

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents
From: Board Office
Subject: New Center to be Called the Roy J. Carver Center for Comparative Genomics, SUI
Date: May 6, 2002

Recommended Action:

Receive the report on a new research center at the University of Iowa, the Roy J. Carver Center for Comparative Genomics.

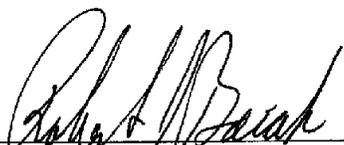
Executive Summary:

Comparative Genomics	The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at The University of Iowa is proposing a new research center, to be named the Roy J. Carver Center for Comparative Genomics. Comparative genomics is the contemporary integrating principle that endeavors to establish the relationships among the diverse species that inhabit the earth, using the most recent technological advances in biological computation to integrate empirical and theoretical research. The Center will be housed in the Department of Biological Sciences, directed by Professor John Ballard, former Pritzker Curator at the Field Museum in Chicago, and guided by an advisory board. This Center will move the Department of Biological Sciences to the forefront of a new, dynamic area at the very center of biology.
Board Policy	Consistent with Board of Regents policy (<i>Policy Manual §6.06</i>), the University is informing the Board of the establishment of this Center, which will require less than \$25,000 of state fund reallocation. In the event it should require state funding, this will be reported to the Board with a request for approval.
Mission	The Center will be organized into research working groups representing key areas of comparative genomics. The key aspect of the mission is to facilitate the rapid integration of empirical and theoretical research using modern biological computational tools. The Roy J. Carver Center for Comparative Genomics will support research and training of graduate and undergraduate students and proposes to initiate an annual eight-week summer undergraduate workshop to train students to manage biological data. This highly trained pool of students will be available to develop Iowa's biotechnology industry.

The activities of the Center are integral to the University's bioinformatics initiative and its interdisciplinary nature is in keeping with the Collegiate and University's strategic goals.

Carver Grant

This unique facility was made possible by a grant from the Roy J. Carver Trust. Should a major budgetary commitment of institutional funds be made at a future date, we will seek the approval of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa.



Robert J. Barak

Approved:



Gregory S. Nichols