

# Editorial

Two million years of stone technology represent the first long era of discovery at the start of human history; the use of fire, more than 500,000 years ago, was also a significant discovery.

Fire has been called the foundation of human civilisation, and there are few things more vital than starting and maintaining one when you're in a survival situation.

The first Next Generation Sequencing technology in use in the realm of Life Sciences was "Pyrosequencing", a technology based on the use of the fire fly enzyme.

Therefore, the Editorial board of *EMBnet journal* has chosen for this supplement an image of a man and a torch in a balancing act, symbolising what this joint COST, EMBnet and ISCB Conference represents: rapid technological advances at the edge of technology, ushering in a new era of great discoveries.

*EMBnet.journal Editorial Board*

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