



International Conference on Bioinformatics InCoB 2007

Proposed Organisers:

Consortium of Universities and Research Institutes in the People's Republic of China (PRC) including:

- Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)
HKUST KOOPrime-HP Bioinformatics Centre - Hannah Xue Hong
- HKUST Dept of Biochemistry
- Beijing University Centre for Bioinformatics (CBI) – Luo Jingchu; XC Gu; Wei Liping
- Beijing Normal University - Lin Kui
- Zhejiang University – Chen Xin
- Shanghai Bioinformatics Institute – Guo Yike, Li Yixue, Cao Zhiwei
- APBioNet Secretariat – Tan Tin Wee and Shoba Ranganathan
- Jilin (2005) Tsinghua (2004) Fudan (2003) International Bioinformatics Workshop – Ying Xu (U Georgia)?

Proposed to be Endorsed by:

Asia Pacific Bioinformatics Network (APBioNet)
Asian Association for Societies on Bioinformatics (AASBi)
International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB)

Proposed Supporters:

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Nansha IT Park
Guangzhou Government

Potential Sponsors and Exhibitors:

A. To be solicited from industry:

IBM, HP, Sun Microsystems
KOOPrime Pte Ltd
Progeniq Pte Ltd
Bioinformatics companies from China

B. To be invited from government:

Ministry of Science and Technology, PRC
Provincial Science and Technology Department

The Proposed Venue



Nansha IT Park is the ideal place to host this Forum. It is growing as a vital education and R&D center where, in September 2008, HKUST will open a new graduate school campus to contribute to the technological development of the region (<http://www.nsitp.com/>)



Nansha IT Park (NITP) is a joint-venture between The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), the Fok Ying Tung Foundation, and the Guangzhou Government (<http://www.gz.gov.cn/>). Equipped with premium office space, **high-speed computer network** infrastructure, as well as conference and training facilities. For more information about the NITP, please see their website <http://www.nsitp.com/indexb.php>.

Not just “campus-like” but a truly idyllic and picturesque campus. Built specifically for research, creativity, development and incubation of technology projects, and for training, education, corporate/strategic planning meetings and retreats, NITP’s overriding emphasis is on creating a conducive, low density environment, with abundant space and greenery, to promote creativity, innovation, and development, yet afford opportunities for interaction and growth.

At the core of the campus there is the Conference and Training Center on the south side of the Lake, and the Guest House, Fitness Center & Health Club on the north side.



The NITP Conference and Exhibition Center offers comprehensive facilities for events such as conferences, training, trade shows and seminars

Geared towards classroom teaching, seminars, and workshops, the Center has a range of 30 multi- purpose rooms, of different sizes, that can be fitted out to varying requirements, to accommodate groups as small as 10 to groups as large as 100. The Center also has a 500-seat Auditorium, a Grand Hall, accompanying VIP facilities, and reception areas to take on larger-scale conferences, seminars, exhibitions and events such as a “Technology Showcase”. Seminars and presentations on the latest in technologies can be shared with a large audience in the Auditorium, while demonstrations and products of these technologies can be exhibited in the Grand Hall.



The Center and all its facilities are fully equipped with audio-visual equipment, and have high speed access to the Internet and video conferencing via the campus’ gigabit ethernet fiber optic backbone network



Accommodation

The guesthouse and dormitory provide lodging facilities for NITP visitors. Each room is well-furnished and air-conditioned with

individual bathroom. The guesthouse offers hotel-style rooms while the dormitory is similar to that available on a modern university campus.

Guest House

In line with the Park's intimate and cozy nature, its objectives and activities, and customers' needs, a Guest House was preferred over a Hotel, to meet the needs of visitors to the Park and participants at seminars and other events held in the Park.

Although fondly called such, the "Guest House" functions, for all purposes and intentions, like a boutique hotel, offering the facilities and services like any other.



- 63 comfortable deluxe rooms
- 20 well-appointed suites
- Board Room
- 2 Meeting Rooms
- Business Center
- Chinese Restaurant
- Western Restaurant
- Lobby Lounge

- Fitness Center & Health Club
- Indoor and Outdoor pools
- Snooker and Billiard



At the end of a demanding day, guests and residents can soak in the tranquility of the Park and enjoy the pleasures of this oasis.



Other NITP Facilities



Restaurants, Indoor Swimming Pool, Gym.

Network Connectivity

High speed Intranet and Internet connectivity through

- a campus wide gigabit Ethernet fiber optic backbone network; and
- fiber optic broadband Internet access;
- wireless LAN access for extra convenience
- high speed DDN (dedicated link) between Nansha and Hong Kong
- WiFi & Multimedia for video conferencing and video streaming
- Data Center, providing
- NITP centralized anti-virus email and firewall services
- data storage services
- web hosting facilities
- data center environment (space/cabinets) for clients
- telecom carriers eg China Telecoms, termination point in NITP, for various service subscriptions
- VoIP enabled campus

NITP Rates

Conference Auditorium 800 seats : SGD 1,600 / USD 1030 per day

Meeting Rooms 80 to 100 seats: SGD 320 / USD 210 per day each

Projection and screen: SGD 20 / USD 14 per day each

Meals RMB 30 / SGD 6 / USD 4 per meal (sit down served meal)

Breaks RMB 20 / SGD 5 / USD 3 per break (coffee tea light snacks fruits)

Guest House standard room SGD 76 / USD 50 per night

One bedroom suite SGD 116 / USD 75 per night

Two bedroom suite SGD 156 / USD 100 per night

Extra bed SGD 12 / USD 8 per night



Nearby Hotels

At the nearby town of Puzhou, five and four star hotels outside the Nansha IT Park are also available. Transportation between the hotels and the Nansha IT Park is also easily arranged.



Nansha Grand Hotel (<http://www.nanshahotel.com/>)

Nansha Grand Hotel is a five star hotel situated in Guangzhou Nansha New Coastal City, right next to the Nansha Ferry Terminal, an hour ride from Hong Kong, Macau, Guangzhou and Shenzhen.

Standing at a height of 78 meters, the hotel is a landmark building of Nansha with a total of 320 guest rooms. With platinum 5-star grandeur and 46 square meters guest rooms with breathtaking sea view, Nansha Grand Hotel is Guangzhou's only 5-star sea-view hotel. The rooms are fully equipped and installed with 32-inch plasma TV screen, a first for hotels in the country.

The hotel has one of the most stunning sea-view restaurants in Nansha, taking in the scenery as you relish the delicacies. Spend a splendid night of scenic view and taste a fusion of east-meets-west cuisine.

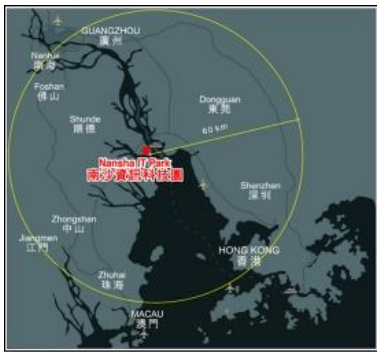
320 Rooms & Suites at rates listed below (special rates will be negotiated based on the number of targeted conference participants)

Room Type Room Rates RMB/USD
Superior Room 590 / 74
Deluxe Room 610 / 77
Executive Deluxe Room 730 / 92
Superior Suite 720 / 90
Deluxe Suite 740 / 93
Executive Suite 840 / 105

The prices are so reasonable that there is little reason to look for cheaper venues.

Address No.1, 2nd South Road, New Coastal City, Nansha Guangzhou 511458 P.R.C
Tel 86-20-3930-8888
Fax 86-20-34683122; 86-20-3903-8899
Email info@nansha.com
Online Bookings - (<http://www.sinohotel.com/hotel/hotel.html?hid=1446>)

The Nansha Grand Hotel is about 10 to 15 minutes taxi drive to the Nansha IT Park conference venue. Approximately USD 5 to 10 per taxi trip.
From the Guangzhou Baiyun New International Airport, it is approximately 100 kms



Transportation into Nansha

Nansha is well-linked to major cities in the Pearl River Delta through extensive highways, railroads, sea, and air transport network. The most convenient way to get to the NITP from Hong Kong is by high-speed ferry which takes only 75 minutes. Alternatively, it will be a 90-minute trip by coach from Lo Wu.

By road, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Zhuhai and many cities in the PRD are barely an hour's drive away; and by sea Nansha is little more than an hour's ferry ride from Hong Kong. It is no wonder that Nansha is also a transportation hub for those from Hong Kong and

Macau going to various cities, large and small, in the PRD. Lastly, even without an airport to call its own, Nansha is connected with more than 150 cities in the world through 5 international airports – Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Macau and Hong Kong, all within an hour's radius from Nansha.

International Air Travel into Nansha

Flying into Hong Kong International Airport

Most international airlines fly into HKIA. Transfer to the HK city ferry terminal takes about 1.5hrs plus a ferry ride (1hr) to Nansha Ferry Terminal, and 15mins taxi ride to the NITP. International participants would find this option particularly attractive, as it can combine a trip to delightful HK or stopover at the HK Disneyland if you are bringing the family.

Flying into Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport

Many international airlines fly into Baiyun Airport. Transfer to a taxi or chartered bus (which can be arranged by the conference organisers) which takes about 1.5hrs depending on the time of the day to reach NITP.

Flying into Shenzhen Airport

Some international airlines fly into Shenzhen Airport. Transfer to a taxi or chartered bus (which can be arranged by the conference organisers) which takes about 1.5hrs depending on the time of the day to reach NITP. Domestic participants from China would find this option attractive.

Additional Airport information may be found at <http://www.gz.gov.cn/vfs/subsite/QFZZQNCH-UEYR-RYE4-CQEP-PO0PXEO7LORY/category/category.jsp?catId=3260>

Visa Requirements upon arrival: <http://www.gz.gov.cn/vfs/subsite/QFZZQNCH-UEYR-RYE4-CQEP-PO0PXEO7LORY/content/content.jsp?contentId=264888&catId=3260> or preferably obtained via a PRC Embassy in or nearest to your home city.

An official letter of invitation can be arranged with the Guangzhou Government or the NITP management to expedite your visa application.

For some Asian countries, visa is not necessary for trips less than 30 days.

Travel around Nansha

The Park is on the route of Nansha city's circle line shuttle bus service. Services are frequent at about 15 minute intervals. In addition, the Park also operates its own shuttle service to the Nansha Ferry Terminal and by prior arrangements to other destinations such as the Guangzhou Government Command Center at Nansha, Nansha Golf Club, Nansha Grand Hotel, Puzhou Mall or others.

Ample car parking spaces, for cars and motorcycles, are available on the grounds of the Park, in clearly marked designated areas

Sightseeing Opportunities in Nansha



Tian Hou Temple



Beer Garden



Suzhou Waterfront Street

Proposed Organising Consortium of Chinese Institutions



Draft Budget

Expected Income:

200 participants x USD 100 = USD 20,000

50 participants x USD 300 = USD 15,000

50 participants x foc = 0

Donations/ Sponsorship / Exhibitors = USD 10,000 (very conservative)

Total Income: USD 45,000

Estimated Expenditure

Venue Rental for 3 days for an estimated 300 participants:

Auditorium x 1 : USD 3000

Meeting Rooms x 3 parallel sessions: USD 200x3x3 = USD 1,800

Room Logistics: \$20x5x3 = USD 300

Breaks: \$6x 2 x 3 x 300 participants = USD 10,800

Meals: \$4 x lunch x 3 x 300 pax = \$3,600

Total Venue Costs for 300 : USD 20,000 (Sponsor needed)

Other costs

Keynotes - Airfare and local hospitality: 3 x (500+4,000) = USD 13,500

Invited – Airfare and local hospitality: 5 x (500+1,500) = USD 10,000

(Sponsors needed)

Total Estimated Expenditure: USD 43,500

Assumptions:

3 keynote speakers

5 invited speakers

300 participants

Conference bags (none, or sponsored)

Conference banners (sponsored by NITP)

Conference programme (in CD Rom – sponsored)

Conference badges (sponsored)

Conference exhibitions (totally self-financing or cost-recovery if not surplus generating)

Secretariat, Registration, Visa, Correspondence, Website (sponsored)

Satellite meetings (totally self-financing)

Tutorials (revenue generating not included)

20 published papers in Tier 1 Impact Factor journal (separate payment)

200 published papers/abstracts in non Impact Factor journal

Abstracts and papers to be peer-reviewed

Satellite Meetings at InCoB 2007

1. 2nd ASEAN-China Bioinformatics Workshop

Following the successful 1st ASEAN-China Bioinformatics Workshop in Peking University, Beijing, PR China in 2004, the cooperation of ASEAN and China will be further enhanced with the organisation of the 2nd ASEAN-China Bioinformatics Workshop 2007, as a follow-up to the 4th ASEAN-China Joint Science and Technology Committee meeting in Lijiang in 2006.

At the 4th ACJSTC meeting, it was proposed to explore the holding of this workshop in the InCoB conference. Indeed, it is now possible to hold this 2-day workshop event back to back with the proposed InCoB2007 in Nansha IT Park in order to promote greater cooperation amongst ASEAN bioinformatics delegates and officials with China counterparts. In this way it is hoped that this will lay the groundwork for a Pan-Asian bioinformatics network of database, computational and grid computing resources dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in the Life Sciences and Biotechnology.

We have a paper sent to the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology on a proposed ASEAN-China workshop on cyberinfrastructure for bioinformatics (CIBIO) as a back-to-back meeting with InCoB 2007. This meeting proposal is currently being reviewed by Counsellor Xu Jie, Division of Asia and Africa, Dept of International Cooperation at the MOST. xujie@most.cn.

It is to bring 20 ASEAN delegates to China for this meeting funded by the ASEAN-China Cooperation fund. Therefore, if approved, InCoB in China would be a most ideal location to host this satellite meeting.

2. Proposed Nansha Science and Technology Forum 2nd Bioinformatics workshop

Following the successful launch of the Nansha Science and Technology Forum on the theme "Bioinformatics – Pharmacogenomics" under the Healthcare Focus, held on 25 to 26 August 2006, the NSTF is planning to hold a follow-up meeting as a satellite workshop back-to-back with the proposed InCoB2007 targeted to be held in the 3rd Quarter of 2007.



Nansha Science and Technology Forum :

Key Technology Issues of Social Economic Development

Nansha Science and Technology Forum
Conference Centre of the Nansha IT Park
Guangzhou Nansha Economic Development Zone, PR China

Miss Jingo Yeung, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, at (852) 2358-6939 or by e-mail: jingo@ust.hk.