

Communication

The DOE Human Genome Program communicates information in a variety of ways. These communication systems include the Human Genome Management Information System (HGMIS), projects in the Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues (ELSI) Program, electronic resources, meetings, and fellowships. Some of these mechanisms are described below. For more details, see Research Highlights, ELSI projects, p. 18.

HGMIS

HGMIS provides technical communication and information services for the DOE OBER Human Genome Program Task Group. HGMIS is charged with (1) helping to communicate genome-related matters and research to contractors, grantees, other (nongenome project) researchers, and other multipliers of information pertaining to genetic research; (2) serving as a clearinghouse for inquiries about the U.S. genome project; and (3) reducing research duplication by providing a forum for interdisciplinary information exchange (including resources developed) among genetic investigators worldwide.

HGMIS publishes the newsletter *Human Genome News*, sponsored by OBER. Over 14,000 *HGN* subscribers include genome and basic researchers at national laboratories, universities, and other research institutions; professors and teachers; industry representatives; legal personnel; ethicists; students; genetic counselors; physicians; science writers; and other interested individuals.

HGMIS also produces the DOE *Primer on Molecular Genetics*; a compilation of ELSI abstracts; and reports on the DOE Human Genome and Microbial Genome Programs, contractor-grantee workshops, and other related subjects.

Electronic versions of the primer and other HGMIS publications are available via the World Wide Web. HGMIS also

initiates and maintains other related Web sites (see DOE Electronic Genome Resources section below and DOE Web Sites at right).

In addition to their print and online publishing efforts, HGMIS staff members answer questions generated via Web sites, telephone, fax, and e-mail. They also furnish customized information about the genome project for multipliers of information (contact: Betty Mansfield at 423/576-6669, Fax: /574-9888, mansfieldbk@ornl.gov).

DOE Electronic Genome Resources

Web Sites. The DOE Human Genome Program Home Page displays pointers to other programs within OBER and the Office of Energy Research. Links are made to additional biological and environmental information and to HGMIS, Genome Database, and other sites.

HGMIS initiates and maintains the searchable Human Genome Project Information Web site. This site contains more than 1700 text files of information for multidisciplinary technical audiences as well as for lay persons interested in learning about the science, goals, progress, and history of the project. Users include almost all levels of students; education, medical, and legal professionals; genetic society and support group members; biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry personnel; administrators; policymakers; and the press.

The site also houses a section of frequently asked questions, a quick fact finder, *Primer on Molecular Genetics*, all issues of *Human Genome News*, DOE Human Genome Program and contractor-grantee workshop reports, *To Know Ourselves*, historical documents, research abstracts, calendars of genome events, and hundreds of links to genome research and educational sites. More than 1000 other Web pages link to this site, resulting in more than 100,000 text file transfers each month. This

DOE Web Sites

DOE Human Genome Program
http://www.er.doe.gov/production/ober/hug_top.html

OBER
http://www.er.doe.gov/production/ober/ober_top.html

Office of Energy Research
<http://www.er.doe.gov>

Human Genome Project
Information
<http://www.ornl.gov/hgmis>

HGP and Related Meetings
<http://www.ornl.gov/meetings>

Courts
<http://www.ornl.gov/courts>

