Inaugural Computation and Visualization Consortium (CVC) Workshop

When: June 11-14, 2013
Location: Calvin College (Grand Rapids, MI)

Workshop Leaders: Randy Pruim (Calvin College), Danny Kaplan (Macalester College), and Libby Shoop (Macalester College)

Topics and Format
Preparing science faculty to better incorporate large and complex data sets into their courses forms the primary goal of this workshop. Participants will be introduced to and use the software R, via a tool called RStudio. Prior to the workshop, participating faculty will complete a survey that identifies key areas of interest, so that we can tailor the topics to be discussed. Examples of the topics that might be addressed in the workshop include documentation markup for professional presentation of graphics, how data is structured, data operations such as joining and dimension reduction, clustering, maps, and types of data visualization.

The Computation and Visualization Consortium (CVC) and Workshop Participation
The CVC formed during the preparation of proposals for the 2012 “College’s science education” grant program sponsored by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). Six institutions—Macalester College, Calvin College, Grinnell College, Gustavus Adolphus College, Smith College, and Lawrence University—invited to submit a proposal to the HHMI competition—created a consortium with the goal of providing workshops for faculty to enhance their capacity to use increasingly complex and large data sets in their research and classrooms. Although only a subset of schools was funded, the CVC is structured to facilitate participation of faculty from each of the founding CVC schools. All local workshop expenses are paid for and each institution agreed to provide travel support for participants. While faculty members at CVC-institutions are strongly encouraged to apply, a set of seats is available for Faculty from non-CVC institutions. In addition, a limited number of travel scholarships are available for non-CVC participants.

Please complete an application for the workshop using this link.

Lodging and Food:
Lodging (double occupancy) will be provided at the Prince Campus Center located on Calvin’s campus, about a 10-minute walk from the Science Building, where the workshop sessions will be held. For $50, participants can book a single room or share a room with a non-workshop attendee(s). Room charges include breakfast for up to four guests staying in a room. In addition to the breakfast provided by the Prince Center, snacks, lunch and dinner will be provided.

Arrival and Departure
The workshop will begin with lunch in the Prince Conference Center at 11:30 am on Wednesday, June 11. Lunch will be followed by an afternoon and evening session. The workshop will conclude with lunch on Friday, June 14. Those flying to the workshop can book flights to the Gerald R Ford International Airport in Grand Rapids, MI (GRR). The airport is approximately 10 minutes from campus by car. The Prince Conference Center provides a free shuttle if they are provided with flight information in advance. As agreed upon during the planning of the Computational and Visualization Consortium (CVC), each participating institution will cover transportation costs. A limited number of travel scholarships are available for non-CVC participants.
**Institutional Representatives of the Computation and Visualization (CVC) Steering Committee**

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<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Macalester College</td>
<td>Paul J. Overvoorde (Associate Professor of Biology)</td>
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<td>Calvin College</td>
<td>Randy Pruim (Associate Professor of Math and Computer Science)</td>
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<td>Grinnell College</td>
<td>Leslie Gregg-Jolly (Professor of Biology)</td>
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<td>Gustavus Adolphus</td>
<td>Jeff Dahlseid (Associate Professor of Biology and Chemistry)</td>
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<td>Lawrence University</td>
<td>Beth DeStasio and Nancy Wall (Professor of Biology)</td>
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<td>Smith College</td>
<td>Nick Horton (Professor of Statistics)</td>
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