Toward a bioinformatics Centre of Excellence

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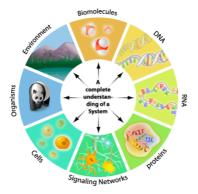






Bioinformatics, computational biology

 Development and use of computational methods for storing, analysing, and understanding (molecular) biological data







Background – activity at UiB

- · Bioinformatics established at II from 1990
- · Gradual build-up during 90s
- · Close links to MBI, Sars, and others
- Initiative to establish Computational Biology Unit 2001
 - Coinciding with birth of FUGE program
- CBU has grown since 2002
- CoE status stated as goal from 2002





Department of Informatics (II)

Jonassen Eidhammer

Computer Science Algorithms

Software engineering Visualisation

Computational Biology Unit (CBU)

Jonassen Lenhard (Sars) Reuter Berezovsky

Bridging groups

Service activity Infrastructure Programmers High performance computing

MBI

Aasland Reuter

Molecular Biology

Experimental activity Model systems Data generation Testing





Bioinformatics groups

- Inge Jonassen (CBU/II) Genomics, protein structure
- Boris Lenhard (CBU/Sars) Transcription, regulation
- Nathalie Reuter (CBU/MBI) Molecular dynamics
- Igor Berezovsky (CBU) Protein evolution and function
- Service group (CBU) FUGE service
- Pål Puntervoll (CBU/MBI) eSysBio
- Rein Aasland (MBI/CBU) Chromatin, motifs
- Ingvar Eidhammer (II) Proteomics
- Willie Taylor (CBU/II NIMR) 20% Protein bioinformatics









In total 30-40 persons



Externally funded projects include

- Gas and Biotechnology (II, Bio, MBI, TIGR) ~ 98-
- FUGE 2002-2012
 - CBU Bioinformatics platform (35M+12M from NFR)
 - NMC Microarray platform
 - Genofisk platform
 - Other projects (>3PhDs)
- eVita (eSysBio) with Parallab (BCCS) 18M
- Boris Lenhard YFF (10M) and BFS (8+8M)
- Nathalie Reuter BFS (7.2+7.2M)
- EU: InterPro, DESPRAD, Angiotargeting, Embrace, EUtracc,...
- · Strong support from UiB, faculty, II, MBI





FUGE platform positively reviewed

"Midterm" evaluation report:

- "The project is very well led and well organized"
- "In the Nordic countries, the [...] platform is the only one of its kind" "the platform has delivered more service to users than its [...] obligations"
- "... the platform has an excellent track record







nature biotechnology

PRIDE Converter: making proteomics data-sharing easy

Harald Barsnes¹, Juan Antonio Vizcaíno², Ingvar Eidhammer¹ & Lennart Martens²

¹Department of Informatics, University of Bergen, Norway. ²EMBL Outstation, European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI), Wellcome Trust Genome Campus, Hinxton, Cambridge, UK. e-mail: lennart.martens@ebi.ac.uk

nature methods

Accurate determination of microbial diversity from 454 pyrosequencing data

Christopher Quince¹, Anders Lanzén², Thomas P Curtis³, Russell J Davenport³, Neil Hall⁴, Ian M Head³, L Fiona Read³ & William T Sloan¹

PROTEOMICS

iTRAQ based proteomic profiling reveals increased metabolic activity and cellular crosstalk in angiogenic compared to invasive Glioblastoma phenotype

Computational prediction of the binding site of proteinase 3 to the plasma membrane

Eric Hajjar, ^{1,2} Maja Mihajlovic, ³ Véronique Witko-Sarsat, ⁴ Themis Lazaridis, ³ and Nathalie Reuter ^{1,4}



Authors

Uros Rajcevic¹, Kjell Petersen², Jaco C. Knol³, Maarten Loos⁴, Sébastien Bougnaud¹, Oleg Klychnikov⁴, Ka Wan Li⁴, Thang V. Pham³, Jian Wang⁵, Hrvoje Miletic⁵, Zhao Peng⁵, Rolf Bjerkvig^{1,85}, Connie R. Jimenez³ and Simone P. Niclou¹





Three developing areas

- New sequencing technology
 - New opportunities and challenges
 - On-going efforts in de-novo sequencing, metagenomics, chip-seq, RNA-seq, etc
 - Applied for NFR e-Infrastructure SEQ (April 22, 2009)
- Data integration and systems biology
 - eVita project eSysbio
 - Grid technologies, standardized data types, ...
 - Elixir ESFRI-project (European Bioinformatics Infrastructure)
 - FUGE service platform(s)
- Computational & model-driven biology







Strengthening bioinformatics activity at UiB

- Gives competitive advantage in functional genomics, systems biology, translational medicine, e-science,...
- FUGE platform & projects as well as eVita, BFS, YFF gives high activity
 - Needs to be based on strong bioinformatics research activity
- Need for UiB to support research and to secure longterm competence through
 - CBU groups including recruitment positions
 - New professorships
 - New engineer position(s)
 - Balance between permanent UiB staff and dynamic groups
- · Complement CoE with Norwegian Elixir (ESFRI) node
- Unified activity with critical mass at/around CBU



