MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIRS

Following its successful predecessors, the Fourth International Symposium on Bioinformatics and Bio-Engineering (BIBE 2004) continues to emphasize the cross fertilization of ideas from bio-informatics and bio-engineering, and to help shape knowledge and scientific achievements by bridging these two very important and complementary disciplines into an interactive and attractive forum.

The papers present in the proceedings reflect the current themes in bio-informatics, bio-engineering and their interactions today. The papers fall into twelve tracks including Bio-Engineering, Data Integration, Medical Image Processing, Parallel Computing, Medical Informatics, Gene Analysis, Transcriptome and Functional Genomics, Homology Search, Structural Biology, Algorithms, Protein-Protein Interactions, Indexing Techniques and Intelligent Systems.

We have received 145 papers from over 15 countries which makes this symposium truly international. Each submitted paper was reviewed by at least three reviewers. The program committee accepts approximately 50% of the papers.

Many individuals contributed to the success of BIBE 2004. In particular we would like to thank Drs. Satoru Miyano, Jeffrey J. P. Tsai and C. Y. Kao (General Chairs), Dr. Stephen J.H. Yang (Publicity Chair), Dr. Rong-Ming Chen (Finance Chair), Drs. George Taehyung Wang and Weide Chang (Publication Chairs), and the entire program committee for their timeless efforts. We also like to thank the faculty and staff at the Taichung Health Management University for their generous supports.

We are pleased that BIBE 2004 has provided a forum for researchers and professionals from around the world to share their ideas and results in the relaxing and friendly atmosphere of Taichung. Finally, we wish to thank all the attendees for helping us produce an excellent program this year.

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