

21 September 2005

RE: Participation in Joint Booth of Research Resources at Supercomputing 2005 and/or Biophysical Society 2006 meetings
Request input by 7 October 2005

Dear NCRR Research Resource Principle Investigators,

With this note I'd like to make you aware of an activity that might be of interest to your research resource, which is being coordinated by the National Biomedical Computation Resource (NBCR), one of the Biomedical Technology Research Resources funded by the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), National Institutes of Health (NIH).

NBCR (nbcrc.net) was established in 1994 with the goal of empowering biomedical researchers with cutting edge computation technologies. NBCR's mission is to conduct, catalyze, and enable biomedical research by harnessing forefront computational and information technology. The focus of development has been to provide an end-to-end set of tools to support multiscale systems modeling, including data flow from instruments through refinement and analysis, predictive models for human diseases, advanced computation and visualization of biomolecules, distributed computation and data integration.

Over the last two years, as part of NBCR's Training and Dissemination activities, we have been coordinating an experimental effort to increase the presence of NCRR-supported Biomedical Computation, Visualization, Imaging and Informatics Resources at major scientific meetings, by providing a shared booth for all participating Resources. We are convinced that this shared facility has provided:

- Venue and an infrastructure not normally available for a single resource, e.g., booth space, plasma screens and computing platforms for display, demonstrations and presentations
- Relaxed forum to meet and interact with users and developers
- Opportunity for postdocs and students to present results
- Communication between resources not often conducted before
- Critical mass of Resources to present NIH activities

Based on our collective experience from the participating Research Resources (RR), we are focusing our research exhibit booths into two conferences, Supercomputing 2005 (SC05) (<http://sc05.supercomputing.org>) and the Biophysical Society (BPS06) meeting (<http://www.biophysics.org/meetings/2006/>). We have found that these two conferences have the largest consortium of researchers interested in our software, tools and databases.

The *Supercomputing Conference (SC05)*, with a theme of "Gateway to Discovery" for this year, is the premier conference for high performance computing, networking and storage. It will be held in Seattle, Washington in the Washington State Convention & Trade Center. Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates is delivering the keynote speech this year; a number of workshops, tutorials are offered to audiences coming from all over the world.

The key days for demonstrations and presentations will be from **Monday evening, 14 November, to Thursday afternoon, 17 November.**

One slogan of NCRR is “Catalyst for Discovery”, and a strong showing at SC05 will be a great contribution to SC by members of the NCRR community. If you would be interested in participating in this meeting, by sending people to present or conduct demonstrations, please contact **Wilfred Li (wilfred@ucsd.edu), Executive Director of the NBCR no later than 7 October 2005.** To date, the following Resources have agreed to present in our joint booth (#656), and are listed on our website: BIRN, CBFSV (SCI), NBCR, NCMIR, NRCAM, and RMMB (<http://nbc.net/events/supercomputing/2005/>).

Previously we have prepared a brochure for the Research Resources who joined our preliminary experiments. We invite other materials to be brought to the meeting, to be placed in a folder assembled for booth visitors. In keeping with the intent of offering materials to enrich the presentations, we will be including materials from Research Resources who are attending either or both SC05 and BPS06 (see below) in our next year’s brochure preparation.

Additionally, we will be having a booth at the ***Biophysical Society Meeting 2006***, at which many of you have students and postdocs attending. Please let us know if you are interested in presenting information also at that booth (#223) during Feb 19 – 21, 2006 (<http://nbc.net/events/bps/2006/>).

We are looking forward to working with some of you again and others for the first time!

Sincerely,

Peter Arzberger
National Biomedical Computation Resource
UCSD
Phone: +1.858.822.1079
Email: parzberg@ucsd.edu