Laboratory Directed Research and Development Program Berkeley Lab FY 2001 Coversheet

Project Title:	Collaborative Cr	Collaborative Cross-scale Bioinformatics Tool Development						
Investigator(s):	gator(s): Adam Arkin (PBD), Inna Dubchak (NERSC), Eddy Rubin (LSD)							
Division: Funds Requested	l (FY 2001):			PAO OFFICE USE ONLY				
Proposed Projec	t Duration:	Out Year Fund	s Reanested:					
_	Duration.	(for multiyear projects only)						
New Proposal		Continuation						
Long-Term Fund DARPA, NIH	ling (amount, source,	likelihood):						
Collaborating Di PBD, LSD, JGI a	visions or Institutions nd UCB	s:						
Purpose /Goals:		Summary						
trained in the use of for development of strength tools that n development for sca the partnership will order to create cents workshops on new a in their own bioinfo	laboratory developed and innovative bioinformatic hay be served to the biological ability and used on high collect (where permission ral lab access to often use and existent technologies. rmatic research. An initial ods:	r programmers, electronic publishing d third party bioinformatic tools. The techniques developed at the Laborate gical community at large. This involuend parallel computers, developmer is given) tools or interfaces to tools of programs. The partnership will programs as the partnership solidifies all tool set for development is presented.	e partnership wory and UCB in ory and UCB in wes code polish at of user interfal developed by ovide analytical partnership so	ill be responsible nto industrial sing, algorithmic aces. In addition, other individuals in help, training, and cientists will engage				
partnership. A steer sequence/structure, which areas should the partnership on a and experimental bi committee of biolog review the partnersh will run a web-site v seminar series, and	ing committee will be for molecular profiling, imag be further developed, app periodic basis. The steer ologists whose tools will gists and computer scienti- nip twice a year initially, for with online access to tools training and scientific wo	nt of a head responsible for overseeing med in areas of DNA sequence, DNA ging, pathway, and modeling analyses or ise it of new tools and technologies ing committee will be composed of 1 be fed into the partnership "code pipasts will also be formed with broad over falling off to once a year after the threst, news of new literature, provide exportshops. There are a number of "focupursued by the partnership	A/RNA structures and will advise and be response aboratory and Useline." An exterer sight response e-year start-uppert help on a communication.	re, protein se the partnership on sible for review of UCB computational ernal advisory sibilities. They will o. The partnership ontract basis, run a				
Relationship to o	ther Berkeley Lab pr	rojects sponsored by DOE or ot	her agencies:					
	ill in the Human/Vert	r tissues and/or animal use on t tebrate Animal Use form.	his Yes	No X				
Purpose / Goals;		please provide a brief description potential results or significance						

BERKELEY LAB FY 2001 BUDGET REQUEST LABORATORY DIRECTED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

LABOR COSTS	FTE or %	EXPENSE
SCIENTIFIC LABOR		
Salaries & Wages (List last name & classification of all key personnel to be supported)		
Payroll Burden (if not included above)		
Subtotal Direct		
Scientific Division Burden		
SUBTOTAL SCIENTIFIC LABOR		
SUPPORT LABOR (TECHNICAL)		
Salaries & Wages (List last name & classification of all key personnel to be supported)		
Payroll Burden (if not included above)		
Subtotal Direct		
Support Division Burden		
SUBTOTAL SUPPORT LABOR		
SUBTOTAL LABOR COST		
P	0/	EVDENCE
PURCHASES CONSULTING SERVICES / SUBCONTRACTS	%	EXPENSE
CONSULTING SERVICES / SUBCONTRACTS	%	EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost		EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost	% _4.6%	EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost		EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden Subtotal Consulting Services / Subcontracts		EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden Subtotal Consulting Services / Subcontracts Materials / Stores / Capital Equipment		EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden		EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden Subtotal Consulting Services / Subcontracts Materials / Stores / Capital Equipment Purchase Cost (e.g., supplies and materials) Capital Equipment (please describe):	4.6%	EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost	4.6%	EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden Subtotal Consulting Services / Subcontracts Materials / Stores / Capital Equipment Purchase Cost (e.g., supplies and materials) Capital Equipment (please describe): Procurement Burden Material Handling Burden	4.6%	EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost	4.6%	EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden Subtotal Consulting Services / Subcontracts Materials / Stores / Capital Equipment Purchase Cost (e.g., supplies and materials) Capital Equipment (please describe): Procurement Burden Material Handling Burden	4.6%	
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden Subtotal Consulting Services / Subcontracts Materials / Stores / Capital Equipment Purchase Cost (e.g., supplies and materials) Capital Equipment (please describe): Procurement Burden Material Handling Burden Subtotal Materials Cost Other Costs	4.6%	EXPENSE
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden Subtotal Consulting Services / Subcontracts Materials / Stores / Capital Equipment Purchase Cost (e.g., supplies and materials) Capital Equipment (please describe): Procurement Burden Material Handling Burden Subtotal Materials Cost Subtotal Purchases Cost Other Costs Travel: Domestic Foreign		
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden Subtotal Consulting Services / Subcontracts Materials / Stores / Capital Equipment Purchase Cost (e.g., supplies and materials) Capital Equipment (please describe): Procurement Burden Material Handling Burden Subtotal Materials Cost Other Costs		
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden Subtotal Consulting Services / Subcontracts Materials / Stores / Capital Equipment Purchase Cost (e.g., supplies and materials) Capital Equipment (please describe): Procurement Burden Material Handling Burden Subtotal Materials Cost Subtotal Purchases Cost Other Costs Travel: Domestic Foreign	<u>4.6%</u> <u>4.8%</u>	
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden Subtotal Consulting Services / Subcontracts Materials / Stores / Capital Equipment Purchase Cost (e.g., supplies and materials) Capital Equipment (please describe): Procurement Burden Material Handling Burden Subtotal Materials Cost Subtotal Purchases Cost Other Costs Travel: Domestic Foreign	<u>4.6%</u> <u>4.8%</u>	
Consulting Services / Subcontracts Purchase Cost Procurement Burden Subtotal Consulting Services / Subcontracts Materials / Stores / Capital Equipment Purchase Cost (e.g., supplies and materials) Capital Equipment (please describe): Procurement Burden Material Handling Burden Subtotal Materials Cost Subtotal Purchases Cost Other Costs Travel: Domestic Foreign Recharges Indirect Charges		

NOTE: Human Subject and/or Vertebrate Animal Use Questionnaire is required at proposal stage *only* for those LDRD proposals that do have human subject and/or animal use, including the use of human-derived data, cell lines, or DNA as well as animal tissues. Information for NEPA/CEQA/EH&S Review form(s) will be required of all proposals *after* preliminary selection (see check list below).

Status	Form Requirements					
Proposal Stage	Cover sheet (1 page limit) and Budget page required of all proposals.					
	Human Subject and/or Animal Use Questionnaire required only if project does have human subject and/or animal use.					
Preliminary Selection (prior to start of fiscal year)	NEPA/CEQA and EH&S Review form.					

Human and/or Vertebrate Animal Use - LDRDs

To maintain compliance with federal regulations on the use of vertebrate animals and human subjects, Berkeley Lab must be able to show that all usage (including the use of data, human cell lines or animal tissues) in LDRD projects is properly certified. **Note that as principal investigator you are responsible for accurately assessing and reporting your human or animal research approval needs.** You may contact the Human and Animal Regulatory Committee (HARC) office at x5507 for assistance in making this determination. Please return the completed, signed form to your Division Office.

Title:		B&R Code:							
Human Subject	ets								
A. X There	e IS NO human subject involvement in the	is project.							
B. There	e IS human subject involvement in this project.								
	We will use protocols with current huma	n subject approval.							
	CPHS Reference #								
	#								
	New human subject protocol(s) to be su	bmitted for approval.							
	Protocol requirements are uncertain at t	nis time.							
Vertebrate Ani	mals								
A. X There	e IS NO animal use in this project								
B There	e IS animal use in this project.								
	We will use protocols with current AWR0	Capproval.							
	AWRC # Approv # # # # # #	al #							
	New animal use protocol(s) will be subm	itted for approval.							
	Use of animals not certain at this time.								
If you responde	ed "A" for both human subjects and anin	nals, then no further action is required.							
the Human and what approvals	Animal Regulatory Committees (HARC	t be certified prior to initiating the research c) office at ext. 5507 if you need assistan tra copies of the FTP/A must be enclosed	ce in determining						
FTP/A I.D.#	Principal Investigator (name)	PI (Signature):	Date:						

LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LABORATORY

NEPA/CEQA AND EH&S REVIEW

Proposal #:	Type (e.g., WFO, CRADA, FTP, LDRD, DOE M&O, Gift):						
Project Title:							
1. Identify LBNL, UCB, D	OE facility, and any other offsite locations where work will be performed:						
Yes No Uncertain	If "yes" or "uncertain," please explain on separate page(s).						
X 2.	For LBNL locations: Does the project involve room or building modifications?						
X 3.	Would the project disturb hazardous substances or contaminants that preexist in the environment, such that there would be a release not covered by agency permits?						
4.	For work at non-DOE locations only: Would the project disturb any of the following environmentally sensitive resources?						
	uildings, structures, objects) of historic, archeological or architectural significance, state or local governments or property eligible for listing on the National Register of						
	ened or endangered species or their habitat, Federally-proposed or candidate r their habitat; or state-listed endangered or threatened species or their habitat;						
_	nder the Clean Water Act and floodplains;						
	esignated wilderness areas, national parks, national natural landmarks, wild and scenic ral wildlife refuges, and marine sanctuaries;						
Prime agricultural land	s;						
 Special sources of wat vital to the region; 	ter, such as sole-source aquifers, wellhead protection areas, or other water sources						
 Tundra, coral reefs, or 	rain forests.						
x 5.	Would the project result in hazardous emissions, wastes, or effluents outside permit limits?						
X 6.	Is new or additional safety documentation needed for the work?						
Division	Principal Investigator Date						
To be completed prior to Proposed classification:	o beginning work:						
LBNL NEPA/CEQA Progr	ram Date DOE NCO Date						

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND CONNECTIONS TO OTHER PROJECTS AT LBNLCONNECTIONS TO OTHER

It is clear that there is a convergence of activities around LBNL that require the formation of a bioinformatics infrastructure to promote collaboration and development of bioinformatics tools. With the PSF producing 30 MB/day of sequence at the JGI, structural genomics initiatives current and planned producing protein structures at the ALS and miscellaneous genomics projects and individual high-throughput biological experiments producing genetic, molecular profiling, physiological and image data, a small industry in databasing and computational analysis has grown up around these projects to mine their data for the biological insight that is ultimately their goal. The scientists engaged in the computational projects are developing tools that are directed towards solving a particular biological problem at hand or are innovative research-grade programs that are rarely polished into industrial-grade tools for use by the LBNL and other general biological communities. Further, many of these tools, even were they in polished form, are of sufficient complexity that the average bench biologist would be hard pressed to properly use the tools, let alone know which one is appropriate for their problem.

Here we propose the formation of a bioinformatics partnership with three primary purposes: 1) Training of and consulting with laboratory scientists in use of new and existing tools to aid in their research problems. This effort includes dissemination and documentation of tools, creation of tutorials and the development of courses and workshops in bioinformatics theory and application; 2) Extension of existing tools for client laboratories with specialized needs or identification of LBNL and UCB computational biology laboratories that may have expertise in the problem to be solved; 3) Polishing of tools developed by LBNL/JGI/UCB researchers for robust and rapid performance and serving to the general community; the adaptation of complex bioinformatic tools for uses with high speed supercomputers. When the partnership begins to function well as a service entity, partnership staff will also be free to pursue their own research agendas.

We have an unusual opportunity to take advantage of the existing critical mass of computational biology at the laboratory and to create a focal point for the professional dissemination of these efforts for Laboratory and general use and to provide a central identifiable pathway for polishing and dissemination of laboratory product. This will also lead to a centralized location at which the computational biology community at the Laboratory can (at least conceptually) convene. That is, it provides a central resource to increase communication among the groups. Further, the partnership will also provide a location for the import of external computational expertise, the creation and implementation in the theory and application of computational methods to biology, and will be a natural administrator for a directed seminar series and for the hosting of yearly workshops to bring in outside "clients" and colleagues.

The nature of this partnership is such that it will be greatly strengthened by coordinating efforts at all three of the closely placed institutions, the JGI, LBNL, and UCB. Thus, contributing scientists should be drawn from all of these communities, as should the primary scientific clients. This is naturally a cross-divisional undertaking. We propose an administrative structure in section 4 below, but this partnership is of sufficient complexity and criticality that the finalized structure will only be arrived at the end of this proposal period. Follow on funding should come from DOE, NIH and DARPA. Matching funding from campus should also be considered.

It is critical to the Laboratory that such a research pipeline be developed. The Laboratory is host or partner to a large number of genomic and post-genomic efforts including the *Drosophila* genome project, human, mouse and other genomic efforts at JGI, and the structural genomic programs at ALS. Further, the future programs in biology at the DOE, DARPA and NIH involve funding for complex quantitative biological projects such as the Microbial Cell (DOE, \$12M dollar line item in next years budget). The partnership will position the Laboratory and its personnel as major location for computational biological analysis that takes advantage of the existing infrastructural and scientific strengths of LBNL. Further, this partnership will prevent duplication of effort among these projects, ensure that the bioinformatics research at and around the Laboratory is finished into distributable products (thus raising the profile of bioinformatics), and that these tools can be utilized by all the projects in need of their analysis. Finally, the staff of the partnership will provide the necessary technical skill for biologists untrained in bioinformatics to use these tools, will provide customization of the tools for particular problems, will direct new bioinformatic problems driven by the biology users group to the appropriate contribution bioinformatic contributing scientist, and provide an intellectual home-base for contributing scientists and biological users to interact and trade problems and solutions.

- **2.0 Mission areas and activities.** As the primary goal of this partnership is not research but service the mission areas are all based on collecting and honing technology of use to a biological client base. With a suitable armory of tools the partnership may then be involved both with training the community in the use of the tools and the application of these tools on a contractual basis. As the partnership team becomes more expert at application and training in the tools they will become a natural partnership for courses, seminars and workshops in bioinformatics in the Berkeley communities. We have identified eight areas that must be developed in order to make this partnership as useful and strong as possible.
- **2.1 Central Collection of Tools.** In order for the partnership to accomplish its goal to be a bioinformatics service the staff must collect and familiarize themselves with the wide range of biological data analytical tools available from Laboratory researcher and in the general literature. Among the areas of bioinformatics identified as central to the Laboratory mission are genome assembly and finishing, genome annotation, regulatory site identification and sequence analysis, crossgenome/phylogenetic/polymorphism analysis, RNA identification/structure/function, protein structure/function, molecular profiling (microarray, proteomic, metabolomic) analysis, molecular (e.g protein, RNA) engineering, cellular simulation and image analysis. For every tool collected, a "tool page" will be created on the web site that gives credit to the originator of the

idea and to the finishers of the tool, a description of the tool and its input and output data, and pointer to documentation, tutorials and test data sets for the tool. For every tool type, benchmarking test for speed and function will be developed. In addition, common user and programmer interfaces to the tools will be developed as will standards for data output format. Results from analyses will be archived.

- 2.1.1 Negotiating for use of published tools and training on these tools. The partnership will initially recruit a list of "contributing scientists" from the LBNL/UCB/JGI community. These scientists will provide the unique Laboratory bioinformatics resources that will differentiate us from other bioinformatics sites. (see section 3.0 for a list of contributors and the procedures for becoming a contributor). However, these tools will not cover all the areas of interested to biological users of the facility and thus external tools will have to be collected. For the cases, in which the support for the external tool does not meet partnership standards, the partnership will negotiate for use of this tool by the partnership partnership staff will bring the code up to partnership standards; produce proper documentation and a training procedure for use of the tool. **2.1.2 Coding up from public literature.** When external tools are identified that have been published or otherwise made free but where well-tested, efficient and clear code are not available, the partnership staff will take on the job of creating an implementation of the tool and an interface according to partnership standards. The decision to spend time on such an effort will be ultimately up to the partnership Head and the Steering committee or may be performed on contract to a client laboratory. As with contributor and negotiated tools these will have a tool page, documentation, tutorial and test data set. 2.1.3 Polishing Laboratory developed tools. Contributing scientists will submit their research tools for polishing to the partnership. These submissions enter a job queue. In first approximation, tools will be "finished" on a first come, first serve basis. However, partnership personnel can prioritize specific tools based on partnership needs. Further, tools can be finished on contract basis by partnership staff. Finishing a tool entails cleaning up the code, creating user-interfaces, creating standardized documentation and tutorials for it, benchmarking it against standard data-sets for its tool type and comparison to other tools. In some cases, course materials will be produced for use in classes and workshops offered by the partnership. 2.1.4 High-end algorithms. In some cases, such as assembly of full genome sequence from shot-gun data, primer design for microarrays, and comparative genomic analysis, the use of high speed supercomputers or clever combinatorial algorithms will be necessary. In this case, the problem may be handed off to interested NERSC staff and other contributing scientists for adaptation of the code for use on partnership computers.
- **2.1.5** Collection of experimental validated results from tools. One of the most important goals of the partnership will be to keep track of which tools bench biologists have used to successfully predict or confirm experimental results. The ability of a tool to yield validated biological results is the main indicator of quality. An example of such data would be data from the CASP structure prediction competition. These results will be archived by the partnership.
- **2.1.6 Search programs.** All tools, manuals, tutorials, and test-data will be entered into a searchable database for easy navigation to the section of the site of interest. Further, a decision support tool will be created to aid the biologist in the choice of tool for their particular problem.
- 2.2 Documentation, Training, Dissemination. There are three central general services of the partnership. These are documentation of tools, training in their applied use and general theory, and dissemination both of new tools built by contributing scientists and news of tools developed by others off-site. A "Tools" newsletter will be developed in order to disseminate information about new tools, their usage, comparison with similar programs and announcements of successes.
 2.2.1 General fundamental tutorials. One of the products of partnership staff will be to compile and write tutorials on the basic science behind the major classes of bioinformatic tools. This effort is important both in the training of partnership staff and in presenting the partnership as a useful, professional service to the external community. Such tutorials, collected in one location will serve as a draw to the partnership site and set up the partnership as an educational as well as a service facility.
 2.2.2 Specific tutorials and manuals. For every tool collected by the partnership, staff will produce a technical manual and specific tutorials for the tool. The manual will comprise the basic usage of the tool, format of the input and output files and a brief description of the function of the tool. The manual will also contain a specific technical description of the algorithms and specific code implementation. All code will be documented and referenced to the manual. The tutorial will describe the basic theory and usage of the tool and go through a number of worked examples. The data sets used in the examples will be made available on the site. Comparisons with other tools will be made where appropriate. Tutorials will be served online.
 2.2.3 Training. The partnership staff will create a set of courses each on a set of related tools. The classes will be dedicated
- Laboratory personnel and by subscription for external researchers.

 2.2.4 Help desk. The partnership will maintain a help-desk function for troubleshooting and explanation of the use of partnership tools. This function is designed for quick questions and bug reports. The Help Desk will be available to the Tri-Institutional community for free. Calls will be handled on a first come, first serve basis via the web if possible. Users may request a telephone follow-up.

to teaching basic theory and application of partnership tools. These classes will be offered on a regular schedule for free for

2.2.5 Workshops. Once a year, the partnership will organize a Bioinformatics workshop designed to bring in cutting edge researchers to the LBNL community. It will serve as a small, possibly international venue for scientists (chosen by the steering and advisory committee; see below) to present their work, provide non-binding commentary on the partnership and its tools in meeting with the Advisory and Steering committees, and interact with partnership contributing scientists in a relatively relaxed venue. The format of the workshops will be determined by partnership staff but will likely be three day affairs with morning and early afternoon talks, afternoon poster-sessions and evening free-interaction time.

- **2.2.6 Maintaining Links, News, Central Journal Access.** In addition to its other duties, partnership staff will maintain web pages that explain and link to external bioinformatic resources, reports on important news in the bioinformatic community, provide central access to relevant journals for which the Laboratory has an online subscription, and will provide direct pointers to articles about tools at the partnership site. The partnership will also send representatives to the major bioinformatics meetings internationally. The staff will report on the cutting edge research presented at these conferences.
- **2.3 Collaboratory locus.** In order for the partnership to remain an integral part of the Bioinformatics community at LBNL, a suitably localized space should be provided for personnel along with suitable interaction space so that partnership associates and contributing scientists can meet and discuss their work in a collegial manner. This will promote the community to be coherent and interactive. Further, the web site will have private message boards and working document and code sections that the partnership community can access to help in development of the partnership.
- **2.4 Contract Work.** The primary way that the partnership staff will be supported in the long run is by contract work. Individual biology laboratories in need of high-end computational biology experts can contract with the partnership to apply computational tools to their problem. This may entail application or extension of current tools, creation of custom databases, training of client personnel, or direction of clients to specific contributing scientists when the problem is beyond the scope of current tools and their simple extension. A charge-out system such as that in other service divisions will be developed.
- **2.5 Research.** One of the functions of the partnership will be to perform its own research in bioinformatics and bioinformatic algorithms. Once the service pipeline is in working order, we foresee partnership personnel having time to pursue their own research interests. These interests may be funded by grants from outside sources and partially subsidized by contract work with partnership users. Though all partnership members will have significant percentage efforts in the service aspects some will be able to maintain small research groups. Post-doctoral fellows, for example, may be recruited by the partnership to provide a small research core and to obtain training in applied bioinformatics.
- **3.0 Participants and Tool Development.** The Laboratory, JGI and UCB already have a vibrant computational biology community that, however, does not have a central facility in which to meet or organize and develop their tools. However, a large number of these recognize the advantage of the bioinformatics partnership as proposed. Accompanying letters indicate the willingness of the bioinformatic community at the Laboratory and UCB to donate tools and expertise to the Center. The biological community also has written letters of support. *The partnership will start in year1 with this strong base of scientists and their tools. It is this large collection of top-quality programs that will make this partnership initially functional and propel it future success.* The partnership's web site will provide an application to become a contributing scientist. Ultimately, contributing scientists will be allowed from anywhere in the world. To start, the Center will chose a few focusing problems in order to best serve the immediate needs of the community. These problems may include supporting and maintaining local databases such as the ASDB: alternative splicing database, bringing tools like Vista (Dubchak), RNAGENE (Holbrook) and Guacomole (Rokhsar) into general usage, and, in collaboration with high-end bioinformaticists, developing a shot-gun sequencing genome assembly program needed by the JGI. This latter project is of sufficient complexity that a contributing scientist would have to be the lead developer.
- **4.0 Organization.** The organization of the partnership will necessarily be dynamic during the start-up period. However, there must be a central head who is strongly advised on the partnerships aims and progress. In the first cut, the Head (or coheads) are responsible for coordinating five sub-departments. (See Figure 1.) There are three central technical departments: bioinformatics, coding, and database. These three are separated based on the primary expertise of the individuals who staff those departments. The bioinformatics department is responsible for knowing the theory and application of partnership tools, for helping clients use these tools or for using these tools themselves for client's needs, for training and tutorial development, and identifying areas in need of development and/or better code or algorithms. The Coding core is responsible for the finishing of contributor code, the coding of public domain algorithms, development of advanced algorithms for efficient execution of calculations on supercomputers, and for creation of tool technical manuals. The Database core is staffed by database design and use experts able to design custom databases for clients, develop code for interface to existing databases, and provide documentation on database access routines and point to new database technologies of use to bioinformatics.

Two administrative departments support these three technical departments: central administration and electronic media. Central Administration is responsible for maintenance of the partnership computer servers and website, as well as, planning of courses and class schedules, and implementation of the yearly workshop. Electronic media is staffed by technical writers and web-site designers who aid in finishing of manuals, tutorials, class materials, publications, grants, and the web-site. These two departments free the technical core to pursue the central scientific jobs efficiently.

Each department will have a head responsible for directly reporting progress and problems to the head. In addition, the partnership will assemble a Steering committee made up of contributing scientists as well as biologists and computer scientists from the tri-institutional community. The Steering committee will provide continual guidance on what areas should be partnership priority and will provide technical advice and partnership review at multiple times throughout the year. An external advisory committee of experimental and computational biologists and computer scientists will also be formed as a review committee that will meet yearly at the partnership workshop to provide a written review of the partnership's success and progress. The review will be based on informal interactions with the partnership throughout the year, the web site, and an evening of presentations by the partnership leadership (Head and department heads) and contract clients.

The first year of this LDRD will be engaged in recruiting the partnership staff and assembly of the Advisory and Steering committees. We project the need for one or two heads, two-four coding staff, two-four database staff, three to seven

bioinformatics staff, two electronic media staff and three central administrators. The role of the heads will be to: 1) Oversee the broad mission planning for the division including identifying new bioinformatic areas for development, areas of client need and the decide on the priorities of the partnership, 2) Recruit personnel to the division appropriate for these missions, 3) Actively promote the partnership to the local and external communities, 4) Attend to budgetary concerns, 5) Report to the Advisory and Steering committees on progress of the partnership, and 6) Report to Laboratory leadership on programmatic progress, needs, and problems. Two heads may be necessary in order to best represent the wide range of activities encompassed by bioinformatic research. The coding staff is responsible for analyzing, polishing and extending tool codes supported by the partnership. Because of the complexity of some of these tools and because of their number, two programmers is the absolute minimal set with which the partnership could function. Two database staff members are necessary because a large number of bioinformatic tools use databases of information as their starting point. The partnership will need professionals who have sophisticated knowledge of current databases and are able to create efficient scalable database designs for use with partnership tools. Two is the absolute minimum given the number of projects the partnership should be able to handle. The three bioinformatics staff is the minimal number to cover the a few focusing described in section 3.0. The two electronic media staff members are dedicated to electronic/web-based dissemination and technical writing for the manuals, documentation and tutorials. Three central administrators are necessary for system/web administration, course/workshop administration, and general support for the partnership.

The competitiveness of this field means that there will probably be a rapid turn-over in key personnel. This may be a strength of the partnership in the following way. The partnership will attract bright young researchers who want to shore up their foundations in applied computational biology. As such the partnership can act as a training program for these people and act as a leaping off point for other academic and industrial positions. The training aspect of the partnership will allow it to apply for specific funding in this area. Further, it will allow the hiring of new staff with particular expertise in the evolving "focusing problem" set under development by the staff.

5.0 Timeline. This program is divided into a number of milestones:

- Task 1: Recruitment and situation of personnel on site
- Task 2: Formation of the Steering and Advisory Committee
- Task 3: Collection and polishing of tools from the initial pool of contributing scientists
- Task 4: Collection and polishing of publicly available tools
- Task 5: Creation of documentation, tutorial, and class materials
- **Task 6:** Design and creation of web site.
- Task 7: Setting up of services: contract systems, help desk functionality, classes and workshops
- Task 8: Annual review

The schedule for the tasks is outlined in the Gantt chart in Figure 2. Research at the facility will progress as the staff has the time and funds. The partnership will create formal ties to the campus genomics training grant programs and the Department of Bioinformatics/Computational Biology within Bioengineering. The Steering committee will naturally be populated with bioinformatics specialists from PBD, LSD, JGI, the Drosophila Genome project and NERSC. The initial search committee is made up from the PI's of this LDRD who will then take on the roles of contributing scientists and/or be members of the Steering committee.

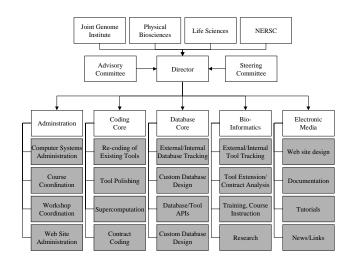


Figure 1. A rough organizational chart for the partnership

	Year 1			Year 2				Year 3				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	04	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9		Q11	Q12
Task 1 Recruitment												
Directors Technical Personnel Administrative Personnel												
Task 2 Formation of Advisory committees.												
Steering Committee												
External Advisory Committee												
Task 3. Contributed Tool Finishing												
Task 4 . Public Tool Finishing												
Task 5 Documentation												
Manuals and Tool Documentation												
Online Tutorials												
Course Notes												
Workshop Proceedings												
Task 6 Web site												
Task 7 Services												
Help Desk												
Contract Work												
Classes												
Workshops												
Task 8 Annual Review												

Figure 2. The time-line for partnership Tasks