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Editorial

The articles published by EMBnet.journal during 2018 are a clear proof of the broad acceptance of Bioinformatics as an important and crucial research subject in the understanding of different aspects in the Life Sciences field.

Bioinformatics based research is not anymore, a science field limited to industrialised countries but is on a very explosive expansion in developing countries. This is shown in the article "Training Workshop on Mycobacterium Whole Genome Sequence Data Analysis organised in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia".

Other important aspects in modern Life Sciences research are the issues of handling the so-called Big Data. Training and knowledge in that field are issues that concern many research projects in Life Sciences and is imperative to work with computer scientists, mathematicians and statisticians to be able to handle and analyse the humungous amounts of data produced by new biotechnological technologies as NGS. In this issue these aspects can be exemplified on a report that shows how these issues can be discussed and how the students can be trained to obtain the necessary skills

to fulfil their goals. The article describes the topics, detailed content and timeline of events during the CHARME ATS on Big Data for Life Sciences, which took place at the Technical University of Catalonia (UPC) in Barcelona, September 3-7, 2018.

EMBnet is a global organisation and to emphasize this the EMBnet board decided to organise the 2018 Annual General meeting together with the ISCB and the SoiBio networks (Nov 5 – 9, 2018). The AGM and Conference took place in Vina del Mar, Chile. The Conference was announced as the "Fifth International Society for Computational Biology Latin America, SOIBIO and EMBnet Joint Bioinformatics Conference 2018 (ISCB-LA SOIBIO EMBnet 2018). The Conference was well attended and successful, a report will be published on the 2019 issue.

Last but not least the EMBnet network in 2018 celebrated 30 years since its foundation, on next issue a 30 years chronicle will also be published.

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