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**News**

- The 2016 EMBnet AGM preliminary programme is now available and registration is open at: [www.embnet.org/agm/2016/](http://www.embnet.org/agm/2016/)

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**Up-coming courses**

- **European Course: Comparative Genomics**, 17-28 Oct 2016, ENS Lyon (FR)
- **GTPB, Oeiras (PT):**
- **DEANN, INACH & UMAG course:** Introduction to Bioinformatics: 3-8 Oct. 2016, Punta Arenas (CL)

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**Jobs**

- **PostDoc position at Novo Nordisk** for IMI-RHAPSODY project, Maløv (DK). *Application deadline:* 2 Oct 2016
- **PhD Studentship** in Network Inference & Systems Biology at Stockholm Bioinformatics Centre (SE). *Application deadline:* 22 Feb 2017
- **Postdoc position** in Cancer Computational Biology at Institut Gustave Roussy, Villejuif (FR). *Application deadline:* 31 Oct 2016

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**Events**

- **ELIXIR hackathon**, 25 Oct 2016, Rome (IT)
- **2nd Annual Meeting on RNA:** from basic research to industrial applications, 11 Oct 2016, University of Copenhagen (DK). *Registration deadline:* 30 Sep

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**EMBnet.journal**

*EMBnet.journal* is available online. Visit the website to submit your reports, educational articles and/or research papers, which will be published immediately post review.

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Best wishes,
The EMBnet Operational Board
Curiosity and inspiration, an explosive mix of human feelings that can push the world forward. This is what happened to me in June when, for the first time, I attended a bioinformatics ‘Train-the-Trainer’ (TtT) workshop. It was organised by the ELIXIR-IIB Training Programme as a half-day satellite event of the 13th Annual Meeting of the Bioinformatics Italian Society in Salerno (IT).

Strongly inspired by Active Learning principles, the workshop was on “Effective academic teaching: learning principles & didactic strategies that will transform your way of delivering bioinformatics courses”; the trainers were Allegra Via, ELIXIR-IIB Training Coordinator (TrC) and Vincenza Colonna, ELIXIR-IIB Deputy TrC. Pedro Fernandes, ELIXIR-PT TrC and Head of the EMBnet SIG for E&T, closed the workshop with an invited talk on “Current needs in Europe for bioinformatics professionals”.

In my long experience as a biologist and a researcher, I have had many opportunities to teach. I love to teach because teaching is an important experience for personal and professional growth, and I thought I was a good teacher; but curiosity to understand what the TtT programme comprises, and what new teaching concepts and techniques it reveals, made me anticipate my travel to Salerno with excitement: I wanted to know and learn! My experience can be summarised in a few important words: surprise, fascination and inspiration. So great was the enthusiasm of the trainers, and so professional their training ability, that even the most skeptical attendants were captivated. Most importantly, I was so involved and convinced of its importance that I have embraced it as a personal mission.

Allegra, Vincenza and I now work together to disseminate the ELIXIR-IIB training programme – which includes ELIXIR TtT workshops in collaboration with GOBLET – across the world. I hope my experience can also stimulate your curiosity – we’d be happy to have you on board!

Contacts: ELIXIR IIB website
Upcoming event: GOBLET/ELIXIR-IIB “TtT” Tutorial, 24 October 2016, Rome (IT)