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## News

- **EMBnet is hiring an [Editorial Assistant](#)** to support the work of the Executive Editorial Board of EMBnet Journal; find out more at [www.embnet.org](http://www.embnet.org)!

## Up-coming courses

- **[Analysis of mapped NGS data with SeqMonk](#)**, 19 August 2015; **[Introduction to Solving Biological Problems with R](#)**, 20-21 August 2015, University of Cambridge (UK)
- **GTPB: [Proteomics Data Analysis](#)** (PDA15), 7 September 2015, Oeiras (PT). **Application deadline:** 15 August 2015; and **[Genomic Architecture of Complex Traits](#)** (GACT15), 28 September 2015, Oeiras (PT). **Deadline:** 11 September 2015

## Job opportunities

- **[2 Post-doc positions in Bioinformatics/ Biostatistics](#)**, [Conesa Lab](#), University of Florida (US): the first focuses on type I diabetes, the second on developing a pathway database for citrus to study and treat infections. **Contact:** [aconesa@ufl.edu](mailto:aconesa@ufl.edu)
- **3 Post-doc positions**, [MAB team](#), University of Montpellier (FR), to work with [evolutionary analyses of large-scale data](#); genomic analysis of virus sequences; and molecular epidemiology (the two last associated with the [VIROGENESIS](#) project)

## Events

- **11<sup>th</sup> International Digital Curation Conference**, 22-25 February 2015, Amsterdam (NL). [Registration](#) available from 11 November 2015
- **5<sup>th</sup> International School of Functional Genomics: [Computation as a driver of translational medicine](#)**, 28-30 September 2015, Catania (IT). **Early registration deadline:** 31 August 2015; standard registration after
- **[1st Danish National Workshop on non-coding RNA](#)**, 7 October 2015, University of Copenhagen (DK). **Register [here](#)**
- **[KAUST-UCI International Symposium on Epigenetics and Environment](#)**, 2-6 December 2015, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (SA). **Register before:** 5 September 2015
- **SMODIA15 Workshop: [Statistical Methods for Omics Data Integration and Analysis](#)**, 14-16 September 2015, Valencia (ES)

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## Recent highlights from the CNR Institute for Biomedical Technologies: EMBnet Italy

by *Domenica D'Elia*

The CNR-ITB research team in Bari, Italy, was among the pioneers of bioinformatics research in Italy. As a founder member of EMBnet, it served as the national bioinformatics service hub from 1989, and has continued to do so for more than 20 years.

Alongside this primary role, the Institute was also the first in Italy equipped with a 454 ROCHE Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) platform. The advent of NGS technologies has completely transformed how research is performed, requiring multidisciplinary collaborations and establishment of strong interconnections between wet-lab and bioinformatics researchers.

The Italian EMBnet team comprises biologists (specialising in functional genomics and transcriptomics, cancer research, neurological diseases, organism evolution and phylogeny) and computer scientists, statisticians and bioinformaticians (specialising in the development of analysis algorithms, databases and platforms for integrative bioinformatics).

Thanks to this wide variety of competences, the Institute is able to carry out research in:

- biomedicine and biotechnology applications for cancer research, and identification of diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers for multiple sclerosis, Parkinson and Alzheimer syndromes;
- functional genomics and transcriptomics, including the most recent focus on expression profiling of non-coding RNAs for



functional studies on their role in human gene expression, and genome epigenetic modifications in virus- and viroid-infected plants;

- biodiversity, involving development of bioinformatics tools for rapid identification of species and metagenomics studies.

Notable recent highlights come from two research lines, one focused on a [strategy for p53 re-activation in chemo-resistant clear cell Renal Cell Carcinoma \(RCC\)](#), the other focusing on the study of cross-kingdom interactions between miRNAs from edible plants, and human gene targets involved in cancer and age-related diseases. These projects are revealing interesting insights that could have significant impacts on the clinical treatment of RCC, and on the development of biotechnology applications in nutraceutical research for preventive medicine.

We welcome collaboration with members of EMBnet; to learn more, please feel free to contact Domenica D'Elia at [domenica.delia@ba.tib.cnr.it](mailto:domenica.delia@ba.tib.cnr.it).



The Global Bioinformatics Network