

David Lipman, M.D., leading scientific computation expert to speak at UCSD, July 23

July 13, 1998

MEDIA ADVISORY

EVENT: David Lipman, M.D., leading scientific computation expert and current director of the National Center for Biotechnology Information (a unit of the National Institutes of Health), will speak on the crucial role the field of bioinformatics promises to play in helping scientists better understand human disease and process complex data more efficiently. The talk is open to the public and is part of the 1998 Speaker Series sponsored by the San Diego Science and Technology Council.

DATE/TIME: Thursday, July 23, 1998, from 4 to 5 p.m.

LOCATION: Center for Molecular Genetics (large conference room), University of California, San Diego

BACKGROUND: As scientists move from mapping the human genome to applying that knowledge to understanding the molecular basis of human disease, bioinformatics (the field that applies the latest approaches in computational biology, databases and informational systems to the study of molecular biology) will play an increasingly important role. Dr. Lipman's talk is titled "Information Technology and Bioinformatics Research, Training and Infrastructure."

Since 1989, Dr. Lipman has directed the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), a leading research center in computational biology and one of the most heavily used sites in the world for the search and retrieval of molecular biology information. The NCBI is a division of the National Library of Medicine within the National Institutes of Health. It was created by Congress in 1988 to do basic research in computational biology, and to develop computational tools and information systems for molecular biology.

As a research fellow at the Mathematical Research Branch of the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive, and Kidney Diseases, Dr. Lipman developed the most widely used methods for searching biological sequence databases. His work is cited numerous times in professional papers and journals.

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