Fall/Winter 2013

Dear Bioinformatics Core Users:

We hope you have taken advantage of the many services we offer. We would love to have your feedback. We invite you to participate in the survey we are conducting currently to plan assess your needs for the next year. **Follow this link to the Survey:** [https://purdue.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_b9QGo654DJdP1Ah](https://purdue.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_b9QGo654DJdP1Ah).

As always, I am happy to share with you the exciting things we have had the opportunity to do over the Fall semester.

**Showalter Trust Fund for Assistant Professors**

A generous contribution from the Showalter Trust Fund has allowed us to support assistant professors to conduct bioinformatics analysis of Next Generation Sequence data. The grants are meant to assist Assistant Professors to explore hypotheses with a view to generate preliminary data and facilitate a larger proposal. We have awarded 9 proposals to date and are not accepting any more proposals since we used up the available funds.

**Staff**

Jacob Shreve and Arun Seetharam have moved on to other positions in line with their career development goals. Jacob in particular was part of our initial start-up team and played an invaluable role in setting up the Center. We will miss them and wish them well in their new positions. We plan to replace one of the positions in Spring 2014. We are also looking for one graduate student from the College of Agriculture to work in the Bioinformatics Core starting Spring, Summer or Fall of 2014. I would encourage students interested in applying for this assistantship to become familiar with bioinformatics through appropriate coursework and by attending the workshops we offer. The candidate should be able to work in the Bioinformatics Core at least one calendar year. Please contact jyothit@purdue.edu if you want to discuss the position.

**Bioinformatics Analysis Services**

As you already know the Bioinformatics Core became a recharge center as per its original charter in 2013. I am happy to inform that we completed 26 fee based projects this year and I hope you will continue to use the Bioinformatics Core for your biological data analysis needs. We have been providing consultation to several users without charging any fee. Just as a reminder, a recharge rate of $60/hr was approved by the University Costing Office. This is a substantially subsidized rate from the original rate of $97/hr. This subsidy is made possible by the support from OVPR, College
of Agriculture, Ag Research at Purdue, College of Technology, Vet Med, Cancer Center, and Cyber Center.

Seminars and Training

The Bioinformatics Core offered the following workshops during Fall 2013, which were well attended.

Basic UNIX for Biologists – August 29, 2013
Differential Gene Expression using RNA-Seq – October 10, 2013
Phylogenomics – November 8, 2013

Apart from these workshops we provided 6 guest lectures in 5 different courses. If you have suggestions for workshops targeting other applications, please send your suggestions to bioinformatics@purdue.edu.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Cyber Center, ITaP, RCAC, and AgIT departments who have been accommodating the needs of the Bioinformatics community at Purdue.

Again, I would like to thank you for your encouragement and support. I would encourage all of you to contact me if you have any questions, suggestions, and most importantly, concerns.

Please note that the newsletters will be available at the Bioinformatics Core website.

Sincerely,

Jyothi Thimmapuram