

Recommendations to read before confirming participation to the BCGA2010 course Institut Pasteur Paris, July 5th – July 17th, 2010

Dear All,

We are pleased to inform you of your acceptance to the 2010 Bioinformatics and Comparative Genome Analysis Course, held at the Institut Pasteur Paris, France from July 5th to July 17th, 2010. Please review the course content and the eligibility and conditions of acceptance. As there is a substantial waiting list, if you still wish to participate, you are required to read this document, accept the course conditions and e-mail your confirmation before Sunday **April 4th**.

Eligibility and conditions of acceptance:

(1) Your acceptance to the course is based on the accurate credentials and qualifications you provided in good faith in the application form. Please note that course participation is limited to members of Academic Institutions.

(2) The student is of sound health for travel to France and the participation in the course. Although not a requirement, students are advised to consider acquiring supplementary travel health insurance at their home country for the duration of the course.

(3) The course will be taught in English and verbal and written command of English is required.

(4) Before confirming your participation, make sure the course is within your scientific and technical ability, as well as meeting your expectations, interest and professional development.

Detailed course outline is available at our web page:

http://www.pasteur.fr/~tekaia/BCGA2010/BCGA2010_Prog.html

The actual course is quite similar to previous courses: http://www.pasteur.fr/~tekaia/BGA_courses.html of which course materials are available for review. Students are advised to review past course materials.

(5) Be aware that the course is not intended for beginners.

Good experience with Unix is mandatory. Although there will be three sessions to ensure everyone is familiar with basic Unix. You have to be prepared to work under Unix during all practical sessions.

(6) We will use Perl for writing scripts to manipulate and analyse data. You should have a preliminary experience with Perl.

We have made available useful links that might help you consolidate your knowledge in Unix, Perl or any other item considered in this course:

http://www.pasteur.fr/~tekaia/BCGA_useful_links.html

(7) Please read the Evaluation questionnaire:

http://www.pasteur.fr/~tekaia/BCGA2010/BCGA2010_Questionnaire.pdf

You should be aware of the answer to question 11. If you have any reservations relating to the organizational aspects of the course and the course programs, you should not participate in this course.

(8) This course is not a passive scholarly exercise: we expect students to participate actively during the lectures and practical sessions. The course is **intensive** and your **undivided attention and participation are needed each day**.

(9) For these reasons, students are required to be **available full-time** for the entire duration of the course (July 5th – July 17th).

(11) During the two weeks of the course, invited colleagues, instructors, and students will stay together in the same Hotel to facilitate contact and discussions between colleagues and or students to help establishing future scientific collaborations. Past courses have had atmosphere that was very friendly between all participants. We expect **everyone to integrate easily** with groups and people from different countries and cultures.

(12) Note the course starting date: July 5th as indicated in the announcement. During the first session, students will have to introduce themselves and their project in one or 2 slides (3 minutes maximum). Instructions will be given later on how to prepare and send us these slides.

(13) At the end of the course, each student will have to complete anonymously an evaluation questionnaire. During the last session, each student will have to evaluate the course in a short presentation (3-4 minutes on Saturday 17th): what is learned, liked, missed, disliked from the lectures, practical sessions as well as the accommodations and meals. Suggestions are welcome to make better future organizations. During the evaluation session the presence of each selected student is **mandatory**.

(14) Accommodation and meals

Lodging is based on double occupancy. Students and invited colleagues will stay in a Hotel close to Pasteur Institute (<http://www.hotel-delos-vaugirard-paris.com/>). Accommodations and set meals are provided and have to be taken as they are. All students are responsible for their own travel to and from Paris, airport transfers and all incidental expenses including, necessary travel documents, local transportation, non set meals and drinks and the like. Be aware that you will need about 100€ for local transportation.

(15) Once you confirm your participation by e-mail, you will receive a formal invitation to attend the course from Dr Odile Kalogeropoulos (Institut Pasteur Paris). This document will serve in particular to help you in getting a VISA if needed to enter France. Indicate in your confirmation e-mail, the postal address where the invitation should sent.

Please review the aforementioned terms and affect their acceptance before confirming your participation. **If for any reason you cannot participate, please let us know as soon as possible so that we allow someone else from the waiting list to participate. Note that in this case there will be no refunding of the contribution to Hotel and meals.** Be aware that the one who is going to replace a missing student will have to prepare himself and his necessary documents to attend the course.

Please note that the course is based on the **voluntarism** of the organizers, invited colleagues and IT support staff. Your collaboration and comprehension are always needed.

Best wishes.

The course organizers