

ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY

(Accredited with “A+” Grade by NAAC (CGPA:3.64) in the Third Cycle & Graded as Category-I University and
Granted Autonomy by MHRD-UGC)

KARAIKUDI - 630 003

Date: 12.02.2019

The 11th National Symposium cum Workshop on “Recent trends in Structural Bioinformatics and Computer Aided Drug Design” (SBCADD’2019) and 2nd Annual Meeting of Bioinformatics and Drug Discovery Society [BIDDS] was organized by the Department of Bioinformatics, Alagappa University on 12th February 2018 for the eleventh consecutive time.



Presiding over the inaugural function, Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, emphasized the important aspects of exemplary growth, the University has achieved over the years and its unfathomable recognition at the global level. Furthermore, the University has been linked in the form of collaborations with the top most ranking global Universities. He lauded the faculty members of the Department of Bioinformatics for their immeasurable contributions which helped the University to attain NAAC “A+” Accreditation, NIRF ranking and to receive the grant of Rs.100 Crore from MHRD-RUSA 2.0. Further, he quoted the importance of Biosciences towards transforming lives towards finding immediate therapeutics from nature breakthroughs.

Prof. T.P Singh, INSA- Senior Scientist, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi in his inaugural address appreciated the former Vice-Chancellors who were inspirational in the creation of visionary “Department of Bioinformatics”. He admired the background behind the materialization of vision of BIDDS focusing to promote and encourage Bioinformatics and Drug Discovery from the bottom up approach which will have its headquarters at Karaikudi that will serve the purpose of familiarizing the place among the scientific community. He also added that India remains as an enriched source of human resource and technologies. He appreciated the Vice-Chancellor for his strenuous efforts, hard work and never ending attitude for bringing the University to zenith heights.

Prof. Pinakpani Chakrabarti, Bose Institute, Kolkata in his keynote address enlightened the gathering about the Origin of Bioinformatics way back in 1952 where the theoretical prediction of biological molecules was predominant among the scientists which fetched them the coveted Nobel prizes for instance Watson & Crick for the structure determination of DNA, Venkatraman Ramakrishnan for the studies and function of ribosome. Furthermore, with the aid of Computational Chemistry and Drug Discovery efforts to identify and discover potent drugs against influenza and HIV have been feasible through computational and subsequent validation which is crucial to realize the hypothesis made by the theoretical scientists. He also laid emphasis on three words of wisdom that reflect the complete Bioinformatics profile “PROPOSE, HYPOTHESIZE AND VALIDATE”. He advised the participants to make use of the experts deliberations in Structural Biology and Computer Aided Drug Design.

Prof. G.P.S. Raghava, Indraprasatha, Institute of Information Technology, New Delhi in his thematic address highlighted the strength of Indian Scientists excelling in Structural Biology and the many contributions made towards the prediction of protein structures deposited in the protein repository data bank (PDB). He also mentioned the need to develop a best benchmarking method that will utilize the open source tools to solve the scientific problems and also promote them among the Bioinformatics community. In his concluding speech, he recounted the qualities that need to be enriched and propagated among the fellow scientists that will in turn be beneficial in nurturing our society.

Prof. D. Velmurugan, UGC-BSR Faculty, CAS in Crystallography and Biophysics, University of Madras, Chennai delivered the Felicitation address. In his address he appreciated the Vice-Chancellor for the rapid progress the University has made and congratulated the Organizing Secretary for having organized the National Symposium cum Workshop for eleventh consecutive time and materializing the Bioinformatics and Drug Discovery Society [BIDDS]. He asked the faculty members to keep continuing the pace towards progress and hard work for promoting Bioinformatics on a global level.

Nineteen eminent scientists from various prestigious institutions would be delivering lectures on the Computation methods which could play a major role in developing drugs for the human kind and the importance of Bioinformatics tools in Human Health care. About 150 participants across the country, including Faculty members and Research Scholars are attending this four day event.

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Singh, Professor, Department of Bioinformatics, Organizing Secretary of SBCADD'2019 welcomed the gathering and highlighted several issues confronting India and the immediate need to find solution using computational sources. Dr. M. Karthikeyan, Assistant Professor, proposed a vote of thanks.

Prof.H.Gurumallesh Prabu

Registrar