

## INCREASING ACCESS TO BIOINFORMATICS RESOURCES

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Based on the conclusions from our Phase I SBIR grant, which tested the efficiency of several methods for training researchers on the use of genomic resources, OpenHelix ([www.openhelix.com](http://www.openhelix.com)) has developed, and currently provides up-to-date online training materials on a large number of bioinformatics resources, covering major providers and research areas.

Through a Phase II SBIR grant and other funding, we are developing a search portal for online bioinformatics resources. With the search portal, researchers will be able to find the bioinformatics and genomics online databases and resources most relevant to their needs. The search portal will contain an index of hundreds of the most popular and powerful resources, as well as the content of over 100 OpenHelix tutorials. Using various ranking techniques, the portal will be able to provide more relevant results than a simple keyword search. Additionally, as part of an extension of our Phase II grant, we are providing a sponsored suite of Model Organism Database trainings that include GBrowse, FlyBase, MGI, RGD, SGD, WormBase and ZFIN. We are also developing, and will be offering, sponsored live trainings on resources at NCBI as a way of filling the void left by the demise of the NCBI Field Guide outreach programs.