South Dakota Biomedical Computation Consortium (SDBCC)

1ˢᵗ Operative Committee Meeting

Monday September 16ᵗʰ, 2024 – 11:00 AM CT

Agenda

Zoom Link: https://usd.zoom.us/j/7791525886

Meeting ID: 779 152 5886

Operative Committee Members:
William G. Mayhan—Committee Chair and SDBCC Program Director
KC Santosh—Chair of the Department of Computer Science, USD- SDBCC USD CAS Program PI
William C.W. Chen—Assistant Professor, BBS, SSOM- SDBCC SSOM Program PI
Jeffrey S. McGough—Head of EECS, SDSMT- SDBCC SDSMT Program PI
Randy Hoover—Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, SDSMT
Jessica Messersmith—Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, USD

Attendants: 5 (Dr. Hoover is traveling)

New business:

1) Brief self introduction – Everyone. Thanks to everyone who made it!

2) Describe SDBCC project goals, proposed milestones, and committee roles – Drs. Mayhan and Chen.
   SDBCC proposal and docs were distributed to the committee members last week Drs. Mayhan and Chen briefly summarized SDBCC's big directions, milestones, and general policies. At SDBCC, we would like to create a highly collaborative consortium yet respect the authority, operation, and vision of each participating department and institution. We broadly define "biomedical computation" as any computation-related education and computational research approaches related to biomedical sciences, preclinical and industry translation, and clinical medicine, such as bioinformatics, computer simulation and modeling, artificial intelligence and machine learning, computation-assisted biophysics/biomechanics, etc. The ultimate goal is to further expand SDBCC within the next three years. So this is only the beginning, not the end.

3) Explain the budget and associated obligations/rules/conditions – Drs. Mayhan and Chen.
   SDBCC budget is for 3 years with the opportunity for at least 1 year no-cost extension. Thus, we can literally make a plan for 3.5 to 4 years to partly relieve the pressure of rushing the spending. All personeel funding from SDBCC is guaranteed for 3 years. The participating department and institution will assume the financial responsibility of any tenure-track or tenured faculty appoinements. For graduate students, postdocs, and staff members, each participating laboratory, department, and institution will assume the financial responsibility and do due diligence to seek alternative funding sources before the end of SDBCC.

4) Discuss project implementation, individual tasks, and expectations – Everyone.

- To get the best candidates, faculty hiring (1 at USD SSOM, 2 at USD A&S, and 2 at SDSMT) is intended to be tenure tract positions at USD SSOM and A&S. SDSMT will try to do the same, and Dr. McGough will take the lead to convince the SDSMT leadership.

- SDSMT-USD Joint Data Science and Engineering (DSE) program – PhD level has begun with students starting this Fall. MS level and even undergrad level have been jointly proposed by USD CS and SDSMT EECS. Drs. McGough and Santosh are taking the lead on this academic program.

- SDBCC supported education programs – We expect to create relevant new courses and educational materials as well as workshops, special lectures, summer camps, or any relevant academic activities at participating departments/institutions, but not necessarily a "new academic program" unless it was already planned/executed like the DSE program.

- SDBCC joint seminar series – This has be initiated as a mini-seminar series integrated into USD BBS weekly faculty seminar series with 1-2 seminars per semester. We expect to expand this into a full independent joint seminar series with at least one seminar per academic month with internal and external speakers.

- SDBCC Biomedical Computation Center – This is proposed, and we expect new faculty hires at all participating departments and institutions to be heavily involved. We will check the SDBOR policy and hopefully establish it by the end of Year 2 or sometime in Year 3.

- Advertise SDBCC on department/school webpage and ultuiamtely create an independent web page/site to house educational and research materials created under SDBCC – Dr. McGough volunteered to take the lead on this matter and will try to find ways to create an inter-institutinal webpage (e.g., https://sdbcc.edu/) at SDSMT.

- SDBCC Joint Executive and Operative Committee Meeting – This will take place annually. The 1st joint committee meeting will be held some time in November to allow some progresses, especially personnel recruitment, to take place before reporting to the Executive Committee.

5) Discuss the preparation and date for the 1st SDBCC Joint Executive and Operative Committee Meeting, including a concise summary of an implementation plan from each participating department to initiate, lead, and supervise their corresponding SDBCC tasks and duties, which is expected to be individually presented at the joint meeting – Everyone.
The SDBCC program director Dr. Mayhan will report the SDBCC Executive Committee every quarter. We will have the 1st joint committee meeting at the end of the year, likely in November, so that the Operative Committee has time to make progress and prepare the 1st quarterly report.

6) Discuss the Operative Committee meeting frequency and date/time – Everyone.
All agreed to a quarterly meeting frequency. Additional meetings may be scheduled among committee menbers on a need basis. Dr. Chen will send out another poll to identify meeting dates/times for future Operative Committee meetings.

Other Business:

Next Operative Committee Meeting: TBA

Adjournment: At ~11:55 AM