

Lecture Series “Frontiers in Biosciences”

BBMRI-ERIC in collaboration with BBMRI.at are sponsoring a new lecture series under the auspices of Academia Europaea, bringing international top scientists in the field of research infrastructures and biomedical sciences to Graz. This will be a series of lectures hosted at the premises of BBMRI-ERIC.

Dr. Niklas Blomberg, ELIXIR Director



Dr. Blomberg joined ELIXIR as Director in 2013 following 14 years in the pharmaceutical industry with AstraZeneca. He led the global cheminformatic function from 2006-2011 with responsibility for global delivery of novel computational approaches and external partnerships in screening, and in 2011-2013 led the build of new computational biology / computational chemistry unit for the AZ inflammatory research area. He has also previously been the Chairman of the board for Bioinformatics for Life Science in Sweden (BILS), Chair of the advisory board for the Swedish e-Science for Cancer prevention and cure project, Advisory board member for the Swedish eScience center and the IMI eTRIKS project. He was co-chair for IMI OpenPHACTS, a project with 24 industrial and academic partners to develop standards and infrastructure for effective data-interoperability across chemistry and biology for drug-discovery research.

30 September 2014, 18:00 – 19:00

Location: BBMRI-ERIC HQ – Neue Stiftingtalstraße 2/B/6, 8010 Graz

- Jan-Eric Litton: Welcome and introduction of the speaker
- Niklas Blomberg: The ELIXIR bioinformatics infrastructure:
Data, Computing and Services to Communities
- Discussion including wine and cheese tasting

Abstract

The mission of ELIXIR is to construct and operate a sustainable infrastructure for the sharing of biological information throughout Europe, to support life science research and drive its translation to medicine and the environment, the bio-industries and society. The challenges in storing, integrating and analyzing the data from modern biological experiments are real; ELIXIR meets this challenge through a distributed e-infrastructure of bioinformatics services built around established European centers of excellence.

This talk will discuss some of the challenges in meeting the transformation of biological research into a big data driven science: handling, analyzing and archiving large and also highly diverse data-sets. As ELIXIR is currently embarking upon its construction phase it has commissioned pilot-actions to look at issues related to accessing very large datasets. Furthermore the talk will discuss experiences in data integration and the need for establishing data-management plans within projects that address the issues of meta-data annotation and long term archiving.