



—THE— GENOGRAPHIC PROJECT—

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Glynnis Breen
National Geographic/Genographic Project
(202) 857-7481
gbreen@ngs.org

Michael Loughran
IBM/Genographic Project
(914) 499-6446
mloughra@us.ibm.com

THE GENOGRAPHIC PROJECT: MAPPING THE HUMAN STORY

At A Glance:

The Genographic Project seeks to chart new knowledge about the migratory history of the human species and answer age-old questions surrounding the genetic diversity of humanity. The project is a not-for-profit, five-year, global research partnership of National Geographic and IBM launched in 2005, which uses genetics as a tool to address anthropological questions on a global scale. At the core of the project is a consortium of 11 global regional scientific teams who, following regional institutional review scientific protocols are responsible for sample collection and DNA analysis in their respective regions.

The Project is open to members of the public to participate through purchasing a public participation kit from the Genographic Web site, where they can also choose to donate their genetic results to the expanding database. Proceeds from kit sales are returned to the research and to a Legacy Fund for indigenous and traditional community-led language revitalization and cultural projects.

Core Project Components:

Field Research – Led by Dr. Spencer Wells, a consortium of 11 distinguished researchers from prestigious scientific institutions around the world conduct DNA sampling of hundreds of indigenous populations. An additional researcher focuses on ancient DNA. This field research is underwritten by the Waitt Family Foundation.

Public Participation- The Genographic Project encourages direct participation of the general public through public and educational outreach in this real-time science research project via the purchase of a Genographic Public Participation Kit, for US\$100 + shipping and handling. Kits may be purchased anonymously and securely online through www.nationalgeographic.com/genographic. Participation in this landmark study allows you to trace the hidden history of your ancestors – using your own DNA.

Legacy Fund – Net proceeds from kit sales help fund the ongoing research and the Genographic Legacy Fund. The fund supports education initiatives, cultural conservation efforts, language preservation and revitalization programs among indigenous and traditional groups.

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Global field science supported by the Waitt Family Foundation



A research partnership of National Geographic and IBM

Project Partners:

National Geographic Society – National Geographic, which developed the concept of the Genographic Project with Dr. Wells, provides overall coordination for the project, including management of field operations, sales and distribution of the Participation Kits, communications, education and other related activities.

IBM Corporation – A team of IBM researchers, scientists and technicians, led by IBM's Ajay Royyuru, designed the technical infrastructure for the project, providing computational biology.

Key Supporters – Field research is supported by the Waitt Family Foundation, and laboratory research is supported by Applied Biosystems.

Principal Research Centers:

Internationally recognized experts in human population genetics and related disciplines, located at 11 research laboratories and universities, lead regional efforts to obtain and analyze DNA samples from indigenous populations. One additional scientist focuses on DNA collected from ancient samples. The participating centers are located at: the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia (USA), Institut Pasteur (France), Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Spain), Russian Academy of Medical Sciences (Russia), La Trobe University (Australia), Fudan University (China), Madurai Kamaraj University (India), National Health Laboratory Service (South Africa), University of Auckland (New Zealand), Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (Brazil).and the Australian Centre for Ancient DNA at the University of Adelaide (Australia).

International Advisory Board:

An international advisory board, composed of leading global authorities in a number of related disciplines along with representatives of indigenous communities, oversees the selection of populations for testing as well as the adherence to strict sampling and research protocols. The board also helps determine initiatives to be carried out under the Legacy Fund.

Principal Research Centers/Investigators:

Internationally recognized experts in human population genetics and related disciplines, located at 11 research laboratories and universities, lead regional efforts to obtain and analyze DNA samples from indigenous populations. One additional scientist focuses on DNA collected from ancient samples.

East/Southeast Asia

Li Jin, Ph.D.
Center for Anthropological Studies
School of Life Sciences
Fudan University
Shanghai (China)

North Eurasia

Elena Balanovska , Ph.D.
Laboratory of Human Population Genetics
Research Centre for Medical Genetics
Moscow (Russia)

India

Ramasamy Pitchappan, Ph.D.
Centre for Excellence in Genomic Sciences
Madurai Kamaraj University
Tamil Nadu (India)

Middle East/North Africa

Pierre Zalloua, Ph.D.
Department of Internal Medicine & Ob/Gyn
American University of Beirut
Beirut (Lebanon)

North America

Theodore Schurr, Ph.D.
Laboratory of Molecular Anthropology
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia (USA)

South America

Fabricio Santos, Ph.D.
Institute of Biological Sciences
Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais
Minas Gerais (Brazil)

Sub-Saharan Africa

Himla Soodyall, Ph.D.
Human Genomic Diversity/Disease Research
National Health Laboratory Service
University of Witwatersrand
Johannesburg (South Africa)

Western/Central Europe: Y Chromosome

Jaume Bertrand Petit, Ph.D.
Pompeu Fabra University
Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

David Comas, Ph.D.
Pompeu Fabra University
Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

Western/Central Europe: Mitochondrial DNA

Lluís Quintana-Murci, Ph.D.
Unit of Molecular Prevention/
Therapy of Human Diseases
Institut Pasteur
Paris (France)

Associate Researcher

Chris Tyler-Smith, Ph.D.
The Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute
Cambridge (UK)

Australia/Pacific

Robert John Mitchell, Ph.D.
Department of Genetics
LaTrobe University
Melbourne (Australia)

Associate Researcher

Doron M. Behar, Ph.D.
Department of Critical Care Medicine
Rambam Medical Center
Haifa (Israel)

Oceania

Lisa Matisoo-Smith, Ph.D.
Department of Anthropology
University of Auckland
Auckland (New Zealand)

Ancient DNA

Alan Cooper, Ph.D.
Division of Earth & Environmental Sciences
University of Adelaide
Adelaide (Australia)

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Advisory Board Members:

- Ethicist: Simon Longstaff, Ph.D. *Advisory Board Chairman*
Executive Director, St. James Ethics Centre
Sydney, Australia
- Population Geneticist: Professor Luca Cavalli-Sforza, Ph.D.
Department of Genetics
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, California, USA
- Archaeologist: Professor Lord Colin Renfrew, Ph.D.
McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research
University of Cambridge
Cambridge, UK
- Linguist: Merritt Ruhlen, Ph.D.
Stanford University
Stanford, California, USA
- Paleontologist: Adjunct Professor Meave Leakey, Ph.D.
Department of Anatomy, Dept. of Anthropology
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook, New York, USA
- Anthropologist/Ethnobotanist: Wade Davis, Ph.D.
Explorer-in-Residence
National Geographic Society
Washington, D.C., USA
- Evolutionary Geneticist: Professor Scott Edwards, Ph.D.
Department of Organismic & Evolutionary Biology
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA
(National Geographic Committee for Research & Exploration)
- Indigenous Advocate: Tammy Williams
Director of Indigenous Enterprise Partnerships
Cape York, Queensland, Australia

(more)

National Geographic: Terry Garcia
Executive Vice President
Mission Programs
National Geographic Society
Washington, D.C., USA

IBM: Nicholas Donofrio
Senior Vice President, Technology & Manufacturing
IBM Corporation
Armonk, New York, USA

Waitt Family Foundation: Dominique Rissolo
Executive Director, Waitt Institute for Discovery
Waitt Family Foundation
La Jolla, California, USA

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