



Frederick

May 5, 2010

I am very happy to provide a letter in support of the Bioinformatics Support Group in the Advanced Biomedical Computing Center (ABCC) of the National Cancer Institute (NCI). I have had several opportunities to work with the ABCC since becoming Director of the Laboratory of Molecular Technology in February of 2009.

Robert Stephens, Manager of the Bioinformatics Support Group, has been working actively with the LMT on developing LIMS systems within our laboratory. The effort of his group including significant contributions from Jin Chen has established a valuable functionality for our Sanger Sequencing team. Mr. Chen continues to add functionality and to work closely with the Sanger and Molecular Diagnostics groups to enhance the LIMS system for both internal and customer use. Sherri He in Dr. Stephen's group has been extremely helpful in developing a LIMS system for the new Transgenic genotyping service within the LMT. The support for transgenic genotyping will reduce costs, speed processing and provide more rapid results for several research projects within the NCI. Hongmei has provided outstanding support in the development of a LIMS system for the microarray group.

The Bioinformatics Support Group has also worked closely with the mutation detection group to build an automated pipeline for data analysis. The work of Hue Vuong has contributed significantly to the completion of a major study for Mark Greene within the Division of Cancer Epidemiology. Hue has also facilitated the development and delivery of sequence primers for mutation detection projects for several investigators within the NCI. The next-generation sequencing group has benefitted enormously from the data processing pipeline created within the ABCC.

It is absolutely clear that the LMT has benefited at many levels from the careful and timely work provided by Dr. Stephen's group. It would be difficult to provide the necessary support services for many NCI projects without the assistance of the ABCC and I strongly believe that new genomics applications will demand increased capabilities within the ABCC in the immediate future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Soppet", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

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