How not to Become a Systems Biologist

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The current trend in bioinformatics is away from studies limited to one or a few systems, towards emphasis on integrative studies. How can we move in this direction in a “continuous” way, rather than have to start re-learning all of science from the beginning? The idea is to try to apply the general approaches that we have been using - although of course not the same exact techniques - to other systems.
In this talk I shall describe some of the difficulties and solutions that we have encountered.

Prof. Arthur Lesk was educated in the U.S.A., but spent most of his career in Europe, at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology and the University of Cambridge, and at EMBL in Heidelberg. His research interests are focussed on computational analysis of protein structure and systems biology. Working with Dr Cyrus Chothia he has contributed to our understanding of the mechanism of protein evolution. Currently he is Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at The Pennsylvania State University in the U.S.A.