



---

## Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

### PROPOSAL TITLE:

Establish the Catherine and Don Kleinmuntz Center for Genomics in Business and Society in the Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology as a Temporary Center

**CONTACT:** Dr. Gene E. Robinson  
Director, Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology  
Professor, Department of Entomology  
217-265-0309  
[generobi@illinois.edu](mailto:generobi@illinois.edu)

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

The Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology (IGB) has a successful history of empowering faculty and staff to pursue commercialization endeavors related to their research and engaging the public on the societal impact of genomic research through creative outreach activities. The Catherine and Don Kleinmuntz Center for Genomics in Business and Society (Center) will build upon this ongoing commitment to economic development and public engagement by placing these already existing efforts under a centralized umbrella and providing a platform for enhancing and accelerating the broader impact of the IGB's research and innovation.

All activities outlined in the Center proposal are already in existence: 1) the granting of proof-of-concept funding with an extended variant for pre-commercialization funding (which will follow successful proofs-of-concept); 2) professional skill development (via IGB's Professional Skills for Careers in Biosciences workshop series); 3) expanded professional development through IGB's Genomics For™ outreach efforts; and 4) expanded World of Genomics exhibits.

Through the establishment of a \$1.25 million gift from Catherine and Don Kleinmuntz of Chicago, IL, which will allow for current-use funds of \$250,000 annually over five years, the proposed Center has secured stable, but for now term-limited funding and would be named after the couple for the duration of their funding. Dr. Catherine Kleinmuntz is principal of Kleinmuntz Associates, a management advisor to healthcare organizations and the businesses that serve them; and Dr. Don Kleinmuntz is an analytics consultant and investor and was a Professor of Business Administration and Accounting at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from 1989-2006.

The Center will be part of the Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology, and the Director of the IGB will have full responsibility for the Center's direction and management of the identified activities.

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

The IGB seeks to increase its contribution to Illinois' reputation for engaging with the public through science and technology. The Center will enhance the research and economic development efforts of the IGB and strengthen its scientific outreach and community engagement portfolio. By providing researchers with significant economic development opportunities and members of the public with creative and engaging scientific outreach activities, the IGB can fully realize its motto, "Where Science Meets Society," through two primary channels:

- By engaging and educating the public about genomics through creative outreach activities, events, communications, and citizen science efforts for audiences ranging from K-12 students to various professional groups and communities. These activities help the public to better understand how genomics impacts their daily lives and can help solve some of the most pressing problems faced by local and global populations.
- By training and empowering science professionals to translate evidence-based, genomic knowledge and discovery into realized societal improvements. The IGB is in an optimal position to develop scientific visionaries who know practical pathways to operationalize and commercialize innovation.

### **BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:**

#### *1) Resources*

##### *a. How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?*

The elevated level of implementation of the activities described herein is reliant upon the funding provided via the private gift agreement executed by the UI Foundation on behalf of the University. It allows for five years of annual current-use funds of \$250,000. Expressed interest from both IGB and the donors suggest additional future funding is possible and, if so, the Center could potentially continue for a longer period of time.

The IGB will also provide in-kind support for the Center through its existing infrastructure, e.g. business and accounting services, human resources, communications, etc.

##### *b. How will the unit create capacity or surplus to appropriately resource this program? If applicable, what functions or programs will the unit no longer support to create capacity?*

As indicated, these activities are already staffed and resourced at a functional level within the IGB's operations. The Center will elevate and enhance these offerings. Also, a portion of the private funding will support a competitively selected post-doctoral outreach fellow to provide additional coordination and administrative support. Other current IGB staff positions dedicated to these areas will have a portion of their time reallocated to executing the activities that will now be under the Center umbrella.

- c. *Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources? If so, please provide a summary of the sources and an indication of the approved support.*

No.

- d. *Please provide a letter of acknowledgment from the college that outlines the financial arrangements for the proposed program.*

The financial arrangements are outlined in the preceding questions, with the full support of Dr. Gene E. Robinson as Director of the IGB, and Dr. Susan A. Martinis as Interim Vice Chancellor for Research (both signatories to this proposal).

2) *Resource Implications*

- a. *Please address the impact on faculty resources including the changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc.*
- b. *Please address the impact on course enrollment in other units and provide an explanation of discussions with representatives of those units.*
- c. *Please address the impact on the University Library.*
- d. *Please address the impact on technology and space (e.g. computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.)*

There are no resource implications for *a* through *c*. For *d*, the IGB has existing space and technology to support its outreach and economic development activities and will draw on these resources for activities supported by the Center.

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:**

The soonest possible date in 2019

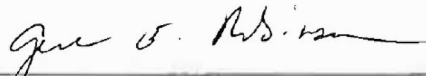
**STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:**

N/A

EP.19.32 should not be considered as setting precedent for the process to be followed in the naming or renaming of campus units or their activities.

**CLEARANCES:** (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval. *These signatures must appear on a separate sheet. If multiple departments or colleges are sponsoring the proposal, please add the appropriate signature lines below.*)

Signatures:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Proposal Sponsor:

December 5, 2018  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Proposal Clearances:

December 5, 2018  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building  
601 East John Street  
Champaign, IL 61820



December 6, 2018

Gay Miller, Chair  
Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Office of the Senate  
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Miller:

Enclosed is a proposal from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research to establish the Catherine and Don Kleinmuntz Center for Genomics in Business and Society as a Temporary Center in the Carle R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathryn A. Martensen'.

Kathryn A. Martensen  
Assistant Provost

Enclosures

c: G. Robinson  
S. Martinis  
V. Faurie