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Memorandum

To: Pamela B. Davis, M.D., Ph.D.
Dean, School of Medicine

From: Jill Barnholtz-Sloan, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Council 2011



Date: January 24, 2012

Re: Proposed Name Change for the Department of Human Genetics-(SOM)

At its most recent meeting (January 23, 2012), the Faculty Council reviewed a proposal to change the name of the Department of Human Genetics (SOM) to the Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences.

The department name change was proposed and presented to Faculty Council by Mark Chance, Ph.D., Interim-Chair, of the Department of Human Genetics. A copy of the proposal is enclosed with this memorandum.

Faculty Council concluded, from the information presented, that many other academic genetic departments are expanding their mission and practices to better address how genetic research and discovery have evolved just in the last few years. The new title would better reflect current trends and encompass a broader genetic vision while laying the foundation for future growth, innovative programs, and recruitment.

Accordingly, the Faculty Council concluded that the name change would be beneficial. The Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of the proposal.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need further information. Thank you for your consideration.

C: Mark Chance, Ph.D.



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

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Memorandum

January 24, 2012

Gary Chottiner, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Senate
c/o Liz Woyczynski
Secretary of the University
Adelbert Hall

Dear Dr. Chottiner,

Mark Chance, Ph.D., Interim Chair of the Department of Human Genetics, has requested that the name of the department be changed to the Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences. The proposal was considered by the medical school's Faculty Council on January 23, 2012, and was approved by a vote of 33 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining.

This proposal has my unqualified support. The mission and scope of genetics has changed considerably since the department was established with its current name, and leading medical schools have changed the name of their departments accordingly. The new name better reflects the current trends and encompasses a broader genetic vision.

Since this proposal has the support of the department's faculty and the Faculty of Medicine as a whole, along with my own support, I hope that the Faculty Senate will agree and forward this proposal on to the Board of Trustees for action.

A copy of a supporting document provided by Dr. Chance is enclosed. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD

enc.

C. M. Chance



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December 19, 2011

Pamela Davis, M.D., Ph.D.
Dean
Case School of Medicine

Dear Dr. Davis:

I am respectfully requesting a name change for the "Department of Human Genetics" at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine to the "Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences". The Genetics Department has a long history of research and discovery in the genetics of humans and model organisms and as the Human Genome project has unfolded the Department's mission and scope have evolved along with these changes in science.

Like other academic departments, Genetics is a collection of entrepreneurs. As such, the future is defined by what we can envision and are willing to do individually and together. The work of our department is to provide fertile ground for innovative research and inspirational teaching. While we cannot and should not dictate the path for individual research programs, we can and should seek as a group to understand funding trends, assess research outside of the Department and outside Case, and see how our work fits in. We should also communicate what is distinctive about our department, and shine a light on opportunities for unique and fruitful collaborations. Similarly, in educating our students, we should be aware of, and then move beyond best practices, piloting innovative programs that will make our graduates among the most sought after in their fields.

On October 21, 2010, the Genetics faculty, graduate students, post docs, and staff gathered to discuss and debate our vision. The Genetics Retreat (Imagining Genetics 2020) was planned and facilitated by several leaders within our department. People's passion for this field as well as desire to have a thriving Genetics Department in the School of Medicine was evidenced by the turnout, particularly the large number of secondary faculty who participated. At the retreat, we shared our thoughts, information on other models and departments was discussed, debated, and we leveraged our collective wisdom to build a collaborative view of the future for the department. As a result of this retreat a strategic vision was formed. We strongly felt that our future growth and health depended on pursuit of four major areas of research in the field of genetics. These included model organism studies, human genetics, bioinformatics, and genomics and proteomics. In these four areas we have specific plans to: DISCOVER, INNOVATE, TRANSLATE and EDUCATE in our

field. Overall, this retreat crystallized our view that Genetics is core to our mission and vision, but that we go beyond Genetics as well.

Recently, as part of our continued process of implementing Imagining Genetics 2020, we discussed the need to prepare for a search for a new Chair that is to commence in a short time. In this time of preparation the faculty decided to give conscious thought as to how we want to present ourselves. Our view was that this presentation was critical to attracting top-flight applicants.

Thus, in a faculty meeting in December, we spent time discussing the Department's name. Although we are nominally the Department of Genetics, we are actually named Human Genetics. Was this what we wanted? Does this project the image and reality of our future? The faculty view at that meeting (including primary and secondary faculty) was unanimous for change, although two leading candidates emerged: Genetics and Genomics vs. Genetics and Genome Sciences. We decided to take an e-mail poll over the next few days between the 2 "new" options so that faculty members not at the meeting along with students could weigh in. It was still close but clear. The primary faculty voted 10-6 for the new name (one not voting), the students' elected representatives voted for the new name, and secondary faculty tied 6-6.

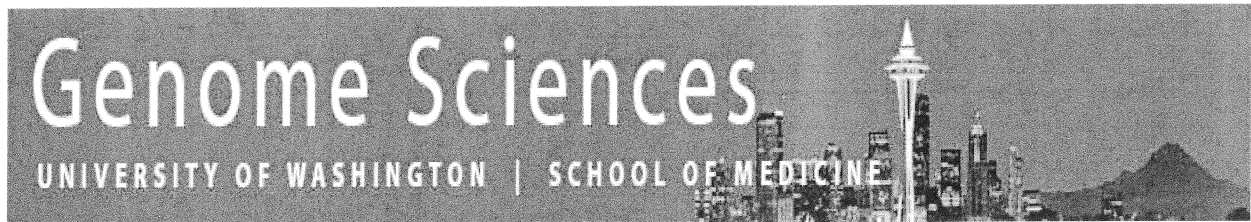
In the existing models discussed at the faculty meeting, in the use of Genome Sciences we join the University of Washington (Department of Genome Sciences), Wash U (Center for Genome Sciences and Systems Biology), Duke (Institute for Genome Sciences and Policy), and Univ. of Md. (Institute for Genome Sciences), UNC (Carolina Center for Genome Sciences). I have attached the vision/mission from each of these institution's websites.

The new title better reflects the current status and desired evolution of the department. It encompasses a broad vision and lays a foundation for future recruitment and growth of the department within the School of Medicine and beyond and situates the department appropriately to grow and thrive. I understand you will forward this request to the Faculty Council for consideration and I appreciate your time examining this issue. I look forward to hearing from you about this proposed change.

Sincerely,



Mark Chance, Ph.D.
Professor and Interim Chair
Department of Genetics



Welcome

Welcome to the Department of Genome Sciences, which began in September 2001 by the fusion of the Departments of Genetics and Molecular Biotechnology.

Our goal is to address leading edge questions in biology and medicine by developing and applying genetic, genomic and computational approaches that take advantage of genomic information now available for humans, model organisms and a host of other species. Our faculty study a broad range of topics, including the genetics of *E. coli*, yeast, *C. elegans*, *Drosophila*, and mouse; human and medical genetics; mathematical, statistical and computer methods for analyzing genomes, and theoretical and evolutionary genetics; and genome-wide studies by such approaches as sequencing, transcriptional and translational analysis, polymorphism detection and identification of protein interactions.

Our chair, **Dr. Robert Waterston**, joined the department in January 2003. Our department includes both faculty with primary appointments in Genome Sciences, as well as adjuncts in other departments and Seattle institutions. Nine faculty are members of the **National Academy of Sciences**, including 2001 Nobel Prize winner **Dr. Lee Hartwell**, who conducted much of his groundbreaking work in the Department of Genetics. Five training faculty are **Howard Hughes Medical Institute** Investigators. Graduate research in the Department leads to a **Ph.D. in Genome Sciences** and students may also choose to participate in the **Computational Molecular Biology** or **Molecular Medicine** programs. Our department has around 55 - 60 graduate students at any given time and has moved into the new William H. Foege Building.



Center for Genome Sciences
& Systems Biology



Washington University in St. Louis

School of Medicine

Center for Genome Sciences & Systems Biology

Mission Statement

The Center for Genome Sciences & Systems Biology is home to an interdisciplinary, multi-departmental, multi-generational team of investigators from multiple schools who focus on comparative genomics, statistical genomics, and systems biology.

The Center strives to catalyze development and application of new analytic methods for studying the major disease franchises embraced by BioMed 21.

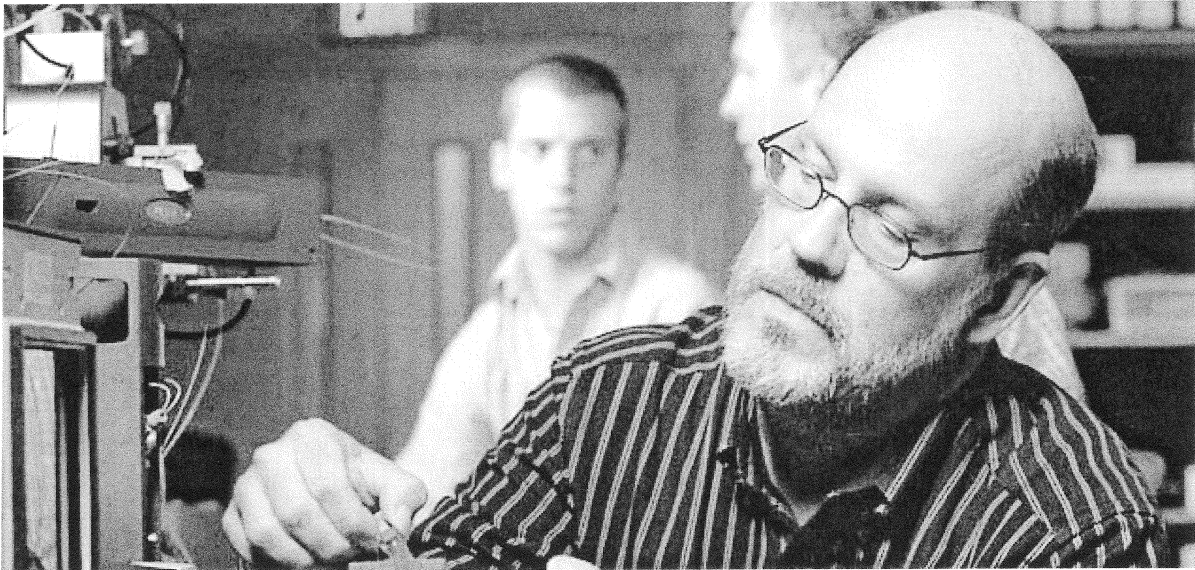
It helps sponsor development of key infrastructure elements so as to allow rapid evolution of computational biology at WU.

It serves as 'proving ground' for developing new strategies for educating students and faculty who wish to work at the interface of the biological, physical, computational and engineering sciences.

Duke Institute for Genome Sciences & Policy (IGSP)

Duke University

Mission Statement



The most profound scientific revolutions have a transforming quality; they change not only science and society, but also how we view our place in the world: Copernicus, Newton, the Industrial Revolution, the agricultural revolution, the nuclear age, and the space age have all been far reaching. Each one has, in its time, effected pervasive social change and raised a host of new scientific and social challenges. Now it is time for the Genome Revolution.

We are dedicated to the study of life through scientific inquiry involving interdisciplinary research in genome sciences and policy. We are a passionate supporter and facilitator of campus-wide research and scholarship that explore the impact of genome sciences on all aspects of life, human health and social policy.

Our passion for the implications of genome sciences on humanity, our interdisciplinary approach to its study, our commitment to education at all levels, and our dual focus on policy as well as science - these are what set the IGSP apart.

UNIVERSITY *of* MARYLAND

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

INSTITUTE FOR GENOME SCIENCES

The Institute for Genome Sciences (IGS), an international research center within the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) is led by Claire Fraser-Liggett, Ph.D. and a team of internationally recognized faculty. Comprised of an inter-disciplinary, multi-department team of investigators, the Institute uses the powerful tools of genomics and bioinformatics to understand genome function in health and disease, to study molecular and cellular networks in a variety of model systems, and to generate data and bioinformatics resources of value to the international scientific community. The scientific discoveries that are being made at IGS are helping to unravel the mysteries of biological systems and to improve healthcare for people around the world.

History

Formed in May 2007, the Institute for Genome Sciences is part of the University of Maryland School of Medicine and is housed in the BioPark complex on the University of Maryland Baltimore campus.

The Institute is led by Claire Fraser-Liggett, Ph.D., a preeminent genome scientist and microbiologist and a team of investigators who have been working on the cutting edge of genomic research for the past 15 years. Members of the IGS team have helped revolutionize genomic discoveries in medicine, agriculture, environmental science and biodefense. By applying genomic tools to clinical research, these investigators are creating new dynamics for understanding individual differences in our susceptibility to disease, for understanding the role of our bodies' microorganisms in health and disease, and for exploring new personalized therapeutics. IGS investigators are also leading the development of the new field of microbial forensics.

In the years since IGS was created, the institute has become a leading center for major biological initiatives currently underway including the NIH-funded Human Microbiome Project (HMP) and the NIAID-sponsored Genomic Sequencing Center for Infectious Diseases (GSCID).

What is Genomics?

By definition, the study of genomics has only become possible in the last decade as the entire genomes of organisms were being deciphered. From its humble beginnings, the field of genomics began in earnest in 1995 with the sequence of the first free-living organism, a bacterium called *Haemophilus influenzae* containing 1.8 million base pairs of DNA. Since then an explosion of sequence information has emerged from organisms as diverse as bacteria, yeast, flies, mice and plants. In April 2003, the largest and most ambitious project to date—the human genome—was finally complete, with all 3 billion base pairs spelled out. This is clearly a landmark scientific and technological achievement, but in many ways, it is merely the beginning of a long road of discovery that lies ahead.

Genomics aims to make sense of all this raw sequence data. We can now begin to ask questions that were never possible before: What are all the genes turned on in cancer cells that are off in normal cells? How many targets does a particular drug or herbicide have? What are all the genes that make mice different from humans? Why do certain drugs work for some patients but not others? Answers to these and many other important questions can be discovered as vast amounts of sequence data are analyzed and interpreted by genomic researchers from many different basic and applied disciplines.

Genomics at UNC

Since 2001, the overarching goal of the Carolina Center for Genome Sciences (CCGS) has been to support genomic research at UNC Chapel Hill. We pursue this goal by focusing on four areas: **Research**, **Technology**, **Training**, and **Education**. We are dedicated to making significant advances in basic genomic research, as well as translating these discoveries to improving healthcare, education and society.

Our **Research** effort is anchored in the salary support we provide to 21 faculty members in 7 academic units and 15 departments across campus. Genomics is, by its nature, a multidisciplinary science. It requires deep expertise in genetics, biology, biochemistry, bioinformatics, epidemiology, computer science, statistics, engineering, and the social sciences. We also have PhD-level staff scientists available to coordinate interdisciplinary projects and proposals. **Technology** is critical to progress in genomics. Among other initiatives, the CCGS contributes to the operation of the UNC High Throughput Sequencing Facility, which operates eight state-of-the-art Illumina machines and the new Pacific Biosciences SMRT platform. The CCGS has also played a central role in organizing the bioinformatics efforts across campus, which are essential for realizing the potential of these technologies. Our **Training** mission is represented by the three graduate programs we administer to train future interdisciplinary genomic scientists: the NIH-funded Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (BCB) PhD program, the PhD Curriculum in Genetics and Molecular Biology PhD program, also funded by the NIH, and the Developmental Biology certificate program. Finally, none of our work will have an impact if we do not **Educate** our faculty and the public about Genome Science and its implications. The CCGS sponsors and organize several symposia and classes throughout the year, focusing on genomic technology, data analysis, ethical and legal implications, and other topics. We also invite speakers from other universities and companies around the world to give seminars on related topics.

Through our efforts in these four areas, we endeavor to apply the knowledge gained through genomics to health and welfare of society at all levels, including drug discovery, patient care, crop protection, and public policy.