The Association of Asian Societies for Bioinformatics (AASBi)

The Association of Asian Societies for Bioinformatics (AASBi) was conceived in 2002 and was officially established on 14 December 2003. It currently includes the following member societies: Association for Medical and Bio Informatics Singapore (AMBIS), Bioinformatics Australia (BA), Bioinformatics Society Taiwan (BST), Japanese Society for Bioinformatics (JSBi), and Korean Society for Bioinformatics (KSBi). AASBi aims to promote mutual understanding between the member societies through academic and research collaboration and exchange, and to contribute to the advancement and progress of bioinformatics in Asia-Oceania.

Professor Satoru Miyano was the first president and Professor Honggil Nam is elected as the first vice-president of AASBi.

Activities of AASBi

- International Collaboration in Education
  - exchange of researchers and faculties
  - exchange of students
  - exchange of academic publications and other academic information
- International Collaboration in Research
  - development of joint research projects
- Organizing International Academic Meetings
  - regular symposium (annually)
  - workshops on special topics
- Update of the activities of each society to member societies
- Publishing an official journal
- Other programs approved as suitable in board meeting

The AASBi Symposium has been held annually with major bioinformatics conferences in the region since GIW2002. The most recent AASBi Symposium was held in Taipei, in conjunction with the 4th Asia-Pacific Bioinformatics Conference (APBC2006). The next AASBi Symposium will be held in Singapore, in conjunction with the 18th International Conference on Genome Informatics (GIW2007).

AASBi has also adopted, as its official journal, the *Journal of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology* (JBCB) published by Imperial College Press.

The AASBi website is maintained by the Korean Society for Bioinformatics and its URL is http://www.aasbi.org.