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Preface

The Brazilian Symposium on Bioinformatics (BSB 2005) was held in São Leopoldo, Brazil, July 27–29, 2005, on the campus of the Universidade Vale do Rio dos Sinos (Unisinos). BSB 2005 was the first BSB symposium, though BSB is in fact a new name for a predecessor event called the Brazilian Workshop on Bioinformatics (WOB). WOB was held in three consecutive years: 2002, 2003, and 2004. The change from workshop to symposium reflects the increased reach and quality of the meeting. BSB 2005 was held in conjunction with the Brazilian Computer Society's (SBC) annual conference.

For BSB 2005 we had 55 submissions: 45 full papers and 10 extended abstracts. These proceedings contain the 15 full papers that were accepted, plus 16 extended abstracts (a combination of the accepted abstracts and some full papers that were accepted as extended abstracts). These papers and abstracts were carefully refereed and selected by an international program committee of 40 members, with the help of some additional reviewers, all of whom are listed on the following pages. These proceedings also include papers from three of our invited speakers. We believe this volume represents a fine contribution to current research in bioinformatics and computational biology.

The editors would like to thank: the authors, for submitting their work to the symposium, and the invited speakers; the program committee members and other reviewers for their help in the review process; the Unisinos local organizers, José Mombach and Ney Lemke; Marcelo Walter from Unisinos, coordinator of the SBC conference; Ivan Sendin, from the University of Goiás, who helped with fund raising; Margaret Gabler, from VBI, who helped with the preparation of the proceedings; the symposium sponsors (see list in this volume); Guilherme Telles, Ana Bazzan, Marcelo Brígido, Sergio Lifschitz, and Georgios Pappas, members of the SBC special committee for computational biology; and Springer for agreeing to print this volume.

July 2005

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