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In Brief

Wriggers Awarded Sloan Foundation Fellowship

Willy Wriggers, assistant professor in the Department of Molecular Biology at The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI), has been awarded a Sloan Research Fellowship in computational and evolutionary molecular biology from The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. The fellowships are awarded annually to recognize and support young scientists and scholars in seven fields: chemistry, computational and evolutionary molecular biology, computer science, economics, mathematics, neuroscience, and physics.

Wriggers directs the Laboratory of Structural Bioinformatics, which models and simulates 3D structures of large subcellular biological machines. Using modern information processing techniques, in concert with physics-based simulation methods, the team combines structural data of biological machines from a variety of biophysical sources. In particular, they investigate the architecture, dynamics, and function of large-scale macromolecular assemblies with low-resolution density data from electron microscopy.

Wriggers states that their work was made possible by the highly collaborative environment at TSRI. "We appreciate the support of the nominating Molecular Biology Department and of our friends and collaborators [Professors] Charles Brooks and Ronald Milligan," Wriggers says. "[They] all have provided much encouragement throughout the years to bridge scientific disciplines and departmental boundaries."