February 12, 2008



Richard A. Gibbs, Ph.D Director and Wofford Cain Endowed Chair

Dr. Rafael Palacios Coordinator Undergraduate Program on Genomic Sciences National Autonomous University of Mexico Human Genome Sequencing Center One Baylor Plaza Alkek Building, 15th Floor Houston, Texas 77030-3498

> TEL: (713)798-6539 FAX: (713)798-5741 e-mail:agibbs@bcm.edu

Dear Dr Palacios,

Congratulations on your outstanding program. Through examination of the curriculum and from my visit to your campus I have learned that you have compiled a truly first rate approach to training young talented scientists in all aspects of Genomics and related disciplines. Your balance of providing mathematical training, computational skills and all aspects of biology as well as time in the laboratory provides a model that I think is unique. In designing this innovative program you have really managed to provide all the most important areas of training to equip these individuals with the skills and knowledge they will need to be successful scientists.

The thoughtfulness of the balance you have provided is reflected in all aspects of the program and more than evident when visiting.

The most dramatic demonstration of how powerful the training model is in the obvious quality of the individual students. Since I met so many on my visit and after following contact with some of them and having two visits for summer last year, all my positive views are affirmed. These are very bright and accomplished young people. At least one has been accepted to a BCM Graduate program and this is a wonderful development. I wish they all could come here - without exception I believe each would be a strong addition here.

Congratulations again on your tremendous achievement in building this program.

Sincerely

Richard Gibbs, Ph.D.

Director, Human Genome Sequencing Center Wofford Cain Professor of Molecular and Human Genetics

Baylor College of Medicine