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Sarah Butcher\*

Adrian Goldman\*\*

Liisa Holm

Kari Keinänen

Ilkka Kilpeläinen

Ossi Renkonen

Ritva Serimaa\*\*

Roman Tuma\*\*

Michael Verkhovskiy

**University of Joensuu**

Juha Rouvinen\*

Juhani Syväoja

**University of Jyväskylä**

Jyrki Heino

Markku S. Kulomaa\*\*

**University of Kuopio**

Eero Castrén

Michael Courtney

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Antti Poso

**University of Oulu**

Ilkka Kilpeläinen

Pirkko Vihko

**University of Tampere**

Mauno Vihinen\*

**University of Turku**

Pirkko Heikinheimo

Pekka Hänninen

Reijo Lahti\*

Pekka Mäntsälä

Jarmo Niemi

Tapio Salakoski

Erkki Soini

**Åbo Akademi University**

Mark S. Johnson\*

Peter Mattjus

Jussi Meriluoto

Tiina Salminen

Peter Slotte

**VTT**

Markus Linder

Heli Sirèn

Dear Members of the School,

Here is a brief summary of news since our last newsletter in December.

In this issue of the ISB Newsletter, we highlight the following:

1. Hall of Fame: Congratulations!
2. New supervisors and students joining the school 2003
3. Bioinformatics 2003
4. Annual meeting of the school, December 2003
5. ISB funding and budget 2003
6. Support for conferences and meetings

**Hall of Fame, Congratulations!**

**Tommi Kajander** defended his academic dissertation on the 21 February 2003: "Structural evolution of function and stability in muconate lactonizing enzymes". Tommi has been a graduate student since 1999 in the research group of Adrian Goldman. Tommi has accepted a postdoctoral position in the USA.

**New supervisors and students joining the school 2003**

We would like to welcome the following new research groups, which applied in late 2002: **Ph.D. Peter Mattjus**, Åbo Akademi University; and **Ph.D. Heli Sirén**, VTT. **Ph.D. Andrey Mikhailov**, Turku Center for Biotechnology, have also joined the school.

New graduate students include: **M.Sc. Zoltan Bicskei** (Biophysics, computing, diagnostics; University of Turku, supervisor: Professor Pekka Hänninen); **M.Sc. Evangelia Kapetaniou** (X-ray crystallography; Turku Center for Biotechnology; supervisor: Dr. Papageorgiou); **M.Sc. Susanna Repo** (Bioinformatics; Åbo Akademi University, supervisor: Professor Mark Johnson); and **M.Sc. Marko Tammenkoski** (Experimental structural biology; University of Turku, supervisor: Professor Reijo Lahti).

**Bioinformatics 2003**

The Fifth Annual Nordic Bioinformatics Conference will be held, May 22-24, 2003, Hotel Kalastajatorppa, Helsinki. ISB is contributing to the costs of the meeting. ISB has limited amounts of funding to support student attendance at the conference. NorFA funding is also available, see p. 20 of the ISB Handbook, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

Deadline for early registration April 1; late registration May 1, 2003  
For more information: <http://bioinf.uta.fi/bio2003>

**Industrial****Collaborators**

Ailab Solutions  
Arctic Diagnostics Oy  
BioTie Therapies Corp.  
Fatman Bioinformational  
Designs Ltd.  
Hormos Medical Ltd.  
IBM Corporation  
Juvantia Pharma Ltd.  
Orion Corporation  
Wallac Oy -Perkin Elmer  
Life Science

**Hall of Fame****1999**

Sami Heikkinen

**2000**

Arja Kuusinen  
Tommi Nyrönen  
Perttu Permi  
Pekka Pohjanjoki

**2001**

Henna Ohvo-Rekilä

**2002**

Konstantin Denessiouk  
Anu Salminen  
Bodil Ramstedt  
Michael Okoh  
Fredrik Ollila

**2003**

Tommi Kajander

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Markus Linder  
 Heli Sirén

**Annual meeting of the school, December 8-11.12.2003**

It is important that all members of the school attend our yearly Meeting. This year the meeting will be held in Rukatunturi, Lapland, week 50, 8-11 December, 2003. The scientific program will be organized by Michael Courtney (University of Kuopio), Tommi Nyrönen (CSC) and Mira Tulla (University of Jyväskylä). Please reserve the above dates on your calendar now. We will be asking you to confirm that you will attend by May 15 – please let us know now ([kajja.soderlund@abo.fi](mailto:kajja.soderlund@abo.fi)).

**ISB funding and budget 2003**

We applied for funding for 2003 from the Academy of Finland and we were awarded the 50,000 € that we applied for. The following budget has been approved by the board of ISB for 2003.

Winter ISB meeting	20 000 €
Student support for meetings and courses	15 000
Nordic Bioinformatics Meeting	6 000
Additional course support	5 000
Printing costs	1 000
Advertisement of positions	1 500
Board meetings	1 500
	50 000 €

**Support for conferences and meetings**

ISB will contribute some support to any student that requests funding for courses, meetings and research visits. Other sources include the research group itself and the universities. The following web-page has useful links to sources of funding (CIMO, Cordis, European molecular Biology Laboratory EMBL, EMBL International Ph.D. Programme, EMBO: Fellowships, European Science Foundation, NorFa, Novartis Foundation, Bursary Scheme, Säätiöpalvelu, Opetusministeriö, Suomen Akatemia, TEKES):

<http://www.biocenter.helsinki.fi/finbionet/funding.htm>

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 Orion Corporation  
 Wallac Oy -Perkin Elmer  
 Life Science

**Hall of Fame**

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 Konstantin Denessiouk  
 Anu Salminen  
 Bodil Ramstedt  
 Michael Okoh  
 Fredrik Ollila  
**2003**  
 Tommi Kajander