

Cecilia Arighi, PhD

Associate Professor (Research), Center for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, University of Delaware

Principal Investigator, BioCreative Conference Grant, 2014-present

Co-Investigator, Protein Ontology Consortium, 2007-present

Co-Investigator, NSF ABI (Advances in Biological Informatics) Development grant, 2011-present

Lead Curator, UniProt Consortium at Protein Information Resource; PIR Executive Committee, 2010-present

Editorial Board, Database: The Journal of Biological Databases and Curation, 2014-present

Steering Committee, BioCreative Challenge Evaluations and Workshops, 2010-present

Editor, BioCreative Conference Proceedings (4) and BioCreative Database Virtual Issues (4), 2010-present

Member, International Society for Biocuration (ISB), since its inception

Workshop Organizer (3rd, 5th-7th) and Session Co-Chair (5th and 8th), ISB International Conference

I have been working in the biocuration field since 2005 when I joined the Protein Information Resource (PIR) as a senior scientist. The focus of my research has closely aligned with the stated ISB primary goals, namely the “accurate and comprehensive representation of biological knowledge, as well as easy access to this data for working scientists and a basis for computational analysis”, via active participation in several international consortium projects that aim at reaching these goals, including UniProt, Protein Ontology and BioCreative. I have extensive experience in organizing conferences (Co-organized BioCreative since 2010, and Protein Ontology Annual Meetings 2007-2010). I have also been involved in multiple scientific program committees, including the ISB, plus experience in writing successful proposals for conference funding. I have cast a wide network of collaborators that expands beyond the biocuration field, and includes text mining, pharma, research, and publishing houses, where I have been strongly advocating for biocuration. To foster connections with user communities to ensure that databases and accompanying tools meet specific user needs, I have been working on bringing together the text mining and biocuration communities via the BioCreative interactive task. For this activity, biocurators participate to test text mining systems that are relevant to their curation task, so they are exposed to state-of-the-art tools, interact with their developers, provide direct feedback and potentially can become future adopters. One of my highest interests involves training the next generation of biocurators, and promoting community curation. I have included biocuration activities as part of the curriculum in graduate level bioinformatics courses and organizing multiple workshops which included community annotation (skate genome annotation project, and PRO workshops).

I would also like to highlight my commitment and enthusiasm towards the society throughout these years. I have attended and actively participated in six of the eight ISB meetings so far: presenting posters, giving oral presentations in mains sessions, co-chairing sessions, organizing workshops, participating in working groups (current part of the “money for biocuration” working group), and as part of the scientific committee.

I would like to see the ISB grow, to continue to educate the research community and the funding agencies so biocuration can be appreciated and sustainable. I enthusiastically support the ISB mission and I would do my best to significantly contribute to the ISB Executive Committee if elected.

What can I bring to ISB?

- Bridging biocuration and text mining communities
- Extensive experience in conference organization and on scientific program committees
- Experience in conference grant
- Engagement, outreach to and collaboration with the user community
- Network of collaborators encompassing biocuration, text mining, pharma, research and publishing

- My enthusiasm, hard work and smile!

Publications in Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&btnA=1&user=NUIAfUwAAAAJ>
(>45 peer-reviewed publications)



Cecilia Arighi (ORCID: 0000-0002-0803-4817)

ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Cecilia_Arighi2

Conflict of interest:

Journal/organization	Role
Protein Information Resource (PIR) Database	Member of Executive Committee Member of Editorial Board
Pistoia Alliance	Member
International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB)	Society Member
ISCB Student council group US Northeast region	Advisor
BioCreative User Advisory Group	Co-Chair



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