# SOIBIO: BIOINFORMATICS E-LEARNING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR IBERO-AMERICA

## Oswaldo Trelles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>BSc, Industrial engineering</td>
<td>Pontificia Universidad Católica, Perú</td>
<td>Perú</td>
<td>1975</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSc. Computer Sciences</td>
<td>U.Politécnica de Madrid, Spain</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>1983</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSc. Cell and molecular biology</td>
<td>U.Málaga, Spain</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>2007</td>
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<td>PhD. Industrial Engineering</td>
<td>U.Málaga, Spain</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>2005</td>
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**Associate professor**, Computer Architecture Department, University of Malaga  
Coordinator: Educational area Sociedad Iberoamericana de Bioinformática  
Director Master in Bioinformatics, Universidad Internacional de Andalucía  
Director, Integrate bioinformatics Node, Instituto Nacional de Bioinformatica, Spain

You see yourself as: Representative of the Educational area in SoIBio
**SolBio: Sociedad Iberoamericana de Bioinformática**

**What it is:** SolBio is an international scientific society to promote research and development in the field of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology

**When it was established:** in 2009

**Who’s involved:** the large international region of Ibero-América

**What it does:** It looks for helping either individuals, national societies or other groups that want to work in the field, both at academic and professional level. To do so, SolBio facilitates transnational exchange, collaboration, formation and development for issues and topics related to the field. It is also a platform to interact and collaborate with other international societies and networks in the area (i.e. EMBnet, APBioNet or ISCB)

**Who your communities are**
- Regional academic and research groups
- Student and professional organizations in bioinformatics
- Private industry in the field

SolBio: Affiliated ISCB member
# Training Activities

## What you train
- Introductory and advanced courses in bioinformatics
- Training and hands-on sessions on data processing technologies
- Short term scientific missions (students interchanges)

## Who you train
There is not an official “bioinformatics” degree, thus MSc. students come from:
- Live sciences (biology, biochemistry, etc.)
- Computer sciences (informatics and IT)
- Recycling (or preparing) professionals for data processing

## What resources you offer
- Courses material
- Lecturing professionals
- Students interchange in inter-group basis (with their own financial support)

## What resources you lack
- Capacity for grants and scholarships (Ibero-America is a large region with strong needs for training)
- Financial support to attend international conferences and workshops

## What your best & worst training experiences have been
- freeBIT programme (J.R.: Valverde)
- Red Iberoamericana de Bioinformática (RIB) (the former network)
### What the issues are

To promote research on bioinformatics and collaboration among members, training and capacitation on Bioinformatics, providing access to courses, workshops and documentation

*However*,
The region is large (> 500M inhabitants).
Students displacements is expensive
Needs are diverse (depth level and scope)
Communication is still an issue
Few and weak links among members
Duplication (and dispersion) of efforts

### What you can’t do that you’d like to be able to do.

- Provide financial support (young researchers) to attend conferences
- A good, well organised, standardised repository of training documents
- High quality multimedia training material

### What your dream is

- Share a well organised initiative for deploying CONTROLLED, non-redundant, stable, up-to-date training material
- Incorporate “professional” and free available source code in advanced computing

### Your vision for how a group like B³CB might help you to get there

- Be imaginative. Exploit the new technologies to closer the sources of knowledge to people (i.e webminars, multiconferences, on-line presentation of posters in scientific meetings
- Lead these initiatives