The Ninth International Workshop on Bio-Design Automation (IWBDA) at the University of Pittsburgh will bring together researchers from the synthetic biology, systems biology, and design automation communities to discuss concepts, methodologies and software tools for the computational analysis and synthesis of biological systems.

The field of synthetic biology, still in its early stages, has largely been driven by experimental expertise, and much of its success can be attributed to the skill of researchers in specific domains of biology. There has been a concerted effort to assemble repositories of standardized biological parts; however, creating and integrating these parts remains an ad-hoc process. Inspired by these challenges, the field has seen a proliferation of efforts to create computer-aided design tools addressing synthetic biology’s specific needs, many drawing on prior expertise from the electronic design automation community.

The IWBDA offers a forum for cross-disciplinary discussion, with the aim of seeding and fostering collaboration between the biological and the design automation research communities.

**About IWBDA 2017**

**Topics of Interest**
- Engineering methods inspired by biology
- Domain specific languages for synthetic biology
- Automated assembly techniques
- Design methodologies for synthetic biology
- Standardization of biological components
- Computer-aided modeling and abstraction techniques
- Data exchange standards and models for synthetic biology

**Abstract Submission**
Abstracts for oral and poster presentations should be two pages long, following ACM SIG Proceedings format. Detailed instructions will be posted on the IWBDA 2017 website.

**BDAthlon Competition**
The BDAthlon will be held on Aug. 8, 2017. Participating teams will work on a set of programming challenges. Prizes will be awarded to the winners at the close of IWBDA.

**Travel Scholarships**
Students and young researchers who have submitted an abstract are invited to apply for travel scholarships. These funds will go towards flight and accommodation costs.

**SBOL Workshop**
A Synthetic Biology Open Language (SBOL) workshop will be held on Aug. 11, 2017. Learn more about the SBOL standard at www.sbolstandard.org

**Key Dates**
- Abstract Submission deadline: April 28, 2017
- Scholarship application due: May 12, 2017
- Abstract and scholarship notification: May 26, 2017
- BDAthlon team application due: June 2, 2017
- BDAthlon competition: August 8, 2017
- Main IWBDA workshop: August 9-10, 2017
- SBOL workshop: August 11, 2017

**IWBDA Information**
- Website: www.iwbdaconf.org/2017/
- Contact the committee: iwbda-exec@lists.bio-design-automation.org

**BDAC Information**
- President: Douglas Densmore
- Vice President: Aaron Adler
- Treasurer: Traci Haddock-Angelli
- Clerk: Natasa Miskov-Zivanov
- Website: www.bio-design-automation.org

**Host University**
PITT Swanson Engineering