



The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy

Feline PanGenome Project

Attention BACs, breed clubs and breeders!

The Feline PanGenome project will establish a full reference genome for every breed of cat and we need your help to achieve this and to identify the best cats to represent their breeds

Do you have a cat or kitten that is a good quality example of its breed? Has your cat gained show titles and been judged to be a good example of their breed? Or is it a kitten from a good lineage that shows great promise? Why not make this cat's DNA the standard for all other cats of the same breed!?

Join us in developing reference-level genome sequences representing every cat species, every cat breed, and every cat population from around the world! This project will help us understand what makes a cat – a cat! We will be able to better decipher the differences between cat breeds, including their size, shapes and potentially behaviours and why a tiger is different from a lion, but why both are still cats!

We need really good sources of DNA for this project from both males and females of each cat species, breed, or population. Whole blood or tissue samples will be required. Tissues can be collected when the cats are neutered. (A collection kit will be sent to your vet to obtain the samples, along with information for payment of the sample collection and the shipping. We will also want your best pictures of the cats and their pedigrees. You will obtain the DNA profile on your cat for every known DNA variant that causes a cat disease or a phenotype. You and your cat will be referenced in scientific publications.

We will be accepting donations, conducting fundraising events, accepting sponsorships, and submitting grant applications to acquire the funding for the project.

The research will be led by the University of Missouri (Leslie Lyons, PhD), Texas A&M University (Brian Davis, PhD) and the cat genetics community.

Please nominate your cat by emailing the following details to

Dr. Leslie A. Lyons at the University of Missouri

lyonsla@missouri.edu

Your name

Name of cat

Breed

Colour/pattern

Date of birth

Please put "Feline PanGenome Project nomination" as the subject.

(Please note that cats with genetic diseases or carriers of disease genes are welcome.)

Any queries, please contact the Genetics Committee secretary at jen@gccfcats.org