA sequence only.

The postdoctoral fellow will work in particular in the development and comparison of the effi-

ciency of various classification algorithms in this context. These algorithms include classical phylogenetic methods (e.g. neighbour joining, maximum likelihood), statistical classification methods (e.g. CART, Random Forest, neural networks, kernel and SVM methods) and coalescent-based methods. Methods that take advantage of recent advances in statistical learning and inference and in population genetics will be favoured in particular. The comparisons will be carried out on simulated data sets and also on well-characterized experimental data sets. In particular, the impact on the efficiency of the different methods of events like gene flow between species or population expansions will be investigated. The contribution of additional information at nuclear loci will also be considered. Finally the question of the detection of new species might also be addressed.

The position is opened for one year with a possible extension of nine months. It should start in September 2007. The salary will be around 1800 euros/month. The postdoctoral fellow will be mainly located at the Unité Mathématiques et Informatique Appliquées of the INRA - Jouy-en-Josas, near Paris, in strong interactions with two other laboratories (see below). A strong background in mathematics, statistics and computer science is requested for this position. An experience in interacting with biologists, especially population geneticists, will be a plus.

Interested candidates are invited to submit by email to C. Laredo and F. Austerlitz (see addresses below) the following elements.

- a CV with a list of publications
- two or three relevant publications
- an application letter
- the names and e-mail addresses of three referees.

Please contact: [Catherine Larédo](mailto:Catherine Larédo)

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### W2 Professor Position for Mathematics in Life Sciences at Faculty of Mathematics of TU Muenchen

**Deadline for applications: 2007-09-10**

Please contact: [Martin Brokate](mailto:Martin Brokate)  
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