



Call for Abstracts

Submissions are invited for poster and oral contributions to the annual meeting of the Bioinformatics Italian Society (BITS), which will be held at the Aula Magna of the Cavallerizza Reale, University of Turin, on June 27-29, 2018.

The following topics are covered during the conference (but are not limited to):

- Algorithms for Bioinformatics
- Biological Databases
- Gene regulation, transcriptomics and epigenomics
- Protein structure and function
- Systems Biology
- Molecular Evolution analysis
- Biological Networks
- Pharmacogenomics
- Sequencing and genotyping technologies
- Bioimaging
- Industry track

Industry track is the new topic dedicated to the spin-off and small medium companies that would like to present their activities to the BITS community.

In addition to the traditional panels, this year the Call includes topics for one Special Sessions proposed by members of the Society on the Bioinformatic challenge in microbiome research.

Complex microbial communities composed by bacteria, archaea, viruses and micro-eukaryotes - called microbiomes - play key roles for the environment and for our health. The field of microbiome research has been enabled by the biotechnological revolution of next generation sequencing that permitted the study of microbiomes by avoiding any cultivation step. Although several challenges connected with sampling, DNA extraction, and sequencing are still open, the current main limitations in the field are all on the computational side. In this special session we will consider cutting-edge computational methods to tackle the current needs of microbiome research, and carefully performed analysis of real microbiome data that are answering to open questions in the field. Examples for such computational methods include (but are not limited to) tools for profiling amplicon sequencing data (16S rRNA, 18S rRNA, and ITS sequencing), tools for assembly-based or assembly-free shotgun metagenomics, and tools for comparative metagenomics.

The abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee and accepted for oral communication or poster presentation or rejected in case they do not match the scientific standards of the conference. Two or three anonymous referees will evaluate each abstract. We encourage the authors to use the maximum space available in the submission form in order to describe at the best their work and results. Accepted abstracts will be collected in the conference proceedings.

Negotiations are ongoing for the publication of a Supplement in an international journal with full articles dedicated to the subjects presented at the conference as poster or oral communications

Abstract submission requires early registration to the conference of the presenting author after the acceptance notification. Participants may submit up to a maximum of one oral communication and one poster, or two posters.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Abstract submission for oral presentations and posters *opens* **March 5, 2018**

Abstract submission for oral presentations and posters *deadline* **April 15, 2018**

Abstract submission for late posters *opens* **April 22, 2018**

Abstract submission for late posters *deadline* **May 15, 2018**

Scientific contributions *decision* **May 15, 2018**

Early registration *opens* **May 1, 2018**

Early registration *deadline* **May 30, 2018**