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Title : The 12th International Workshop on Bioinformatics and System Biology (IBSB2012)

Workshop report:

I have participated in 12th International Workshop on Bioinformatics and Systems Biology (IBSB), held in 22~26th, July, 2012 at Boston University, USA. IBSB is an annual research workshop mainly for young research and graduate students. In the workshop, we have a lot of opportunities to discuss with researchers and graduate students of various nationalities from other institutes, Bioinformatics program of Boston University and Computational system biology research group in Berlin-Germany, and to know each other. It was my first time to visit to Boston. There are many historical places and some famous universities, and I got the impressions different from other cities in USA I have been. In this time, I have presented one of my studies entitled "Prediction of Protein Residue-Residue Contacts Using Conditional Random Field Based institutes from various on Residue Coevolution". We had a poster session on the first day of workshop, and everyone had own presentation at the same time. It might be better to divide poster session into such as two sessions because sometimes I saw a person who is looking for a presenter. In faculty laboratory presentations on 26th, many interesting talks were given. Especially Boston University seems to have good collaborations with an experimental laboratory, and I thought it is important things in our research field, Bioinformatics. It was the third time I have attended to this workshop, I have always felt that student motivations of other institutes are so high. Particularly German participants discussed well in English, and also made a friendship with graduate students and researchers of other institutes. From a lack of confidence in my English ability, I had some hesitation to talk with other students in English, but I felt the need to talk without hesitation and to train in English on a regular basis. On the other hand, it was also very good opportunity to meet friends and colleagues who I met in Berlin during my stay from April of this year supported by ITP. After workshop programs, we had a very good time in Boston with them, for example a free outdoor concert and drinking etc.... Finally, I am grateful to organizers of Boston University for thoughtful hospitality, and to ITP for giving me an opportunity to attend IBSB. I will make use of the experience in Boston for my future research.



Figure. (left) Boston University. It has vast grounds and own police!  
(middle) Subway called "T". We walked to the venue and also took this sometimes.  
(right) Poster session on 23rd July.