



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
Department of Statistics

ELIZABETH THOMPSON, PROFESSOR AND CHAIR

Rebecca Aanerud,  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs,  
The Graduate School,  
Box 353770

Dear Associate Dean Aanerud,

The core faculty of the Statistical Genetics Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate Program are grateful to the Program Review Committee of the Department of Biostatistics for including a review of our Certificate Program in their charge. We are happy with their recommendation for continuation for the maximum 10-year period, recognizing that the program is not only of high quality but has matured and become established.

The committee commented that there was a lack of active participation of the Department of Genome Sciences. While there is no formal administrative connection with the department, Professors of Genome Sciences Green and Felsenstein are among our most active participants, teaching two of our core classes and serving on the Certificate Steering Committee. Several other Genome Sciences faculty are members of our core Certificate faculty. While few Genome Sciences students complete the Certificate, several have taken two or more of the Certificate core classes. In fact, in 2012-13, three first-year genome Sciences PhD students successfully completed both GENOME 540 and STAT/BIOST 550, two of our key Certificate classes. We are very aware of the need to continue to engage Genome Sciences faculty and students together with those of Statistics and Biostatistics in the development of the Certificate program.

Our program provides opportunity for in-depth study in Statistical Genetics to a small number of diverse students, through courses and curriculum that exist primarily to serve Ph.D. and M.S. students in Statistics, Biostatistics and Genome Science. We are very proud of the quality and diversity of our Certificate alumni, and happy that the review committee found likewise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Thompson".

Elizabeth Thompson  
Director, Statistical Genetics Certificate Program.

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Cc: David Canfield-Budde