

Kick-Off Symposium of the Institute for Bioinformatics and Medical Informatics

“The difference of bioinformatics and medical informatics lies in the type of data the disciplines are dealing with – molecular data opposed to clinical and patient-related data. But today, the most interesting things happen at the interface of the two disciplines” said the director of the IBMI, Professor Dr. Oliver Kohlbacher in his welcome address. Both disciplines are well established at the University of Tübingen. In order to create now also this important interface, the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Science founded the joint Institute for Bioinformatics and Medical Informatics (IBMI).

Stimulation and support of interdisciplinary research especially between different faculties is a successful strategy of the University of Tübingen with a long history: “Research does not stop at faculty borders and the importance of interfaculty structures that bridge between disciplines cannot be underestimated” said the dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor Dr. Thilo Stehle who had been the director of the Interfaculty Institute of Biochemistry for many years.

After having been postponed twice due to the COVID-19 pandemic the inaugural meeting of the IBMI took place from June 30 to July 1. With a national and international high-profile symposium covering a broad range of computer science applications in the life sciences and medicine, as well as the first meeting of the institute’s scientific advisory board the founding of the IBMI was celebrated.

At the IBMI research groups from the University, the University Hospital, the Cyber Valley, and the local Max Planck Institutes already work together in order to conduct highly visible research in these fields and to qualify excellent young scientists. The latter especially also comprises taking over responsibility for the study programs in bioinformatics and medical informatics at the University of Tübingen.

Information about the IBMI can be found on the institute's website:

<https://www.ibmi.uni-tuebingen.de>

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