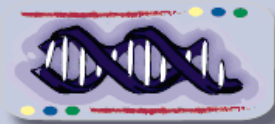


Attachment 2 - Brochure

The Genetics Equity Network



ACHIEVING
Equity in Genetics Policy
through Diversity in
Decision Making

The increasing ability to connect DNA variation with non-medical conditions such as personality traits or intelligence, will challenge our society. We will need to be constantly vigilant in opposing a creeping deterministic view that denies the critical role of the environment, freedom of opportunity and free will.

- Francis Collins, National Human Genome Research Institute, NIH

The problem is not that issues of individual autonomy, genetic discrimination, genetic confidentiality, intellectual property, patent rights, informed consent, and the like raise difficult ethical, moral, and legal questions. Problems most often rise from differences in the way different individuals, groups and cultures respond to and resolve problems.

- Georgia Dunston, Howard University

The human genome underlines the fundamental unity of all members of the human family, as well as the recognition of their inherent dignity and diversity. In a symbolic sense, it is the heritage of humanity.
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

The Day's Agenda

October 5, 2006
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
reception to follow

Howard University Research Building
(HURB1)
1840 7th Street
Washington, D.C. 20001

MAKING CONNECTIONS APPLYING CONCEPTS

Through a moderated panel discussion and group dialogue, David Campt, PhD will lead us through discovery and deliberation of these questions

- How is genetics related to racial and ethnic health disparities?
- How might diversity in genetics policy-making reduce health disparities?
- Why do we need to engage our communities?

STARTING TODAY

During a working lunch, we will work in smaller groups through facilitated discussion of how our communities can reduce barriers in creating, reviewing, and advocating policy around genetics research, public health, and

MOVING TOWARD ACTION

In the day's final session, we will work together to look ahead to making this more than just another workshop:

- How will we create supportive connections within the Genetics Equity Network to maintain a sustainable and diverse partnership?
- What kinds of activities do we envision as central to the Network?
- How can we position the strength of our relationships to secure funds and other resources to increase and sustain diversity at the genetics policy tables?

LAUNCHING THE NETWORK

A reception will follow to officially launch the Network and will feature the website we are creating to support the Network.



ISSUES IN GENETICS & RACIAL/ETHNIC HEALTH DISPARITIES

These are just a few examples of policy issues that bridge genetics and health disparities.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

DNA Databases are used increasingly in the criminal justice system without question as to social meaning or scientific reliability.

ACCESS TO HEALTH

Developing expensive technologies based on genetics can widen disparities if universal (public and private) access is not achieved.

RACE-BASED MEDICINE

Race-based pharmaceutical marketing (e.g. BiDil) may exacerbate stigmatization and discrimination.

RESEARCH

Public and private agencies spend billions of dollars on genetics research. Is it adequately contributing to the reduction of health disparities?

EDUCATION & THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Differences in who knows about genetics and genetic technology has implications for who has access.



THIS WORKSHOP IS BEING SPONSORED BY:

Howard University's National Human Genome Center
The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies:
Health Policy Institute
The Michigan Center for Genomics and Public Health
The Life Sciences and Society Program and the
National Center for Institutional Diversity at the

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON ACHIEVING EQUITY IN GENETICS POLICY THROUGH DIVERSITY IN DECISION MAKING

This event will focus on strategies for turning issue areas into action plans. We will discuss how genetics, racial/ethnic health disparities, and policy are interrelated, and how best to work in the policy arena to move toward the elimination of health disparities and the improvement of health for all. Attending the workshop will be a diverse set of organizations with varying degrees of experience in genetics, who work in our communities, policy, research, and the media.

THE GENETICS EQUITY NETWORK

(tentatively named)

The formation of a network to assure that our ideas are turned into action is one of the goals of this workshop. Such an alliance is essential amid the explosion of genetic knowledge and technology that influences research and health care. How this information is managed, who decides what and how to study genetics, and which technologies to develop for whom, are all key questions as their answers have powerful and meaningful implications.

LOCATION AND TIME

The workshop will be held on Thursday, October 5th, 2006 from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. with a reception to follow at the Howard University Research Building (HURB1), 1840 7th Street, Washington, DC 20001.

HOW TO REGISTER

Registration is free, but we ask that you please respond with your intent to attend the workshop to Sally Meyer at the Michigan Center for Genomics and Public Health (MCGPH): 734-615-3412; salmeyer@umich.edu

QUESTIONS?

We are always happy to speak with you and can be reached through the MCGPH, Sally Meyer, 734-615-3412, salmeyer@umich.edu



E SCIENCES & SOCIETY

University of Michigan

School of Public Health

611 Church Street, Room 352

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-3028

You are Invited



*On October 5th, Come Launch
the Genetics Equity Network at
the National Workshop on
Achieving Equity in Genetics
Policy through Diversity in*