

## FIRST INFOBIOMED TRAINING CHALLENGE

### PARTICIPANT DOSSIER – VERSION 1.0

Congratulations! You have been selected to participate in the FIRST INFOBIOMED TRAINING CHALLENGE. Your application has been successfully evaluated by the Organizing Committee. We hope to welcome you in Barcelona this coming September.

You are probably willing to know more details about this innovative training initiative. In this document you will find some preliminary information on how the Training Challenge will develop. More information will be provided periodically in the form of updates of this information dossier.

INFOBIOMED Training Challenge Organizing Committee

### The INFOBIOMED Training approach

**The INFOBIOMED Network of Excellence aims to promote the consolidation of Biomedical Informatics (BMI).** BMI is placed in the confluence of Bioinformatics and Medical Informatics, two disciplines that up to now have for the most part evolved in an independent way. The synergy between Bioinformatics and Medical Informatics offers excellent opportunities for the advancement of personalised healthcare. The integration and exploitation of all the data and information generated by these disciplines requires a new synergetic approach that enables a two-way dialogue between them that comprises data, methods, technologies, tools and applications. The progress of BMI as an integrative discipline will help to facilitate the translation of biological research results into clinical solutions.

The INFOBIOMED approach of integrating medical informatics, chemoinformatics, and bioinformatics is to foster collaboration on complex case studies within a small group of researchers, who have a widely varying but complementary backgrounds, ensuring a way of crossing borders between disciplines. This approach has proved to be quite successful, and the INFOBIOMED working group would like to expose future biomedical informatics scientists to this integrative approach through the first INFOBIOMED Training Challenge.

## What is the INFOBIOMED Training Challenge?

**The format of the INFOBIOMED Training Challenge is based on two groups of 5 advanced students** with expertise on different biomedical informatics fields, who will collaboratively work on a single case study related to a research problem. Each student is required to submit a motivated case study upon application. Among the case studies proposed, the organizing committee will select one case study per group, according to the potential it offers for cross-discipline approaches.

The goals of the INFOBIOMED Training Challenge are:

- To participate in a multidisciplinary research-based training environment.
- To learn the difficulties of crossing “language borders” in the context of a specific research problem.
- To become aware of contents of other disciplines and their particular approaches to the same problem.
- To use the own expertise to advance science in the area of the case study.

## How does it work?

**The practical approach of the course is that each group will intensively collaborate during the 5 course days** conducting research aimed at proposing a valid approach to the problem that integrates the variety of points of view represented by the different disciplines involved. INFOBIOMED experts from different areas of expertise will closely supervise and collaborate with the different groups during the whole course. Before the course week, participants will be required to revise and examine the case study from their own area of expertise (one week). On the last day of the course, one rapporteur per team will make a presentation of the integrative approach proposed for their respective projects. After the course week, students are expected to work another week on the finalization of the project approach and deliver a project report.

All members of the team that presents the best integrative approach will be awarded with an exchange fellowship that will allow them to stay for one month in one of the INFOBIOMED partner organisations (see [www.infobiomed.org](http://www.infobiomed.org) for a partner list).

## CALENDAR – Important dates

**15<sup>th</sup> of July:** Notification of participant acceptance.

**22<sup>nd</sup> of July:** Letter of acceptance sent by participants.

**29<sup>th</sup> of July:** Information on the case study and the preparatory work to be done sent to students.

**End of July:** Travel arrangements will be done by the INFOBIOMED Secretariat.

**12<sup>th</sup> of September - morning:** Opening of the First INFOBIOMED Training Challenge in Barcelona.

**12<sup>th</sup> of September - afternoon:** Transportation to Viladrau and beginning of the team work.

**13<sup>rd</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> of September:** Team work in Viladrau.

**16<sup>th</sup> of September:** Transportation to Barcelona. Case study presentation. Jury deliberation and selection of winning team. Closing of the event.




## Where will the First INFOBIOMED Training Challenge take place?

The Training Challenge will mostly take place in El Hostal de la Gloria in Viladrau, a small village located in El Montseny Nature Park, 70 Kms. away from Barcelona. The opening and closing of the event will take place in Barcelona.



Images of Hostal de la Gloria in Viladrau

## INFOBIOMED Training Challenge tentative schedule

	12 Sept	13 Sept	14 Sept	15 Sept	16 Sept
Morning	Opening  Participant presentation  	Team work	Team work	Team work	Case study presentations  Decision on winner team  
Afternoon	 Team work	Team work	Team work	Team work	
Night					

in Barcelona

in Viladrau

### What resources will be provided by the organisers?

The participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops to the Training Challenge. The organisation will provide the minimal resources that are deemed sufficient to complete the Challenge successfully: one laptop per group with access to standard Office software (Word, Excel, Access, etc.) plus internet connection, printer and access to the University Pompeu Fabra library resources.

Any other specific resource needed by participants to develop their work during the Training Challenge is expected to be brought by them. If you have any special software or hardware requirements, and you are unable to provide the corresponding resources, please inform the Secretariat as soon as possible.

We remind you that the INFOBIOMED project will cover your flight expenses to and from Barcelona, bus transportation between Barcelona and Viladrau and meals and lodging during the event. The rest of extra expenses you might have will not be covered by INFOBIOMED.

### Who will be supervising the team work?

A group of selected experts will be closely supervising the team work throughout the whole Training Challenge week. Additionally, selected guest experts will also participate on specific days and give insight to participants through direct interaction.

Tutors (available for the whole duration of the Training Challenge):

- Montserrat Cases (Municipal Institute of Medical Research, Barcelona, Spain)
- Kristina Hettne (AstraZeneca R&D, Mölndal, Sweden)
- Mark Weeber (Erasmus University Medical Center Rotterdam, The Netherlands)

Confirmed Guest Experts:

- Scott Boyer (AstraZeneca R&D, Mölndal, Sweden)
- Johan van der Lei (Erasmus University Medical Center Rotterdam, The Netherlands)
- Jordi Mestres (Municipal Institute of Medical Research, Barcelona, Spain)
- Erik van Mulligen (Erasmus University Medical Center Rotterdam, The Netherlands)
- Ferran Sanz (Municipal Institute of Medical Research, Barcelona, Spain)
- Jordi Villà (University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain)

### What should you do next?

Please, fill the acceptance form below, sign it and send it by fax (+34 93 2240875) to the attention of Ms. Lourdes Domínguez **before the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July 2005**.

**Failure to submit the acceptance form in due time will be understood as refusal to participate in the INFOBIOMED Training Challenge. Please make sure you complete and send the form before the deadline.**

## FIRST INFOBIOMED TRAINING CHALLENGE

### PARTICIPANT ACCEPTANCE FORM

First Name:

Last Name:

Passport or ID number:

I hereby accept to participate in the FIRST INFOBIOMED TRAINING CHALLENGE, that will take place in Barcelona and Viladrau (Spain) from the 12<sup>th</sup> until the 16<sup>th</sup> of September 2005. I accept the conditions for participation in this event as specified in this Participant Dossier.

Date:

Signature:

#### TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Place of departure (airport, city and country):

Departure date:

Return date:

Other info (optional):

#### MEALS

Do you have any special food requirements?

No

Yes      Please, specify:

#### RESOURCES

Will you bring your own laptop to the Training Challenge?

Yes

No

Please, complete this form, sign it and send it by fax (+34 93 224 0875), to the attention of Ms. Lourdes Domínguez, before the **22<sup>nd</sup> of July 2005**.