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# **A systems biology community web-portal**

The European Systems Biology Community  
website  
[community.isbe.eu](http://community.isbe.eu)

## **Work package 5 Community Building and Synergies**

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Dissemination level: PU = Public, RE = Restricted to a group specified by the Consortium (including Commission services), PP = Restricted to other programme participants (including Commission Services), CO= Confidential, only for members of the Consortium (including the Commission Services)

Nature of Deliverable: P= Prototype, R= Report, D=Demonstrator, O = Other.

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## Introduction

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### The evolving landscape of European systems biology

In order to create an infrastructure that is most beneficial to the European life science community, ISBE aims to obtain a more defined understanding of the landscape of SB in Europe: who is involved in SB projects, what the main research foci are, what technologies are needed, and how the life science community can further benefit from systems approaches.

To help in defining the European landscape of systems biology, ISBE promotes the creation of a [community website](http://community.isbe.eu)<sup>1</sup>. The mission of this website is to bring together the community of European scientists using systems biology approaches in their research. Specific objectives are to:

- Identify and define the European SB community
- Facilitate interaction and networking between community members
- Offer information of interest to the community members
- Create a communication platform for the community

The website has been launched as a beta-version in August 30, 2013, coinciding with the International Conference in Systems Biology 2013 (ICSB2013, Copenhagen). In November 2013, a new release of the website upgrades several functionalities of the system. By December 2013, it has received >3000 visits, and >70 researchers have signed-up as community members.

The European Systems Biology Community website is developed and maintained by the Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG). The main features of the webportal are shown as screenshots in the following sections.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://community.isbe.eu>

## Homepage

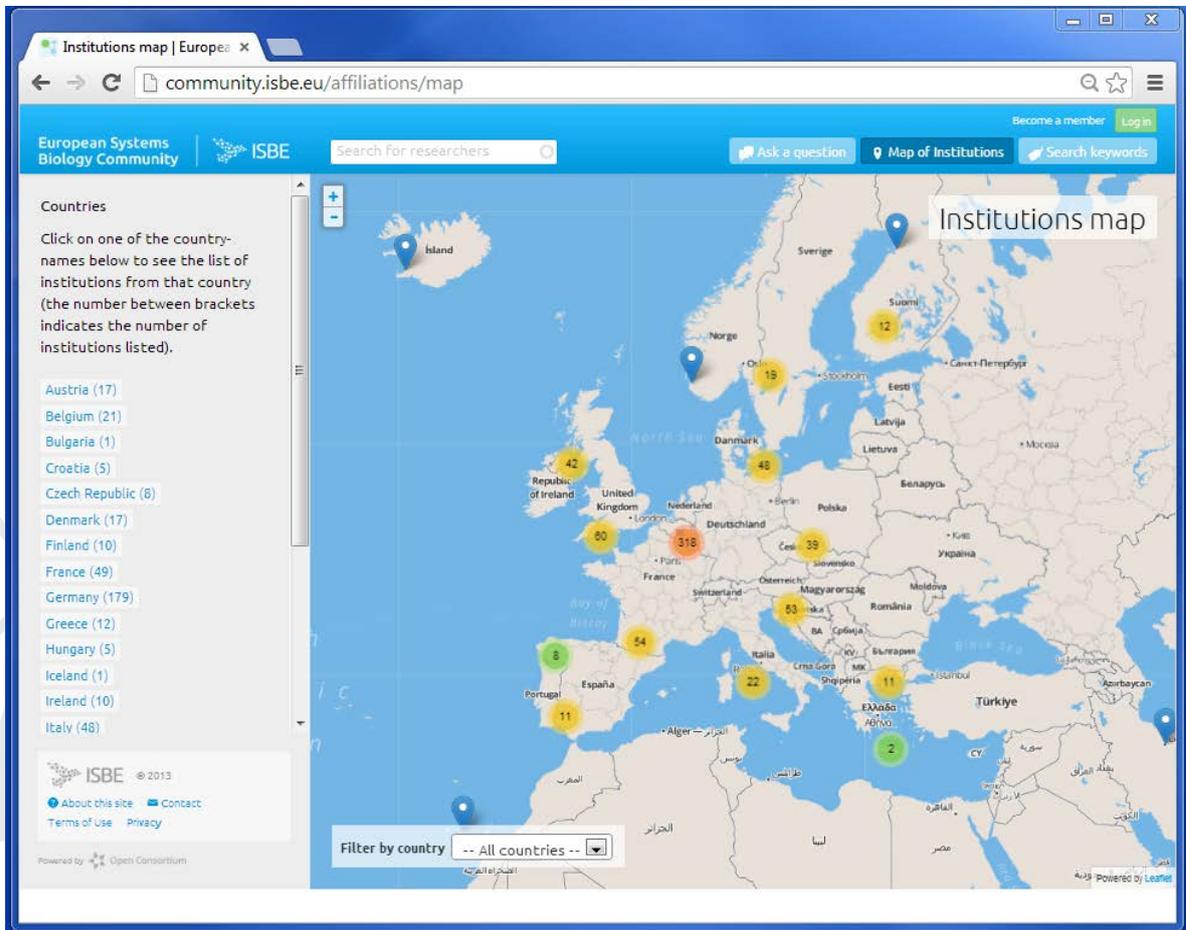


The Homepage welcomes the site visitors with the search-for-researchers tool in a preponderant position, which is the gate to the researchers' profiles and network visualization.

The menu bar includes tabs for the questions&answers tool, the map of institutions, and the search by keywords.

There is also featured content and highlights on latest news and events.

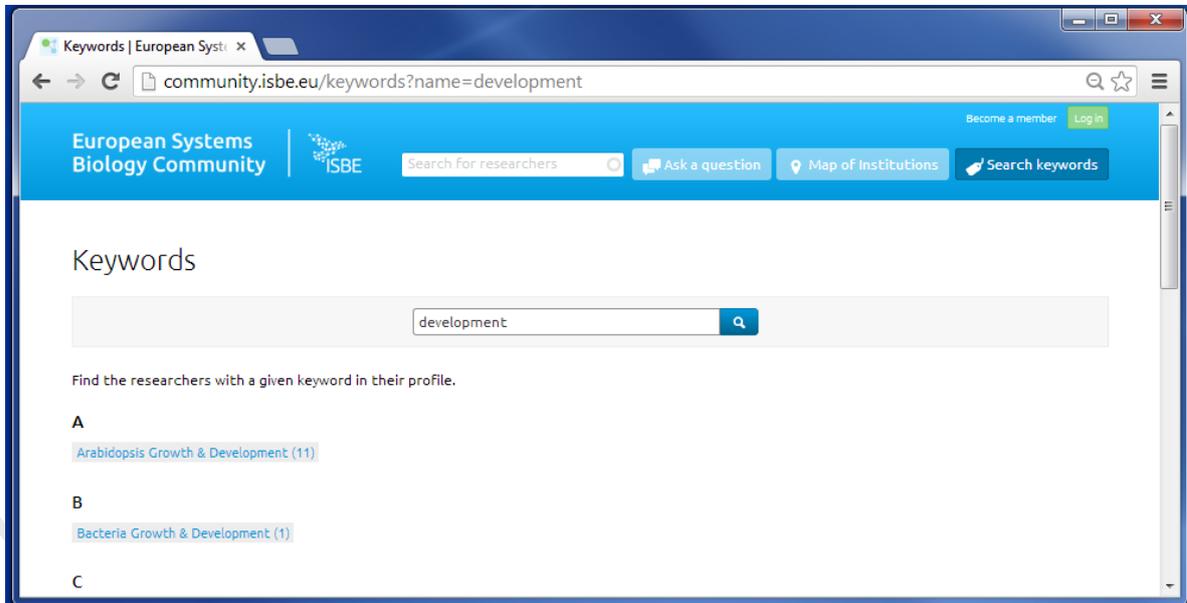
## Map of institutions



Map of institutions is focused in Europe and represents the institutions performing SB research, clustered by proximity. One can navigate the map and focus in smaller areas.

A list of European countries is also provided, linking to a page with the list of institutions from that particular country. Another option is to filter the map by country: when selecting one country, only the institutions from that country are represented in the map.

## Search by keywords



Keywords | European Systi x

community.isbe.eu/keywords?name=development

European Systems Biology Community | ISBE

Search for researchers | Ask a question | Map of Institutions | Search keywords

Become a member | Log in

### Keywords

development

Find the researchers with a given keyword in their profile.

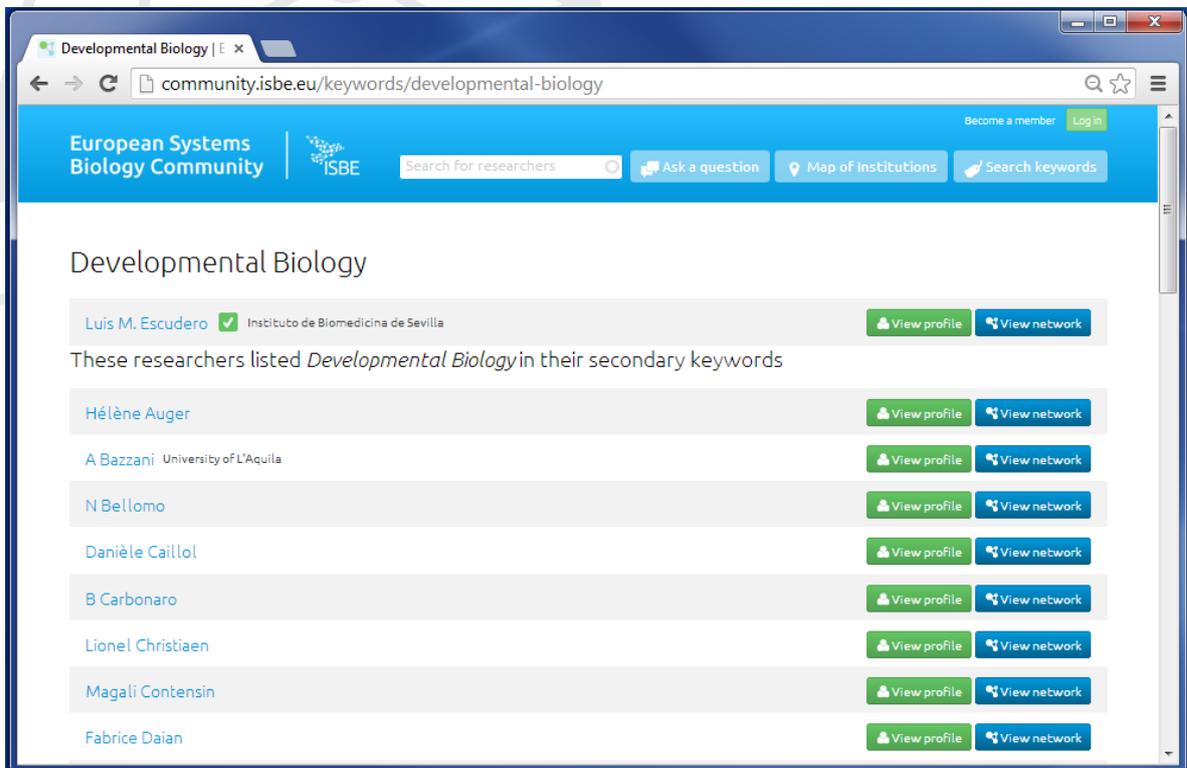
**A**

Arabidopsis Growth & Development (11)

**B**

Bacteria Growth & Development (1)

**C**



Developmental Biology | E x

community.isbe.eu/keywords/developmental-biology

European Systems Biology Community | ISBE

Search for researchers | Ask a question | Map of Institutions | Search keywords

Become a member | Log in

### Developmental Biology

Luis M. Escudero  Instituto de Biomedicina de Sevilla [View profile](#) [View network](#)

These researchers listed *Developmental Biology* in their secondary keywords

H  l  ne Auger [View profile](#) [View network](#)

A Bazzani University of L'Aquila [View profile](#) [View network](#)

N Bellomo [View profile](#) [View network](#)

Dani  le Caillol [View profile](#) [View network](#)

B Carbonaro [View profile](#) [View network](#)

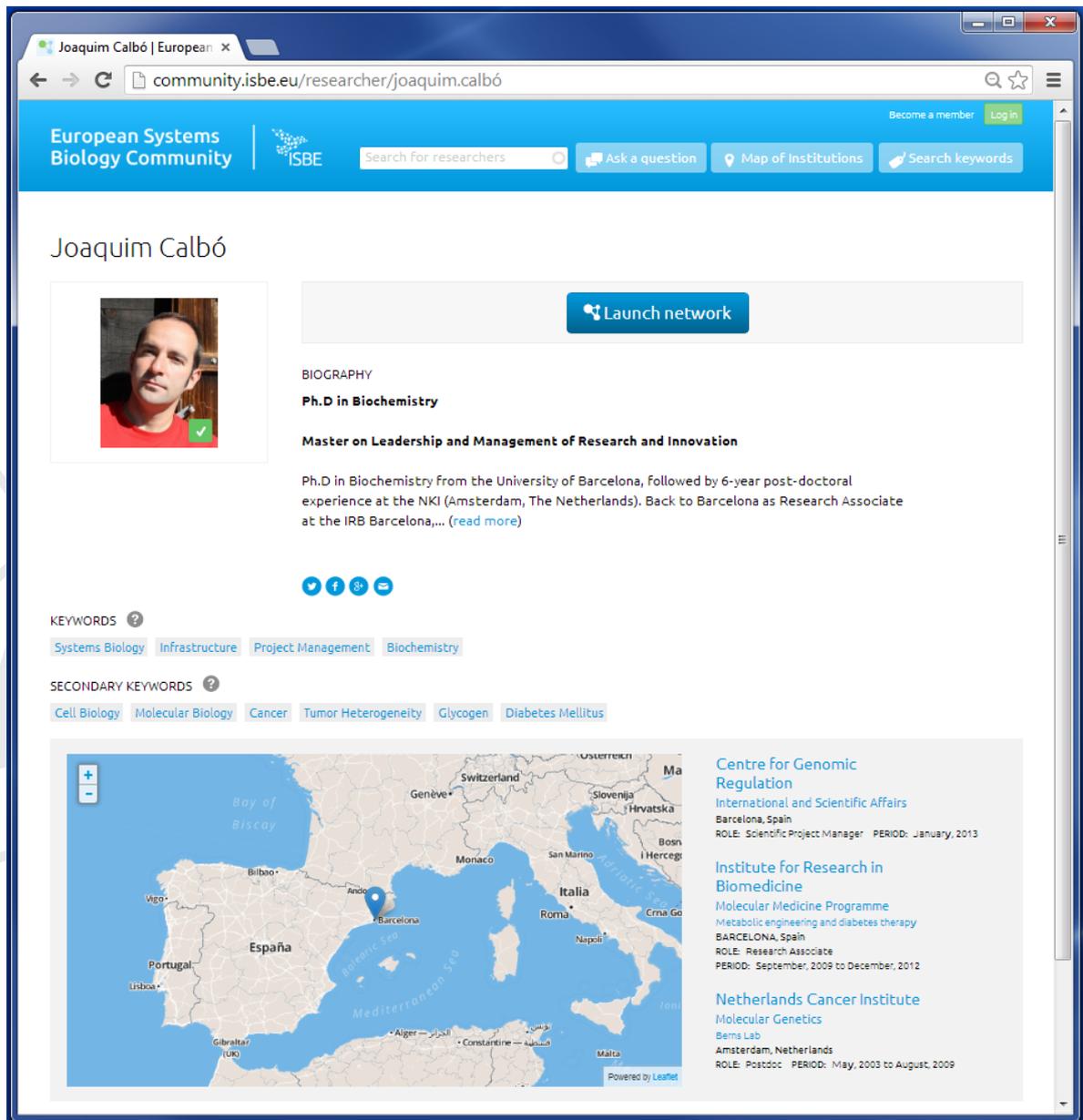
Lionel Christiaen [View profile](#) [View network](#)

Magali Contensin [View profile](#) [View network](#)

Fabrice Daian [View profile](#) [View network](#)

The search by keyword tool facilitates the search of researchers that added a particular keyword to their profiles. In the list of results, registered members are promoted to the first positions in the list.

## Profiles



Joaquim Calbó | European Systems Biology Community

community.isbe.eu/researcher/joaquim.calbó

Search for researchers | Ask a question | Map of Institutions | Search keywords

### Joaquim Calbó

[Launch network](#)

**BIOGRAPHY**

**Ph.D in Biochemistry**

**Master on Leadership and Management of Research and Innovation**

Ph.D in Biochemistry from the University of Barcelona, followed by 6-year post-doctoral experience at the NKI (Amsterdam, The Netherlands). Back to Barcelona as Research Associate at the IRB Barcelona,.... [\(read more\)](#)

[Twitter](#)
[Facebook](#)
[LinkedIn](#)
[Email](#)

**KEYWORDS**

Systems Biology | Infrastructure | Project Management | Biochemistry

**SECONDARY KEYWORDS**

Cell Biology | Molecular Biology | Cancer | Tumor Heterogeneity | Glycogen | Diabetes Mellitus

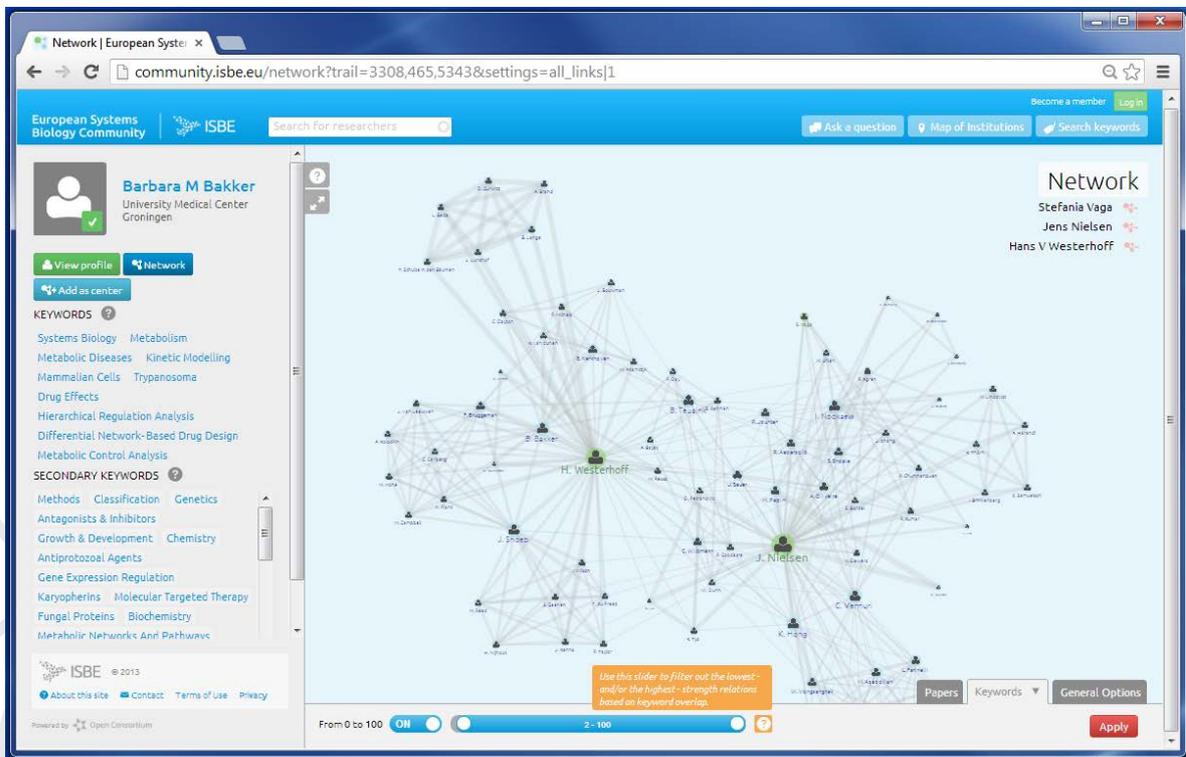
**Centre for Genomic Regulation**  
 International and Scientific Affairs  
 Barcelona, Spain  
 ROLE: Scientific Project Manager PERIOD: January, 2013

**Institute for Research in Biomedicine**  
 Molecular Medicine Programme  
 Metabolic engineering and diabetes therapy  
 BARCELONA, Spain  
 ROLE: Research Associate  
 PERIOD: September, 2009 to December, 2012

**Netherlands Cancer Institute**  
 Molecular Genetics  
 Berns Lab  
 Amsterdam, Netherlands  
 ROLE: Postdoc PERIOD: May, 2003 to August, 2009

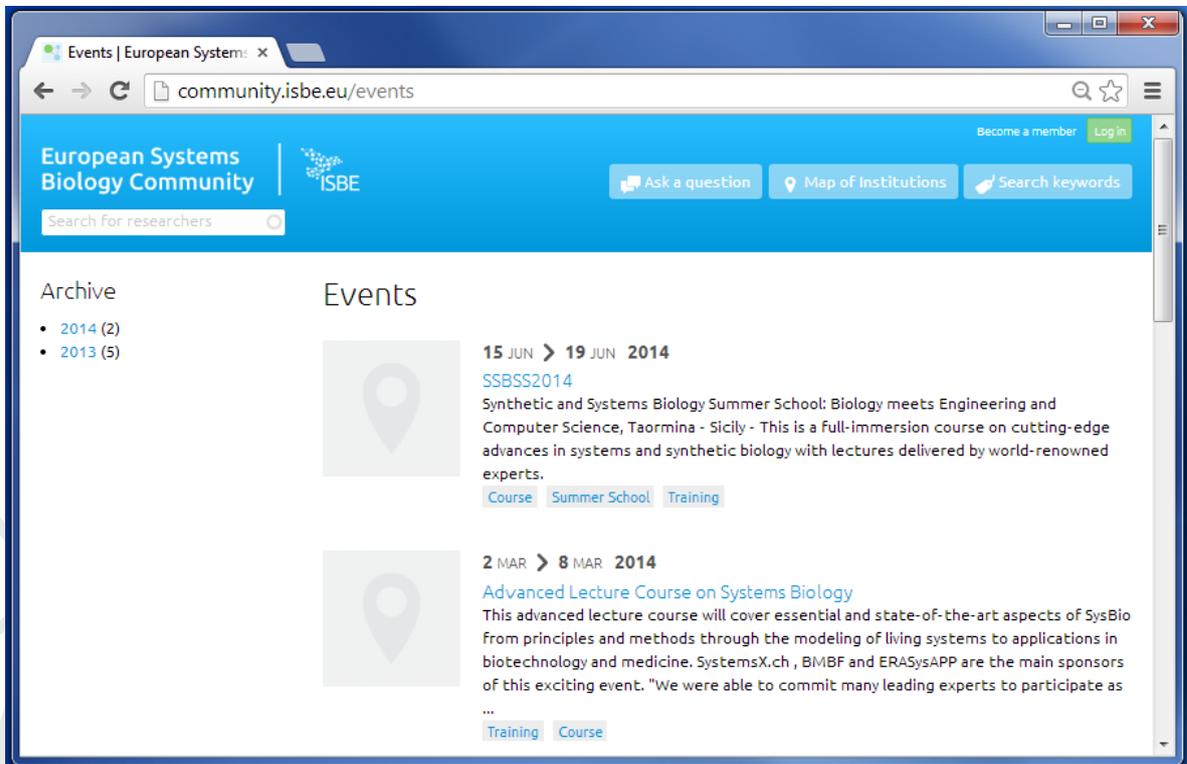
In order to populate the community website with data, automatic profiles were generated using metadata obtained from the public domain of the Pubmed database. Community members can edit their profile page and correct or complete the information shown there. In this page, one can find the picture, a short biography, selected keywords, the current and old affiliations for each community member and the options to launch the network visualization or to contact the researcher.

## Network visualization



An interactive network visualization tool allows the visitors to explore and navigate the links between researchers in the field of SB, based on shared keywords and/or shared authorship in publications. The network is focused in one or more researchers, and the display settings can be modified to obtain meaningful representations. Each researcher is represented by a node in the network, and her/his profile can be pre-viewed by just clicking on the node.

## News and events



Events | European Systems Biology Community

community.isbe.eu/events

European Systems Biology Community | ISBE

Search for researchers

Ask a question | Map of Institutions | Search keywords

Become a member | Log in

Archive

- 2014 (2)
- 2013 (5)

Events

15 JUN > 19 JUN 2014

**SSBSS2014**

Synthetic and Systems Biology Summer School: Biology meets Engineering and Computer Science, Taormina - Sicily - This is a full-immersion course on cutting-edge advances in systems and synthetic biology with lectures delivered by world-renowned experts.

Course Summer School Training

2 MAR > 8 MAR 2014

**Advanced Lecture Course on Systems Biology**

This advanced lecture course will cover essential and state-of-the-art aspects of SysBio from principles and methods through the modeling of living systems to applications in biotechnology and medicine. SystemsX.ch, BMBF and ERASysAPP are the main sponsors of this exciting event. "We were able to commit many leading experts to participate as ...

Training Course

These sections aim to provide useful information to the European systems biology community. Community members can contribute content for these sections by using a link on the page (content to be moderated by web manager). In the near future, additional content to be posted in these or similar sections (training activities, SB resources) shall be obtained from content contributors from other ISBE work packages, or by establishing collaboration with other SB-related initiatives (i.e. ERASysAPP, CASyM).

## Conclusion and outlook

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ISBE has created the European Systems Biology Community website as a platform where the SB community can meet, exchange information, network, and grow. The community website aims to play a crucial role in community building, thus facilitating the interaction of the ISBE with its potential users.

In order to fully accomplish its objectives, the community website must further develop and offer a more comprehensive set of information relevant to the SB community. For this reason the future steps for the management of this tool are:

- Advertise and inform about the community website in order to attract new registrations (i.e. through the SB-specialized journals).
- Encourage registered members to contribute information (mainly news, events, training opportunities).
- Add new sections and functionalities, in collaboration with other ISBE work-packages (i.e. dedicated section on training activities, SB resources, SB/related industry...).
- Stimulate discussion through the website questions&answers forum.

The final goal of the ISBE-promoted community website is to build a complete network of scientists and other stakeholders involved in the field of systems biology.