

NY Genome Center to Use \$3M Sloan Grant to Recruit Scientists



By a GenomeWeb staff reporter

NEW YORK (GenomeWeb News) – The New York Genome Center said today that it plans to use a new \$3 million grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation to begin recruiting bioinformatics and sequencing specialists.

NYGC, a non-profit, New York City-based research institute that includes a number of members and partners from the biomedical research, life sciences tools, clinical care, and pharmaceutical communities, is raising \$125 million in investments to fund its genome sequencing and bioinformatics efforts.

Illumina and Roche are NYGC's lead corporate partners, and its institutional founding members include The Jackson Laboratory; Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory; Columbia University; Mount Sinai Medical Center; New York University/NYU School of Medicine; Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; Rockefeller University, and regional clinical care hospitals.

NYGC aims to be one of the largest genome research facilities in North America, with a staff of 350 researchers, although it has not yet announced a decision on where in New York City its permanent home, expected to be around 120,000 square feet, will be located.

Its facilities will include a service center for sequencing, bioinformatics, and internal and collaborative research, a CLIA lab, an innovation center for testing new technologies, a commercialization and data mining center, and a training component.

In February, NYGC said in its first large-scale project it will work with Illumina and the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research to sequence and analyze 1,000 human genomes over four years in a study focused on Alzheimer's disease.

That study aims to generate knowledge about Alzheimer's risk genes, define the molecular pathways for neuronal degeneration, and support development of early detection tools and targeted treatments.