



The University of Georgia

Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

May 10, 2010

Re: Evaluation of ABCC

From: David J. Garfinkel

To: Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my strong support for the ABCC at the NCI- Frederick. My laboratory interacted with Dr.'s Ming Yi and Robert Stephens in two areas; understanding the functional relationships of genes that are required for Ty1 retrotransposition, and comparing host cofactor genes that modulate HIV-1 replication and Ty1 retrotransposition. I cannot overemphasize how fortunate we have been to be able to access the expertise of the ABCC in our studies. Ming and Bob were responsible for data collection, interpretation and statistical analysis, where they applied gene ontology (GO) algorithms for the analysis of our mutational and phenotypic data. The results were always conveyed with great clarity and enthusiasm. Their interpretation was conservative, and we were urged to draw careful conclusions from our results, a way of thinking that I value. Most importantly, their GO analysis was included in one publication in *Genetics* (D.J. Garfinkel *et al. Genetics* 178:197-214, 2008) and the comparisons with HIV-1 cofactor genes are guiding future work. Even though I am no longer at the National Cancer Institute, I hold the ABCC in high regard and miss the collegial uncomplicated interactions with Ming and Bob. I strongly hope that my former NCI colleagues will be able to continue to benefit from the resources and the expertise at the ABCC.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require additional information.

Sincerely,

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