Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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This is the third volume of IPSJ Transactions on Bioinformatics (TBIO) after the renewal. The first issue of TBIO was published in November 2006 as the first English Transactions from Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ). After publishing four issues, TBIO restarted with Volume 1 from November 2008, according to the renewal of all IPSJ journals and transactions.

TBIO aims on facilitating the exchange of knowledge between two differing fields (Bioscience and Information Science) toward reaching our common goal: understanding of the principles of life. TBIO focuses on Bioinformatics and Computational Biology but also covers related fields including Information Science, Statistics, Mathematics and Bioscience. With the goal of incorporating a diverse range of perspectives as well as reaching an equally wide audience, this journal was started as an English journal. This publication is edited as well as financed by the Special interest group of Bioinformatics (SIGBIO), IPSJ.

One of the important features of TBIO is its evaluation criteria. Evaluation is done based upon the merits of the paper as opposed to the conventional point system. Papers which present either enough novelty or enough usefulness will be considered for publication though a competent level of English writing is required. Papers may also be evaluated on future potential. Another important feature of TBIO is its short review period, most articles being reviewed within one month of submission. It is also worthy to mention that TBIO is an open access journal via the J-Stage system (http://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/browse/). This facility is useful for the authors to widely circulate the results. The submission guidelines can be found at http://www.ipsj.or.jp/katsudou/sig/sighp/bio/tbio.html.

TBIO accepts three kinds of papers: original papers, survey papers and database/software papers. The topics covered by TBIO include, but not limited to: sequence analysis, evolutionary tree analysis, prediction and analysis of protein/RNA structures, analysis of proteomics/proteome data, analysis of gene expression data, inference and analysis of various kinds of biological networks, gene polymorphism data analysis, cell simulation, neuroinformatics, and systems biology.

Each paper submitted to TBIO is reviewed by at least two referees. Some of these papers are based on presentations at IPSJ-SIGBIO meetings and the others will be presented at IPSJ-SIGBIO meetings, where information on IPSJ-SIGBIO is available from http://www.ipsj.or.jp/katsudou/sig/sighp/bio/. I thank all the authors of this volume and hope that readers enjoy reading these papers. From these papers, readers can see that wide range of papers are published in this journal.

I would like to invite potential authors to submit any types of papers once these are related to Bioinformatics and/or Computational Biology. I look forward to receiving more and more submissions as well as seeing many presentations at IPSJ-SIGBIO meetings.

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