

XII Symposium on Bioinformatics

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“Bioinformática con Ñ v1.0”: a collaborative project of young Spanish scientists to write a complete book about Bioinformatics

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Bioinformatics is a discipline where the number and variety of subjects is increasingly growing. From an educational perspective, this fact represents an important challenge. There are still few educational programs covering these subjects and in turn there is few educational material. In addition, most of the available material is written in English, what represents an additional bottleneck in the acquisition of new knowledge for non-native English speakers.

Here we present a project aiming to provide specialized educational bibliography on Bioinformatics for Spanish speakers. The idea of writing a book in Spanish language covering the most important topics in the field of Bioinformatics was born in the XIth Spanish Symposium on Bioinformatics in Barcelona two years ago. Different scientists have been involved in the project, from senior scientists to PhD students from different countries. Each of the chapters in the book has been written by specialists in the field and the whole book has been edited in LaTeX format that can be readily updated. The result consists on more than 500 pages where the following matters are covered: biomedical databases, sequence analysis, phylogeny and evolution, structural biology, including diverse topics such as docking, virtual screening or molecular dynamics, statistics and R, systems biology, programming skills, data mining, parallel computation, bibliography management and science article writing.

The book will be available in printed format for universities and research institutions and a digital version will be added to the European Multimedia Bioinformatics Educational Resource (EMBER). The book intends to be the beginning of an open project, where all the chapters are susceptible of being updated and new topics can be incorporated in future versions. Current book version can be accessed online at <http://goo.gl/UYG0o7>.