

Hello

I am Pedro Fernandes, from Portugal.

I have been delighted to accept the challenging invitation to contribute to the design and implementation of the H3ABioNet IBT training course on which you are about to embark.

My background is in electronics and telecommunications engineering, from which base I have developed interests in a variety of aspects of Biology, particularly those involving the management of biological information.

As a researcher I have worked in Biophysics and Physiology for about 20 years.

In the late 1980s, I became interested in Bioinformatics, then in its early development phase. My initial role in this rapidly evolving field was as a provider of computing services.

In the late 1990s, it was clear that training the research community to use these services optimally was an imperative. In consequence, I chose to concentrate my efforts in the development of a Bioinformatics Training Programme, the GTPB.

In the context of the activity of several international Bioinformatics organisations, I contribute to the propagation of good practice and the establishment of shared repositories of training resources.

Involvement with the IBT course team, has offered my colleague David Judge and I the opportunity to contribute to the form and content of Module 1 of your course: Introduction, Databases and Resources.

I wish you an enormous success in the IBT course and in your career.