

Establish a Certificate in Cancer Genetics for Undergraduates at Rutgers University

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Abstract:

Genetics has a broad and growing impact on society. The advent of personalized therapies, pharmacogenomics, and personal genomes are all recent advances that impact the field of Cancer Genetics. The current SAS curriculum could be bolstered in the area of Cancer Genetics, and a recent gift to the department of Genetics states as part of its mission to bolster undergraduate education in Cancer Genetics. The goal of this proposal is to identify the requirements to establish a certificate program in Cancer Genetics, identify stakeholders to facilitate the establishment of a certificate program, and finalize a plan to implement the certificate program.

Key Steps/Activities:

- Develop curriculum for the proposed program with consultation from the sponsors in Genetics and RCINJ.
- Tentative plans include a requirement for 6 credits of \bullet research in Cancer Genetics, 6 credits of Cancer-related coursework in the department of Genetics (a 200, 400 and/or grad level course): 3 credits count towards elective Credits in Genetics and 3 additional Credits to count towards the Certificate.
- The program will also include an outreach activity in • coordination with the Cancer Institute.

Additional opportunities include:

- Partnering with the University Foundation for fundraising opportunities.
- Partnering with Admissions to increase recruitment opportunities.

Effectiveness Measures:

- Short term success will be to have the Certificate Program proposal fully developed and ready to submit for approval to the School of Arts and Sciences.
- Long term success will be defined as student participation in the program and generation of graduates with Certificates in Cancer Genetics contributing to efforts to improve Cancer Patients' Health in New Jersey.

Proposed Timeline:

- Identify a champion/collaborator at the Cancer Institute (ongoing)
- Consult with department of Genetics Curriculum Committee (Summer 2023)
- Finalize program requirements and initiate request for Certificate Program with School of Arts and Sciences (Fall 2023)
- Establish 400-level course (Fall 2024) and initiate program in Fall 2025

Primary Stakeholders:

•Students seeking education in Cancer Genetics •Department of Genetics •Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey • New Jersey public RUTGERS School of Arts and Sciences

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Department of Genetics

Communication/Engagement:

• The program will be advertised during department of genetics undergraduate recruitment events.

• The Cancer Institute of New Jersey will be consulted to reach out through their networks to publicize the program as well.

• The program will be listed in the course catalog and advertised to the Rutgers Community

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