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Miguel P. Rocha, Nicholas Luscombe,  
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Juan M. Corchado Rodríguez (Eds.)

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# 6th International Conference on Practical Applications of Computational Biology & Bioinformatics



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ISSN 1867-5662

e-ISSN 1867-5670

ISBN 978-3-642-28838-8

e-ISBN 978-3-642-28839-5

DOI 10.1007/978-3-642-28839-5

Springer Heidelberg New York Dordrecht London

Library of Congress Control Number: 2012933123

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Printed on acid-free paper

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## Preface

In the last few years, the exponential growth of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology fields has increased the need for computational algorithms able to efficiently handle the huge amounts of data produced by new experimental techniques. In this context, the fruitful interaction of researchers from different scientific areas is, more than ever, of foremost importance for boosting the research efforts in the field and contributing to the education of a new generation of Bioinformatics scientists.

The International Conference on Practical Applications of Computational Biology & Bioinformatics (PACBB) is an annual international meeting dedicated to emerging and challenging applied research in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology. After successful recent events, the 6th edition of PACBB Conference will be held on 28-30th March 2012 in the University of Salamanca, Spain. In this occasion, a special issue published by the Journal of Integrative Bioinformatics will cover extended versions of best refereed works.

This volume presents the contributions that have been finally accepted for the 6th edition of the PACBB Conference after being reviewed by, at least, three different reviewers, from an international committee composed of 74 members from 12 countries. PACBB'11 technical program included 32 papers from a submission pool of 61 papers spanning many different sub-fields in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology. Therefore, the conference will certainly have promoted the interaction of scientists from diverse research groups and with a distinct background (computer scientists, mathematicians, biologists, etc.). The scientific content will definitely be challenging and will promote the improvement of the work that is being developed by each of the participants.

We would like to thank all the contributing authors and sponsors: IEEE Systems, Man & Cybernetics Society, CNRS (Centre national de la recherche scientifique), Plate-forme AFIA 2001, AEPIA (Asociación Española de Inteligencia Artificial), APPIA (Associação Portuguesa Para a Inteligência Artificial), as well as the members of the Program Committee and the Organizing Committee for their hard and highly valuable work and support. Their effort has helped to contribute to the

success of the PACBB'12 event. PACBB'12 wouldn't exist without your assistance. This symposium is organized by the Bioinformatics, Intelligent System and Educational Technology Research Group (<http://bisite.usal.es/>) of the University of Salamanca and the Next Generation Computer System Group (<http://sing.ei.uvigo.es/>) of the University of Vigo.

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