

Editorial from the New Editor-in-Chief

Aidong Zhang

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IT is a great honor and privilege for me to be appointed as the new editor-in-chief (EIC) of the *IEEE/ACM Transactions on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics (TCBB)*, starting January 2017. I would like to thank the members of the TCBB Steering Committee for placing their trust and confidence in me. Under the strong leadership of the past EICs, Dr. Dan Gusfield, Dr. Marie-France Sagot, and Dr. Ying Xu, *TCBB* has reached new heights and recognition. I, along with the associate editor-in-chief and a dedicated group of associate editors on the editorial board, would like to reassure our readers and contributors of our commitment to carry forward their great works and raise the journal to the next level.

After decades of development, the field of computational biology and bioinformatics had become a mature discipline. With the rapid innovations in biotechnology, the field of computational biology and bioinformatics has yet again entered an exciting era. Thus, it is an opportune time to strive and make *TCBB* the premier journal for conveying ground-breaking research activities and also promote it as a platform for discussion and development of new and emerging topics. Towards this end, we will further speed up the cycles of review and publication, and continue to publish special issues from conferences. We will establish special theme tracks and a new column on software tools for the community. I believe this will not only be valuable for the community but also expand the journal audience by providing a comprehensive list of resources for off-the-shelf users of bioinformatics and computational biology tools. It is also a step forward in encouraging the research community to make their software tools publicly available. It is also envisaged to establish a new column on applications with biological impact. While retaining *TCBB*'s unique emphasis on algorithms and methodologies, I believe we can broaden *TCBB*'s scope to publish high-quality papers that reflect their applications with biological impact. Through this column, we will try to make stronger connections between the computational scientists and biological researchers, thus increasing the journal's impact.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate my gratitude for selecting me as the new EIC amongst many worthy candidates. I shall make all earnest effort to continue the momentum created by the previous EICs and sincerely serve our community with my knowledge and dedication.

Aidong Zhang
Editor-in-Chief

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