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Dec 05, 2007 07:02 ET

Empire Genomics Names Leading Genetic Researchers and Industry Experts to Scientific Advisory Board

BUFFALO, NY--(Marketwire - December 5, 2007) - Empire Genomics, developing high throughput technologies that enable genome-wide analyses to determine the underlying mechanisms for diseases, today announced the formation of its Scientific Advisory Board. The members of the new SAB represent a combination of scientific and medical expertise and clinical and operational experience in molecular genetics that will support the company as it develops diagnostic and research technologies for cancer biology, biomarkers, drug discovery, prenatal screening, developmental disorders, autism and other genomic related areas.

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"Empire Genomics is proud to have assembled a prestigious and highly experienced scientific advisory team, with the goal of helping to enable personalized medicine to become a reality," said Anthony Johnson, Empire Genomics CEO. "Their experience in the science, development and use of innovative technologies in the field of human genetics will contribute greatly to our efforts as we continue to develop cutting-edge genomic platforms for research and diagnostic applications."

The SAB members include: Stuart Schwartz, Ph.D., Director of Genetic Diagnostic Services, and Professor of Human Genetics, Medicine, and Pathology, as well as the Director of the Clinical Cytogenetics Laboratory at the University of Chicago; Marilyn Slovak, Ph.D., Director of Cytogenetics and Professor of Pathology at the City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, California; Michael N. Liebman, Ph.D., executive Director of the Windber Research Institute; and Laura Reid, Ph.D., an expert in microarray quality control and standardization and Senior Director, Marketing and External Scientific Affairs at Expression Analysis.

"I look forward to working closely with this distinguished group. Their collective expertise will benefit Empire Genomics through advancing and delivering novel technologies that will enable scientific discovery," said Empire Genomics founder and CSO Norma Nowak, Ph.D., Chairman of the newly formed group. "We expect that the domain experience of our SAB members will be highly relevant to Empire Genomics as the company develops its innovative technologies for both genomic research and diagnostic applications."

Empire Genomics, based in Buffalo, New York, utilizes proprietary techniques to identify and quantify chromosomal abnormalities. Specifically the company has evolved array-based Comparative Genomic Hybridization (aCGH) by developing microarrays that utilize discrete segments of DNA generated from the RPCI BAC clones. These are of considerable value as they served as the foundation for the human genome sequence, and have vast potential towards the development of diagnostic tests and therapies. The company was founded on the research experience of Dr. Norma Nowak and her more than 100 peer reviewed research publications. More information on Empire Genomics is available at www.empiregenomics.com.

Brief biographies of the SAB members follow:

Stuart Schwartz, Ph.D., is Director of Genetic Diagnostic Services as well as the Director of the Clinical Cytogenetics Laboratory at the University of Chicago where he is a professor of human genetics, medicine, and pathology. His research interests include a variety of cytological phenomena and chromosome structure and function. Dr. Schwartz is American Board of Medical Genetics-certified and holds Diplomates in Medical Genetics and Clinical Molecular Genetics. He has served on the editorial boards of numerous peer-reviewed journals.


Marilyn Slovak, Ph.D., is Director of Cytogenetics and Professor of Pathology at the City of Hope National Medical Center, Duarte, CA. She is an American Board of Medical Genetics (ABMG)-boarded clinical cytogeneticist and a founding Fellow of the ABMG College. Dr. Slovak has co-authored over 125 peer-reviewed publications and six book chapters in the field of cancer genetics.

Michael N. Liebman, Ph.D., is executive Director of the Windber Research Institute, Managing Director of Strategic Medicine, Inc. and Chair of the Healthcare Task Force for the SMART program. Dr. Liebman is an Associate Professor in Pharmacology and in Physiology/Biophysics at Mount Sinai School of Medicine and an Invited Professor at the Shanghai Center for Bioinformatics Technology. His research focuses on computational models of disease progression. Dr. Liebman serves on numerous U.S. and international scientific advisory boards, including the Mayo Clinic's Institute for Personalized Medicine.

Laura Reid, Ph.D., is Senior Director, Marketing and External Scientific Affairs at Expression Analysis, Inc. Dr. Reid specializes in quality control and standardization efforts in microarray technology. She is active in the External RNA Controls Consortium, the ABRF Microarray Research Group and other genomic data initiatives. Formerly, Dr. Reid directed the Genomics Core at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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