

## PREFACE

This book contains papers presented at the Eighteenth International Conference on Genome Informatics (GIW 2007) held in Biopolis, Singapore from December 3rd to 5th, 2007.

The GIW series provides an international forum for presentation and discussion of original research papers on all aspects of bioinformatics, computational biology and systems biology. Its scope includes biological sequence analysis, protein folding prediction, gene regulatory network, clustering algorithms, comparative genomics, and text mining. GIW has a history of 18 years and it is likely the longest running international bioinformatics conference. The first GIW was held at Kikai Shinko Kaikan, Tokyo during December 3-4, 1990 as an open workshop just before the Japanese Human Genome Project started in 1991. GIW 2007 was the first time that the conference was held outside of Japan.

The program committee of GIW 2007 received a total of 56 submissions from authors around the world (18 countries in total). Each submitted paper was reviewed by at least three members of the program committee. Based on their reports, 16 papers were accepted (29%) for presentation at the conference. These 16 papers appear in this book and are indexed in Medline. In addition, this book contains abstracts from the five invited speakers: Frank Eisenhaber, Bioinformatics Institute (Singapore), Sir David Lane, Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology (Singapore), Hanah Margalit, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Israel), Lawrence Stanton, Genome Institute of Singapore (Singapore), and Michael Zhang, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (USA).

The electronic versions of all these papers in this issue are also publicly available from the website of the Japanese Society for Bioinformatics (JSBi) (<http://www.jsbi.org/journal.html>).

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