Greetings from the Chair

Dr. James Woolliscroft was named Dean of the Medical School in July. He is well suited for this position, having demonstrated exemplary service as the Executive Associate Dean and Interim Dean. He is an internationally recognized medical educator and strong supporter of graduate education. We look forward to his leadership in balancing the educational, research, and clinical missions of the Medical School in the coming years.

Dr. Mary Sue Coleman, President of the University of Michigan and a biochemist by training, has shown her support for graduate education by offering a 1 to 2 match for donor gifts for education this year, which dovetails with our goal of establishing an endowment to support graduate student fellowships.

I am delighted to report some highlights of the many accomplishments of our faculty, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students and staff during the past year. I encourage alumni to update us with news of career advancement and achievements using the enclosed card.

On behalf of our Department, I invite you to join us at our alumni gathering in San Diego at the American Society of Human Genetics meetings this year. Our event will be held on October 25 at the Marriott Hotel and Marina, in the Solana Room, from 8-11 p.m.

With best regards,

Sally A. Camper, Ph.D.
James V. Neel Professor and Chair

Faculty Recruitment

Dr. Jun Li has joined us this fall as an assistant professor and member of the Center for Computational Medicine and Biology. Dr. Li comes to us from Stanford University School of Medicine, where he was a Senior Scientist and Project Leader in the Stanford Human Genome Center. Dr. Li received his Ph.D. in Biology from Cal Tech in 1998. For his thesis he worked with Henry Lester on structure function relationships and single channel behavior of cyclic nucleotide gated channels. He did his postdoctoral training in human genetics at Stanford with Rick Myers and Neil Risch, working on candidate genes for autism and HIV resistance. His future research goal is to understand how genetic variation contributes to the etiology of complex diseases, including accounting for the effects of early development and the environment on genetic susceptibility.
Faculty Promotions, Awards, Honors

Jeff Innis was promoted to Professor of Human Genetics and Pediatrics this year. We are extremely proud of his accomplishments in basic research and in building the Pediatric Medical Genetics Division with faculty recruitments (especially in biochemical genetics), the Medical Genetics Residency Program, and the Molecular Genetics DNA Diagnostic Laboratory.

John Moran received the Dean’s Basic Science Award. John has made great progress in obtaining mechanistic answers to some fundamental questions, such as how much of the repetitive DNA has the potential to move, what is the mechanism whereby it mobilizes, and what keeps it from mutagenizing the whole genome? John’s lab has laid the foundation for harnessing the properties of mobile elements to discover gene function and develop gene therapy.

Dave Ginsburg was elected to the National Academy of Sciences, one of the highest honors bestowed upon scientists, in recognition of distinguished research achievements in the molecular mechanisms that underlie life threatening bleeding disorders.

Liz Petty was promoted to Professor in Internal Medicine and Human Genetics. We are tremendously grateful for her continuing service and leadership as Medical Director of the Master’s Program in Genetic Counseling and Associate Dean in the Office of Student Programs and Admissions.

Bev Yashar was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor in Human Genetics and Ophthalmology. She was the first recipient of the new Rackham Master’s Mentoring Award for her commitment to fostering the intellectual, creative, scholarly and professional growth of graduate students in the Genetic Counseling Program.

Anand Swaroop received the Distinguished Faculty Lectureship Award in Biomedical Research from the Biomedical Research Council for his achievements in teaching, research and service. He began a leave of absence from the University of Michigan this fall as he joins the National Eye Institute in Bethesda to establish a new Neurobiology, Neurodegeneration and Repair Laboratory.

Miriam Meisler was named the Associate Dean for Graduate Education.

Tom Gelehrter was appointed Professor Emeritus this fall. During his career, Tom has made outstanding contributions, both nationally and locally, in medical education, clinical medicine and research. He served
as chair of the Department of Human Genetics for almost 18 years. He continues to be active in the Medical Genetics Clinic, teaches in and directs Patients and Populations for first year medical students, and is working on the third edition of his popular textbook, Principles of Medical Genetics.

The Department faculty, their research activities, and recent publications can be found on the Departmental website at www.hg.med.umich.edu.

The Center for Genetics in Health and Medicine (CGHM) awarded postdoctoral fellowships to two outstanding individuals, Mattias Jakobsson and Lisa Sharkey. Mattias is a member of Noah Rosenberg’s laboratory and is studying haplotype variation and linkage disequilibrium in African populations. Lisa is evaluating candidate genes in patients with hereditary spastic paraplegia in Miriam Meisler’s lab, in collaboration with Dr. John Fink in Neurology.

The CGHM is playing a critical role in acquisition and implementation of new, high-throughput technologies for DNA sequencing, genotyping, and expression profiling. In collaboration with Dr. Robert Lyons and the DNA Sequencing Core, we obtained nearly $500,000 in funding from the National Institutes of Health for an Illumina Bead Station. CGHM and the Endowment for the Basic Sciences (EBS) are supporting personnel and start up costs. We also acquired an Illumina (formerly Solexa) Genome Analyzer and several other pieces of high-throughput analytical instrumentation, generously funded by the EBS Genetics and Genomics Initiative. Our ability to perform mRNA profiling, micro-RNA profiling, chromatin immunoprecipitation, and SNP discovery has been advanced dramatically. Current journals and scientific meetings are abuzz with the capabilities that these instruments deliver, and with the remarkable advances they enable. For more information, see a recent report highlighting the Encode Project (Nature 447:799-816, 2007), or the explanation of the mysterious honey bee colony collapse disorder (Science 10:1126, 2007) that was made possible with this new technology.

There have been several other exciting advances in the genetics and genomics arena at University of Michigan. A bacterial artificial chromosome engineering service is being developed as part of the Transgenic Animal Model Core. This effort, led by Dr. Thomas Saunders, was made possible by the EBS, the Life Science Institute, and numerous centers on campus. An inhibitory RNA core facility was established by Dr. Gabriel Núñez, Department of Pathology, with support from the EBS. This Core distributes whole genome expression-arrest microRNA-adapted shRNA (small hairpin RNA) lentiviral libraries so that high-throughput inhibitory molecule screens are feasible for human and mouse. All of these new technologies promise to revolutionize human genetics.

Graduate Education

Didi Robins continues as our Director of Graduate Education. We currently have 8 postdoctoral research fellows appointed in the laboratories of primary faculty, 19 doctoral students, including two students in the Medical Scientist Training Program, and 12 students pursuing Master’s degrees in genetic counseling.

The 2007 recipient of the Anita and Howard Cramer Scholarship Award is Christine Beck from the Moran lab. Christine is examining individual human variation
due to differential LINE-1 activity and the role of the cysteine-rich domain in LINE-1 mobilization.

The James V. Neel Fellowship Awards went to Clement Chow and Patty Arscott. Clement is a member of the Meisler lab. He cloned FIG4, a phosphoinositide phosphatase gene mutated in mice with the pale tremor mutation, demonstrated its role in endo-lysosomal pathway trafficking, and identified FIG4 mutations in humans with neurological disease (Charcot Marie Tooth, CMT4J). Patty Arscott’s research is being mentored by Jane Schuette and focuses on exploring the efficacy of genetic services offered through the University of Michigan Outreach Program, and evaluating the impact of economic, geographic and social barriers that may affect access to this specialized clinical care. Patty was also the recipient of a Rackham Fellowship.

Qing Fang’s research on the genetics of deafness was supported by a Rackham Summer Research Grant.

Lisa Privette is the recent recipient of one of two Excellence in Teaching awards given by the Medical School. Lisa taught HG541, the graduate course in molecular genetics, and volunteered for a variety of genetics outreach teaching assignments.

Nicole Scott was selected to attend the Complex Systems Summer School in Beijing, sponsored by the Santa Fe Institute in cooperation with the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Institute of Theoretical Physics.

Our Ph.D. students are supported by several different training grants, including Genetics, Biostatistics and Genome Sciences. In addition, our students have successfully competed for funding from Rackham, the Department of the Army, and the American Heart Association. We take great pleasure in reporting on recent graduates of our Ph.D. program.

Megan Albertelli (Robins lab) defended her thesis on “Genetic Variation in the Androgen Receptor Impacts Prostate Cancer Initiation and Progression in the Humanized AR Mouse.” She is now a senior laboratory animal veterinarian in the Department of Comparative Medicine at Stanford University.

Amy Hulme (Moran lab) completed her studies on “The Role of the ORF1 Protein Leucine Zipper Domain and Cellular Host Factors in LINE-1 Retrotransposition.” Amy is currently in John Moran’s lab as a postdoc while interviewing for postdoc positions at other institutions.

Jessica Lehoczky defended her thesis on “The Long-Range Regulation of Hoxa13” and is now a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Dr. Cliff Tabin in the Department of Genetics at Harvard University Medical School, where she continues to study developmental genetics.

Abby Fahim (Ginsburg lab) completed her studies on “Directed Evolution and In Vivo Function of Plasminogen Activator Inhibitor-1.” Abby was accepted as a transfer student to Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, and has begun her clinical rotations toward completion of her M.D. degree.

Sandra Durkin (Glover lab) defended her thesis on “Chromosomal Instability at Common Fragile Sites” and is now a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. John Kim at the University of Michigan.

Sara Saul (Glaser lab) completed her studies on “Math5 Expression and Function in the Central Auditory System” and is now a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Minnesota in the Department of Medicine, Cardiology Division.

We are very proud of our genetic counseling graduates, their research projects, and the professional counseling positions they have obtained. The results for the class of 2007 are presented below, along with their research project and mentor.


Amy Gaviglio is a geneticist for the Newborn Screening Program at the Minnesota Department of Public Health in St. Paul. “The Link Between Genetic Explanations for Disease and Health Behaviors: Implications for Genetic Counseling and Public Health.” Toby Jayaratne, mentor.


Laura Pfleger is a genetic counselor at Dean Health System in Madison, Wisconsin. “Variable Insurance Coverage: A Barrier to Genetic Testing?” Wendy Uhlmann, mentor.

**Department Events**

We celebrated the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Human Genetics throughout the academic year with a series of Grand Rounds that featured genetics in various aspects of clinical medicine. An outstanding slate of speakers visited our Department and were co-hosted by the Departments of Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Neurology, Psychiatry, Ophthalmology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Radiology, Dermatology, and Neurosurgery.

The Seventh Annual James V. Neel Lectureship was the capstone event for this historic year. Dr. Thomas Gelehrter hosted Joseph Goldstein, M.D., from University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas. Dr. Goldstein is a molecular genetics pioneer who shared the 1985 Nobel Prize in Medicine with Dr. Michael Brown for their discovery of the mechanism by which cholesterol accumulates in the bloodstream of patients with hereditary hypercholesterolemia. His pioneering work led to a better understanding of atherosclerosis and the development of cholesterol-lowering statin drugs that help prevent heart attack and stroke. He gave an elegant lecture that showcased his historic and current work, “Cholesterol Homeostasis in Cells to Neural Crest Defects in Embryos.”

The summer picnic, coordinated by Tom Glaser, Janet Miller, and Einar Jacobsen was an excellent event at Delhi Park.

Camper Lab Wins 2007 Tug-O-War Contest

Our annual fall retreat took place at the Potawatomi Inn in Angola, Indiana. Julie Douglas, Linda Peasley, and our student and event representatives developed an excellent scientific program that included guest speaker Lynn Jorde, Ph.D., Professor of Human Genetics at the University of Utah. Dr. Jorde is an internationally known population geneticist whose analysis of human variation has shed light on the renin-angiotensin pathway and hypertension susceptibility, the genetics of schizophrenia, polycythemia, juvenile idiopathic arthritis, and inflammatory bowel disease. He and Julie Douglas led a workshop on the manuscript peer-review process.

**Staff**

We are lucky to have an excellent administrative staff, including Karen Grahl, Einar Jacobsen, Sue Kellogg, Jonathan Komorowski, Nancy Lindner, Janet Miller, Marjorie Murphy, Linda Peasley and Merle Rosenzweig, who support our graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, scientific staff and faculty members in their efforts in education, research and service. We are especially proud of Nancy Lindner who received honorable mention for the University of Michigan’s Distinguished Service Award this past year.
Faculty Activities

George Brewer and his group have had great success in broadening the efficacy of tetrathiomolybdate (TM) therapy in autoimmune, inflammatory, and fibrotic disease animal models. Clinical trials are ongoing or planned in a number of these disease areas. New patent applications have been filed to cover these broadened areas of efficacy. Pipex Therapeutics Inc. will file a new drug application with the FDA this year for TM use in neurologically presenting Wilson’s disease, making TM commercially available.

David Burke continues as a curriculum advisor for the Universidad Metropolitana in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and as a lecturer for the University of Michigan Medical School Summer Science Program (King/Chavez/Parks Program) and Science Scholars Summer Camp. Dave is committed to research programs that are interdisciplinary and collaborative, making strong connections with many units across campus including Aerospace and Chemical Engineering, the Geriatrics Center, Pathology, Mathematics, and the Kresge Hearing Research Institute.

Margit Burmeister became the associate director of the Bioinformatics Graduate Program and an executive committee member of the Center for Computational Medicine and Biology. Her expanded “Bio Boot Camp,” basic biology for quantitatively trained students, was enthusiastically received and filled to capacity. She was invited as a site visitor to Wurzburg, Germany.

Sally Camper received the Roy O. Greep Award for outstanding contributions to research in endocrinology. She gave the Esoterix Lecture at the Pediatric Academic Society meeting in Toronto and the keynote lecture at the Japanese Society for Pituitary Research in Tokyo. She completed a fellowship year in a program for Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM). She serves on the editorial boards of Molecular Endocrinology, Mechanisms of Development, and Mammalian Genome, and the advisory boards for Kansas University Medical Center, and Mouse Genome Informatics and Genetics Resource Sciences for the Jackson Laboratory. One of her postdoctoral fellows, Buffy Ellsworth, began an assistant professor position at University of Illinois in Carbondale.

Raymond Chan has had a great first year in the Department. The set up of his lab went smoothly, thanks to the assistance and advice from everyone in the Department. Working with Ray in his lab are research associate, Jeremy Bickel, and undergraduate researcher, Jin Hayward.

Julie Douglas was an invited speaker at the University of Maryland in Baltimore and the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She is on the Editorial Board of Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Prevention. She continues to serve on the NHLBI Gene by Environment Interaction Program Analysis Subcommittee. Julie obtained a large NIH grant to support her work on genetic regulation of breast density, which is a risk factor for breast cancer.

Eric Fearon’s laboratory continues to study the means by which defective oncogene and tumor suppressor genes contribute to colon and other cancers. Recent research publications revealed the function of the p53-regulated microRNA34 family and the role of a nuclear protein termed SHARP, which functions with beta-catenin/TCF complexes to activate specific genes in colorectal cancer. Eric continues to serve on eight editorial boards and was elected to the Johns Hopkins University Society of Fellows in the spring of 2007.

Thomas Gelehrter began a retirement furlough, but continues to direct “Patients and Populations,” the first month of the Medical School curriculum, as well as the Medical Genetics Course.

David Ginsburg's lab continues to study the components of the blood clotting system and how disturbances in their function lead to human bleeding and blood clotting disorders. During the past year David was elected to the National Academy of Sciences and received a Distinguished Career Award from the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis.

Tom Glaser was an invited speaker at the Visual Systems Development Gordon Conference in Barga, Italy. He was a grant reviewer for the NSF International Research Fellowships Program and the Canadian Foundation for Innovation. Tom serves on the NIDCD Board of Scientific Counselors.

Thomas Glover was an invited speaker at the 5th International Conference on Unstable Microsatellites and Human Disease in Grenada, Spain, the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics at Michigan State University, and Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania. He was a visiting professor in the Department of Human Genetics at Emory. He serves
on the Editorial Board of *Human Molecular Genetics* and advisory boards of the Progeria Research Foundation, the Lymphedema Research Foundation, and the Program in Cancer Genetics COBRE grant held by Tulane and Louisiana State Universities.

**Friedhelm Hildebrandt** serves as the program director of the Child Health Research Center of the University of Michigan, and on the scientific committee of the 14th Congress of the International Pediatric Nephrology Association. He received a five-year award as a Doris Duke Distinguished Clinical Scientist, and his fifth concurrent NIH R01 grant. He has been elected a member of the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina.

**Jeffrey Innis** continues as a board member of the American Board of Medical Genetics and has become a permanent member of the NIH Genetics of Human Disease Study Section. He continues as Division Director of Pediatric Genetics. He established the Michigan Medical Genetics laboratories with three new faculty hires. He serves as the medical director of the laboratory, which began accepting samples in April 2007.

**John Kim** just celebrated his first year in the Department and is investigating the developmental roles for small RNAs using *C. elegans* and mammalian cell culture. John has recruited Sandra Durkin and Dongping Wei as postdoctoral fellows, Ting Han, Matt Avenarius and Arun Manoharan as graduate students, and Vishal Khivansara as staff. John and his wife Laurel welcomed their first child, Lucas Elms Kim, on March 11.

**David Kohrman** started a four-year term on the Auditory System Study Section (Center for Scientific Review at NIH). He also became director of the Hearing, Balance, and Chemical Senses Training Grant.

**Jeffrey Long** received the Gabriel W. Lasker Award in 2007 for the best paper published in *Human Biology* in the year 2003, entitled “Human Genetic Diversity and the Nonexistence of Human Races.” Jeff is committed to increasing diversity at University of Michigan, and towards this goal has developed a more extensive Summer Research Opportunity Program in Genetics, increased recruitment through visits to campuses and meetings, established extensive student mentoring, and led focus groups to identify concerns of current students and possible solutions as part of a Minority Action Plan funded through the National Human Genome Research Institute. In addition, one of Jeff’s postdoctoral fellows, Cecil Lewis, was recently appointed as Assistant Professor of Anthropology (tenure track) at the University of Oklahoma.

**Donna Martin's** lab studies basic mechanisms of neuron formation, differentiation, and migration in the developing brain and inner ear. Their work on PITX2 in human Rieger syndrome and CHD7 in CHARGE syndrome has revealed critical roles for these genes in neuronal development. Ongoing studies are aimed at exploring the mechanisms by which these and other genes contribute to normal and abnormal neuronal development, with the hope that they may gain insights into designing therapies for developmental disorders of the nervous system, including autism, mental retarda-

**Miriam Meisler** presented talks at the Gordon Conferences on Epilepsy, and Human Genetics and Genomics, the Peripheral Nerve Society, and the Charcot Marie Tooth Association. She serves on the Program Committee for the ASHG and the Board of Scientific Counselors for the NIDCD.

**John Moran** was the principal organizer of the 2007 FASEB Meeting on Mobile Elements in the Mammalian Genome. He was named to the Editorial Board of Gene and serves on the ASHG Awards Committee. He gave presentations at the International Society for Stem Cell Research in Toronto, CA, the British Andrology Society in Leeds, England, the IPSEN Foundation in Paris, the Keystone Symposia on HIV Vaccines and HIV Pathogenesis in Vancouver, and at a graduate course on Genes, Genomes and Evolution in Villars, Switzerland. He also gave lectures at domestic and international universities. His laboratory continues to study the impact of transposable elements on human DNA.

**Gilbert Omenn** served as chair of the Board of Directors of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He was elected a Paul G. Rogers Ambassador for Global Health Research by Research!America and to the Board of the Salzburg Global Seminar. He participated in the Asia-Pacific Health Summit and served on the Gates Foundation/ Brookings Institution Global Health Initiative Financing Advisory Group. He was re-appointed as a member of the Report Review Committee of the National Academies. He was tapped to chair a National Research Council Committee on Measuring the Efficiency of R&D at EPA, to serve on the National Academies Committee to review the Keck Futures Initiative, and to continue as chair of the Human Plasma Proteome Project of the Human Proteome Organization (HUPO).
Elizabeth Petty continues as the Associate Dean in the Office of Student Programs, which oversees all medical student services, from admissions to graduation, as well as the graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences (PIBS) and MSTP programs. She continues to serve as a standing member of the NIH-NCRR study section as well as an ad hoc reviewer for the UK Medical Research Council.

Diane Robins was an invited speaker at conferences in Australia and Greece, the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, and University of Arizona. Didi serves as chair of the ACS Beginning Investigators (UICC) review, and as a member of the Endocrine Society Annual Meeting Steering Committee and the National Toxicology Program Board of Scientific Counselors.

Noah Rosenberg received the Alumni Distinguished Leadership Award from the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy. He presented invited lectures at Case Western Reserve, Iowa State, Rice, University of Pennsylvania, York, the Jacques Monod Conference on Evolutionary Genomics, and the Musée de l’Homme in Paris. Noah taught at Arizona State’s Mathematical and Theoretical Biology Institute, contributed a lecture to the Henry Stewart Publications series on human population genetics, and ran the Camp Evolution mini-course at Ben Gurion University in Israel.

Jane Schuette is working on a new edition of the Genetic Counseling textbook and is active in clinical care.

JoAnn Sekiguchi was invited to speak at the Genomic Instability and Repair Keystone Symposium in Keystone, Colorado. She presented at the 9th Annual Midwest DNA Repair Symposium at Ohio State University. JoAnn was an invited grant reviewer for the Wellcome Trust, London, UK, and served as an ad hoc reviewer for the journals Nature, Molecular Cell, PNAS, and DNA Repair. She served as a thought panel member for the Endowment for Basic Sciences external review, Genetics and Genomics Initiative. JoAnn is a co-organizer of the 2008 Annual Pew Scholars and Fellow Meeting to be held in Aruba.

Charles Sing was the keynote speaker at the Genetics and Public Health symposium held in Copenhagen and an invited speaker at the Epistasis Symposium held in Ames, Iowa. He continues to be on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Molecular Medicine. He serves as an advisor to the Center for Genome Dynamics, Jackson Laboratory, and also to the president of Iowa State University.

David States has developed a new programming lab course (BI/HG 575) for Bioinformatics and Human Genetics students to provide them with the computational skills needed for modern high throughput biology. He was a speaker at the US Human Proteome Organization annual meeting and helped to organize a workshop on statistical methods in proteomics.

Anand Swaroop received the Board of Directors Award from the Foundation Fighting Blindness in recognition of outstanding research achievements. He delivered 20 invited lectures; these included plenary lectures at conferences, Affymetrix web seminar, Talmage Dobbs Lecture at Emory, Gerald Fishman lecture at the University of Illinois, and lectures at NIH, Yale and Northwestern. Anand served on the University Advisory Committee on Appointments, Promotions, and Tenure (ACAPT), the editorial boards of IOVS and Molecular Vision, and reviews grants for several international funding agencies.

Wendy Uhlmann serves on the Board of the Genetic Alliance and is the NSGC liaison to the National Advisory Council for Human Genome Research. She presented at the American College of Medical Genetics meeting. Wendy is co-editing “A Guide to Genetic Counseling,” 2nd edition with Jane Schuette and Beverly Yashar.

Beverly Yashar published the 2nd edition of an ethics casebook for the genetic counseling progressions. This work was funded by a grant from the National Society of Genetic Counselors. She also served on the board for EyeGene, a new genetic diagnostic and research initiative funded by the NEI.

Donations and Gifts:

President Coleman’s Challenge Supports Graduate Education

We are extremely grateful for your generous donations. Last year we set a goal of establishing an endowment for graduate education that would fund both an outstanding M.S. and Ph.D. student each year. This coming year provides an outstanding opportunity to maximize the impact of donations for graduate education. President Coleman’s Donor Challenge pledges matching funds for gifts for graduate student aid, which will leverage your support and help establish a future with accessible educational opportunities for the best and brightest students.
Why Graduate and Professional Student Support?

Michigan competes with the top universities around the world for graduate students – students who rely on financial support to fund their study and research. By giving a gift through the challenge, you can help educate a new generation of professors and researchers to shape our world, while also helping Michigan recruit and retain the star faculty who want to teach them.

How the Donor Challenge Works

The Donor Challenge will make a one-to-two match of any size gift, up to $1 million, toward graduate and professional student support. By adding one matching dollar to every two dollars you give, the Challenge leverages your philanthropy for its greatest impact on graduate education at Michigan. The program continues until $40 million in gifts have been received, or until the Michigan Difference campaign ends on December 31, 2008, whichever comes first.

The Donor Challenge allows you to direct your gift of graduate support to the Department of Human Genetics. The president’s match goes into an endowment, so that your giving can generate valuable graduate student aid far into the future.

A gift of $50,000 or more will create a named endowment of your choice, honoring your commitment to Michigan and creating a legacy of support for the next generation of leaders and best.

How to Get Involved

For more information on how to support the future of students and scientific research, please contact Beth Aebly, Gift Officer for the Basic Sciences, at baebyl@umich.edu or 734-615-4259.

Alumni News

We have heard from many of our former James V. Neel fellows during the past year. Those who have completed their degrees and have graduated are listed below with their current positions.

Ph.D. Students

1991 Karen Mohlke is a faculty member in the Genetics Department at University of North Carolina.
1992 Michael Ray is a faculty member at Martha Siekman Cancer Center, Appleton Medical
1992 Dawn Watkins-Chow is research staff at the National Human Genome Research Institute in Bethesda.
1993 Frank Probst is a Pediatric Genetics Fellow at Baylor College of Medicine.
1994 Carey Lumeng is a house officer in Pediatric Pulmonary Medicine at University of Michigan.
1995 Kristen Coulter is with the Family Practice Residency Program at the Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis.
1996 Anna Rath is Director of Business Development, Plant Genetics at Ceres, Inc. in Thousand Oaks, California.
1997 Igor Nasonkin is a postdoctoral fellow at Johns Hopkins University.
1998 Mike Glynn is in Law School, Fordham University, New York City.
2000 Heidi Lemerirhirt is a member of the teaching faculty at Eastern Michigan University.
2001 Tom Williams is a postdoctoral fellow at University of Wisconsin, Madison.
2004 Anne Casper is a postdoctoral fellow at Duke University Medical Center, Molecular Genetics and Microbiology.
2005 Jessica Lehoczyk is a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University.
2006 Megan Albertelli is a staff veterinarian at Stanford University, Comparative Medicine.

Genetic Counseling Students

2005 Jessica Mester is a genetic counselor in Pediatric Genetics at University of Oklahoma Science Center.
2006 Sarah Scollon is a genetic counselor in the Hawaii Department of Health and Hawaii Community Genetics.
2007 Karen Wain is a genetic counselor at the Mayo Laboratories in Rochester, Minnesota.

Other Alumni News

We were especially proud to hear that Gail P. Jarvik, M.D., Ph.D. was appointed the head of the Division of Medical Genetics at University of Washington in Seattle and named the Arno G. Motulsky Endowed Professor of Medicine. She obtained her Ph.D. in Human Genetics at the University of Michigan with Charlie Sing in 1986 on “The Role of Genetic Variation in Apolipoprotein B.”

We encourage all of our alumni to share their stories, as well as to notify us of any errors or omissions in this edition of our annual newsletter.
Department of Human Genetics Donor Honor Roll (2005 - present)

We would like to recognize the following individuals who have given generously to support the Department of Human Genetics during the years beginning in 2005 when Dr. Sally Camper became chair.

**Anita and Howard Cramer Fellowship Fund:** awarded to a Ph.D. student each year for outstanding academic achievement.
Professor Harvey S. Cramer  BS 1965 Pre-Med

**Carole McTague Genetic Counseling Student Enrichment:**
used to offset travel expenses of our genetic counseling students to national meetings.
Elizabeth M. Petty, M.D.  Faculty

**James V. Neel Fellowship Fund:** awarded to a Ph.D. student and an M.S. student in Genetic Counseling each year for outstanding research achievements.
Sally A. Camper, Ph.D.  Faculty
Gretchen Darlington, Ph.D.  MS 1966 Human Genetics, PHD 1970 Human Genetics
Julie A. Douglas, Ph.D.  MS 1998 Biostatistics, PHD 2001 Biostatistics, Faculty
L. Scott Feiler, M.D.  MD 1975
Steven J. Ferrucci, M.D.  MS 1980 Human Genetics, MD 1986
Thomas D. Gelehrter, M.D.  Emeritus Faculty
David Ginsburg, M.D.  Faculty
Sandra Jean Hasstedt, Ph.D.  MS 1964 Human Genetics, PHD 1967 Human Genetics
JoAnn Sekiguchi, Ph.D.  Faculty
Rachel and Karl Simin  Former Student and Friend
Peter E. Smouse, Ph.D.  Former Faculty
Harry Eldon Sutton, Ph.D.  Former Faculty
Anand Swaroop, Ph.D.  Faculty
Richard E. Tashian, Ph.D.  Emeritus Faculty
Beverly M. Yashar, Ph.D.  MS 1997 Human Genetics, Faculty

**James V. Neel Lectureship:** supports hosting and travel for a lecture by an internationally known geneticist each year.
Jane S. Schultz, Ph.D.  MS 1967 Human Genetics, PHD 1970 Human Genetics, Former Faculty
Jon C. Aster, M.D., Ph.D.  BS 1978 Microbiology, PHD 1987 Human Genetics, MD 1987
Beverly M. Yashar, Ph.D.  MS 1997 Human Genetics, Faculty

**Gilbert S. Omenn Endowed Professorship Fund**
Gilbert S. Omenn, M.D., and Martha Darling  Faculty
Amgen Foundation

**Genetic Research Funds**
Francis T. Oda, M.D.  BS 1952 LSA Pre-Med, MD 1956
Mr. Robert K. Hutton  Friend

**General Funds**
Carolyn J. Bruzdzinski, Ph.D.  MS 1980 Human Genetics, PHD 1987 Human Genetics
Thomas M. Glaser, M.D., Ph.D.  Faculty
Steven J. Ferrucci, M.D.  MS 1980 Human Genetics, MD 1986
Sandra Jean Hasstedt, M.D.  AM 1975 Statistics, PHD 1976 Human Genetics
Dr. Louis E. Holland II  Former Postdoctoral Fellow
Myron Levine, Ph.D.  Emeritus Faculty
Donna M. Martin, M.D., Ph.D.  PHD 1992 Neuroscience, MD 1996, Faculty
Elizabeth M. Petty, M.D.  Faculty
Jane S. Schultz, Ph.D.  MS 1967 Human Genetics, PHD 1970 Human Genetics, Former Faculty
Rachel and Karl Simin  Former Student and Friend
Dr. Akihiko Tsuji  Former Postdoctoral Fellow
We want to hear from you!

Please take a moment to complete the attached card and return it to us. For your convenience you can also keep us informed by emailing kgrahl@umich.edu or visiting our website www.hg.med.umich.edu. We look forward to hearing from you and sending you future updates about the Department, faculty and alumni.

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News to Share: What have you been up to? Please include any information about research projects, awards, etc., that you would like to share with fellow alumni/ae.