# iscb & JUNO

Scaling the Mission for Science Equity with JUNO's Community Technology

### **OVERVIEW**

With limited team resources in a global pandemic that none of us saw coming, the <u>International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB)</u> held its first simultaneously hybrid event ISMB July 10-14 in 2020. The virtual component of the event was accessible via <u>Nucleus</u>, ISCB's year-round community hub for science, training and technology designed to serve the ISCB science community between events. The organization hosts five global conferences annually to over 3,000 members worldwide and, with a strategic and lofty goal of science equity worldwide, saw the value in leveraging JUNO technology for a brighter future.

#### THE APPROACH

"When we hit the pandemic, it was an eye-opener for us how quickly we could achieve the mission of science equity and really enable those who don't have the funding to travel to these big conferences to come and collaborate and present their science. We realized we were able to deliver science to developing and underdeveloped countries in a much better way by offering them virtual attendance," said CEO Diane Kovats.

# ISCB's Challenge:

Provide accessible science to over 3,000 global members and more to advance their goal for science equity worldwide.

## JUNO's Solution:

A fully-customizable community suite featuring an on-demand library of research and resources, social hubs for networking and collaboration, speaker pages that catalog the evolution of scientific research, a vetted career center and so much more!

And it worked. In 2020, ISCB attracted 86 countries to its annual meeting and in 2021 saw that number grow to 89.

The pandemic forced ISCB to embrace digital event technology, but the organization saw the value of leveraging technology to serve an even greater goal. One platform that could extend community reach 365, be familiarized among its entire user base and fulfill the need for a central, boundaryless resource hub was ideal.

ISCB's small team of four saw value in condensing their tech stack to one simple platform, rather than juggling content on YouTube, Slack channels and Google groups. "Once it all comes together, you'll start to see it organically grow, Diane says.

Plus, the platform has a very cool name for these computational biologists. Nucleus is now where they share ideas or directly tag community experts on an open, freely accessible platform. Nucleus boasts a rich library of both free and members-only training within the ISCB Academy, a collaboration hub for mentoring, a career center, and the archival of all past conferences. JUNO's software has enabled ISCB to bring free science to the world, promote underdeveloped researchers and provide a community through Nucleus.



"What's really cool about the design of this platform is it's so customizable. As your vision and needs change, the platform can change with you," says Kovats. Since the launch in 2020, ISCB has worked with JUNO to add tags for AI matchmaking, add presentations to speaker profiles to present an evolution of scientific research, and is looking at how to make the Solutions Emporium more interactive to allow ISCB's solutions partners to engage with the audience directly.

The team at ISCB have proven the impossible can be done when you come together under a common goal. On a mission to resolve inequity in science, they now boast a vetted social media hub for their community of knowledge-seekers: a haven for collaboration, engagement with their science community, and access to the most important content to get ahead in their careers.

Learn more about JUNO's technology and team at <u>junolive.com</u>.

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