



**HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL**



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Dr. Rafael Palacios
Coordinator, Undergraduate Program on Genomic Sciences
National Autonomous University of Mexico

Dear Dr. Palacios:

I have been asked to provide an evaluation of your undergraduate program in Genomic Sciences. I am pleased to write that, in my opinion, it is one of the most comprehensive and highest quality programs that I have had the privilege of evaluating during my academic career.

During my recent visit to your Institute, I was impressed by the caliber of the students in your program. My interactions with them convinced me that they were well selected and very passionate about their studies. The questions that they posed to me and subsequent discussion that we had, demonstrated that they each had a broad-based education with enough detailed knowledge to begin independent thinking of problems in genomic sciences. Moreover, over the last two years, I have had the pleasure of receiving three of your undergraduate students in my research laboratory for 10-week research rotations. I am proud to write that each student was very productive during his/her tenure in my laboratory. Each student was mature, learned new protocols quickly, and critically thought about the implications of their experimental results. Moreover, each student ended up with justified co-authorships on research papers published in journals including *Human Molecular Genetics*, *BMC Genomics*, and *American Journal of Human Genetics*. This is a clear testament to the academic foundation that your program in Genomic Sciences has provided.

I have also now reviewed your latest Curricular Map (2008) for this program and find it to be a well thought-out proposal. In particular, I am impressed with the logical progression of basic courses to advanced courses to courses requiring integrative analyses. This all prepares the students for a very practical research component in semesters 7 and 8 – which will undoubtedly make your students very competitive for graduate programs worldwide.

In summary, I am very impressed with your undergraduate program and would desire to have some changes made to our Harvard University Undergraduate Program in Biological Sciences that mimic what you have already accomplished. I wish you and your colleagues continued success in this academic training program and look forward to the many scientific breakthroughs that your students will inevitably make.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles Lee".

Charles Lee, Ph.D.
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