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# Impact of Genomic Variation on Function (IGVF) Pre-Application Webinar

Mike Pazin, Stephanie Morris, and Dan Gilchrist

National Human Genome Research Institute, Division of Genome Sciences

September 2020



National Human Genome  
Research Institute

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The **Forefront**  
of **Genomics**  
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# Agenda

- **Webinar Logistics** – 2 min
- **NHGRI and IGVF Overview** – 10 min
- **Application Guidelines and Cooperative Agreements**– 10 min
- **Individual Funding Announcements** – 25 min (5 min each)
- **Q&A Session** – Until we run out of questions or time, whichever comes first

# Webinar Logistics

- These slides will be available on the NHGRI IGVF website after the second webinar: <https://www.genome.gov/Funded-Programs-Projects/Impact-of-Genomic-Variation-on-Function-Consortium>
- A list of frequently asked questions and answers (FAQs) will be posted on the NHGRI IGVF website
- All attendees will be muted for the entire webinar
- We will answer questions during the Q&A session at the end of webinar
- Please send your questions at any time during this webinar via Q&A (not chat) or via webform/email to <https://forms.gle/DrgqfDCd2p71Cw47A> or [briana.nunez@nih.gov](mailto:briana.nunez@nih.gov)

# NHGRI Overview

- Genomics
- Comprehensive, unbiased approaches
- Generalizable methods and knowledge
  - ❖ NOT particular diseases or biological systems
  - ❖ NOT particular genes
  - ❖ NOT mechanistic studies

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# IGVF Significance

## Challenge/ Opportunity

Interpreting variants  
Interpreting candidate genotype/phenotype associations

## Objective

Understanding how genetic variation impacts genome function, phenotypes (including disease)

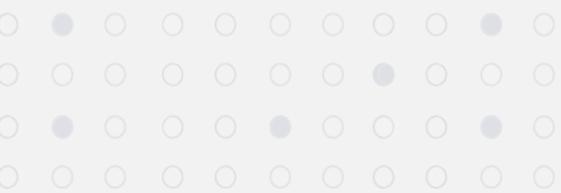
## Implementation

Data collection, community data resource, integrative data analysis, and predictive modeling

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# IGVF Goal

- Systematic understanding of the effects of genomic variation on genome function and how these effects shape phenotypes
- Not expected to have all answers at the end of 5 years, but will have a framework to address these questions



# IGVF Program Objectives

Transform our understanding of how variation impacts function and leads to phenotypes in health and disease

1. Assess genome function using systematic perturbation
2. High-resolution identification of where and when genes and regulatory elements function
3. Network-level understanding of genome function
4. Develop predictive models of genome function
5. Generation of a catalog of elements, variant and phenotypes; share data, tools, and models
6. Enabling others to apply these approaches

# Key IGVF Consortium Outcomes

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## Key Outcome: Resource

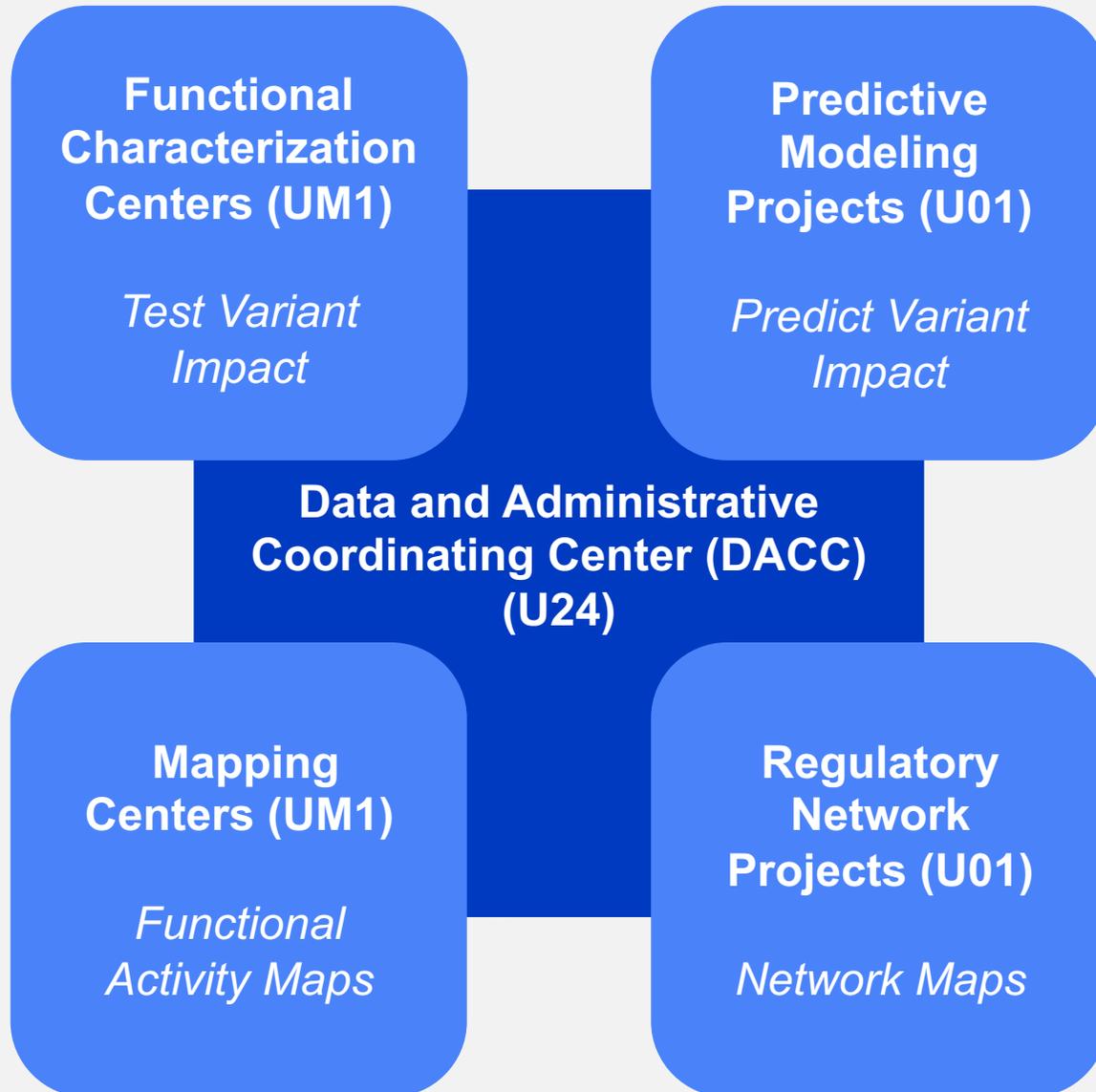
- Data on elements, variants, and phenotype
- Tools, models, methods, standards, technologies

## Key Outcome: Understanding how genomic variation impacts genome function

- Catalog of variant impact
- Models predicting effects of untested variants
- Model variants and elements in networks and pathways

# IGVF Consortium Structure

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Organized as a multi-component research consortium that brings investigators together in a highly collaborative effort

Five interrelated funding opportunity announcements (FOAs)

# IGVF Applicants

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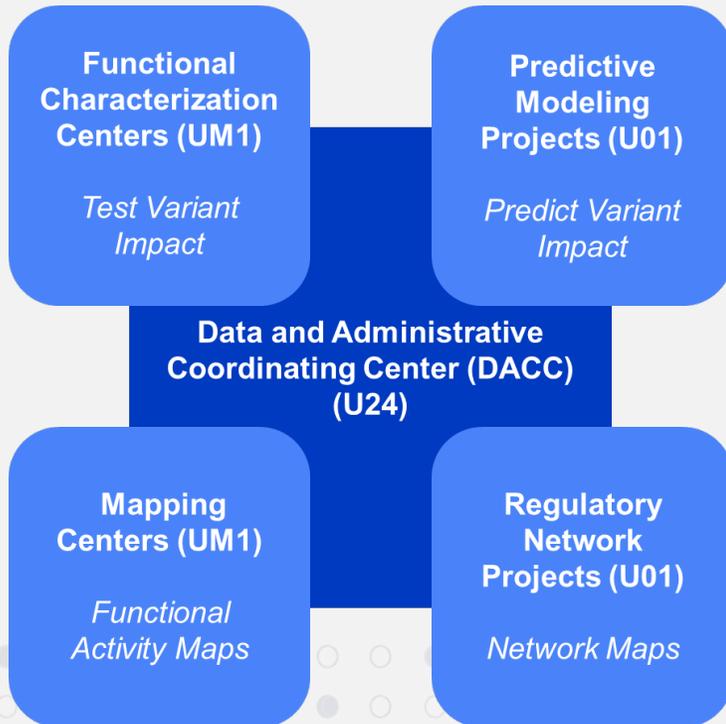
- IGVF is seeking applicants with diverse expertise including at least genomics and data science
- NHGRI encourages all investigators with ideas aligned with IGVF to submit applications, especially:
  - Investigators from demographic groups or institutions generally underrepresented in genomic science
  - New and early stage investigators
  - Experienced investigators who are new to genomic science
  - Investigators that have not previously participated in a NHGRI-consortium or program

# First Year: Focus on Scientific Planning

- To plan consortium-wide and component-specific strategies for data collection and analyses
- To plan tests to characterize strengths, synergies, and weaknesses of proposed approaches
- Activities to be ramped up in years 2-5
- All funded teams will participate in kickoff meeting at start of year 1

# IGVF Consortium: Shared Activities

This is a consortium effort—funded projects and centers will work collaboratively with each other, including the DACC and will:



- Contribute data, metadata, analyses, and software to the DACC and appropriate repositories
- Participate in planning, implementation, and analysis of consortium-wide or component-wide projects
- Develop standards and establish data quality metrics
- Share best practices and lessons learned
- Contribute to outreach efforts

Collaborative projects across the consortium will be encouraged

# Application Guidelines for All FOAs

- Read FOAs carefully; know what to include in your application
- Non-responsive applications are neither reviewed nor considered for funding
- Contact NHGRI about your ideas *before* submitting your application
- Submit a couple days early, do not wait until the last minute

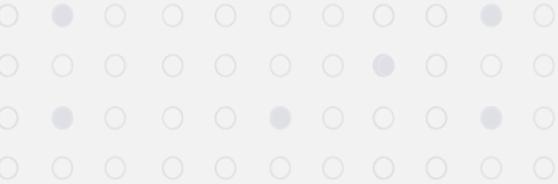
# Application Guidelines for All FOAs

- Applicants are eligible to apply to multiple FOAs
- Provide timeline and annual milestones spanning funding period
- Key personnel/consultants/team should demonstrate strong scientific expertise
- What makes your approach different, and better? What will put your application into the reviewer's top applications?



# Cooperative Agreements

- Used when substantial programmatic involvement is anticipated between NIH and the recipient
- For roles and expectations see Cooperative Agreement “Terms and Conditions of Award” in FOA
  - Work collaboratively within the consortium
  - Participate in IGVF annual meeting, working groups, and in regular conference calls
  - Make satisfactory progress towards proposed scientific milestones



# Application Guidelines for All FOAs

- Please review Terms and Conditions, as well as Resource Sharing
- All applications should have a Resource Sharing Plan and should address data sharing
- Awardee responsibilities include complying with IGVF policies, including any data release policies, publication policies or software sharing policies
- Applicants should explicitly state their willingness to cooperate with the IGVF consortium, NIH staff, and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of standardized formats, metadata, and quality control metrics.
- Biological samples from humans are expected to be consented for future research use and broad data sharing
- Sources with participant consent for unrestricted access are strongly encouraged

# Application Guidelines for All FOAs

Please read Budget Instructions, Section IV

- Budget in first year is different from following years (RFA-HG-20-043, RFA-HG-20-045, RFA-HG-20-046, RFA-HG-20-047) (See Section II)
- 20% of the direct costs from years 2-5 of the award must be allocated to support shared work (RFA-HG-20-043, RFA-HG-20-045, RFA-HG-20-047)
  - Applicants are encouraged to include a paragraph about a project(s) that may be proposed in the future
  - The common projects will be chosen by awardees in consultation with NIH staff
- Budget must include funds to support investigator travel to initial in-person IGVF kickoff meeting, year 1 and 2 Steering Committee meetings, and to attend the annual IGVF Consortium meetings within the continental U.S.
- Budget must include funds for project manager (RFA-HG-20-043, RFA-HG-20-045, RFA-HG-20-046) and appropriate effort for PI/MPI

# Application Guidelines for All FOAs

## Review Criteria, Section V.1

- Look for non-standard review criteria flagged by “Specific to this FOA”

## Section V.2—will be considered in making funding decisions

- Relevance to program priorities
- Programmatic balance, synergy...
- Potential to work effectively in large collaborative efforts or research consortia...
- Data sharing, software and analysis sharing and resource sharing plans
- Expansion of the community of genomic science...
- Inclusion of investigators that are new to NHGRI consortia
- Whether an applicant will be funded as a PD/PI through the other IGVF FOAs

# Five Interrelated IGVF FOAs

- Characterization: RFA-HG-20-043: Systematic Characterization of Genomic Variation on Genome Function and Phenotype (UM1)
- Mapping: RFA-HG-20-045: Single-cell Profiling of Regulatory Element and Gene Activity in Relationship to Genome Function (UM1)
- Modeling: RFA-HG-20-047: Developing Predictive Models of the Impact of Genomic Variation on Function (U01)
- Networks: RFA-HG-20-044: Defining Genomic Influence on Gene Network Regulation (U01)
- DACCC: RFA-HG-20-046: Genomic Variation and Function Data and Administrative Coordinating Center (U24)

# RFA-HG-20-043: Systematic Characterization of Genomic Variation on Genome Function and Phenotype (UM1)

**Purpose:** to experimentally correlate genomic variants with their effects on genomic function

# RFA-HG-20-043: Systematic Characterization of Genomic Variation on Genome Function and Phenotype (UM1)

## Objectives:

- Select genomic variants and/or elements for systematic testing
- Apply genomic perturbation methods and assay the impact on biologically relevant phenotypes
- Generate a variant/element/phenotype catalog for the community

# RFA-HG-20-043: Systematic Characterization of Genomic Variation on Genome Function and Phenotype (UM1)

## Scope also includes:

- Enable others to perform related studies using these approaches
- Define a data collection strategy for characterization centers and predictive modeling
- Assist in generating predictive models for the community
- Improve generalizable approaches or technologies for high-throughput assays (optional)

# RFA-HG-20-043: Systematic Characterization of Genomic Variation on Genome Function and Phenotype (UM1)

## Budget:

- In FY21 application budgets are limited to \$700,000 direct costs
- In FY22-FY25 application budgets are limited to \$1.4M direct costs per year

# RFA-HG-20-043: Systematic Characterization of Genomic Variation on Genome Function and Phenotype (UM1)

**Make sure to adhere to all Instructions for Applicant Submission, including addressing the following:**

- Plan for variant/element/phenotype catalog for the community
- Planning year, first year
- Consortium data collection plan

# RFA-HG-20-043: Systematic Characterization of Genomic Variation on Genome Function and Phenotype (UM1)

**Examples of approaches:** massively parallel reporter assays, genome editing, epigenome editing, high-throughput protein mutagenesis

**Examples of biological systems:** human and/or mouse

**May test variants and/or elements**

# RFA-HG-20-043: Systematic Characterization of Genomic Variation on Genome Function and Phenotype (UM1)

## Considered non-responsive:

- Projects that do not test the function of genomic elements or variants
- Projects that are primarily developing new experimental methods
- Projects that do not use biological systems relevant to human health and disease
- Mechanistic studies or projects focused on a single disease
- Proposed work that does not indicate plans to participate in the ramp-up year and to collaborate with and contribute to consortium-wide, collaborative activities and analyses throughout the course of the project

# RFA-HG-20-045: Single-cell Profiling of Regulatory Element and Gene Activity in Relationship to Genome Function (UM1)

**Purpose:** to generate single-cell, multi-omic maps of elements in the human and mouse genomes

# RFA-HG-20-045: Single-cell Profiling of Regulatory Element and Gene Activity in Relationship to Genome Function (UM1)

## Objectives:

- Use state-of-the-art, high-throughput genomics methods to map genes and regulatory elements at single-cell resolution
  - Identify candidate functional elements in distinct cell types and states (i.e., particular biological and spatial contexts)
- Produce durable datasets of annotated candidate functional elements accessible to the broader research community

# RFA-HG-20-045: Single-cell Profiling of Regulatory Element and Gene Activity in Relationship to Genome Function (UM1)

## Scope of this FOA also includes:

- Enable others to perform related studies using these approaches
- Contribute to defining a strategy for data collection and analyses for Mapping Centers and the consortium
- Contribute to generating a variant/element/phenotype catalog for the community

# RFA-HG-20-045: Single-cell Profiling of Regulatory Element and Gene Activity in Relationship to Genome Function (UM1)

## Budget:

- In FY21 application budgets are limited to \$900,000 direct costs
- In FY22-FY25 application budgets are limited to \$1.8M direct costs per year

# RFA-HG-20-045: Single-cell Profiling of Regulatory Element and Gene Activity in Relationship to Genome Function (UM1)

## Some Key Points

- **Experimental Assays:**

- Initiative will support generation of multiple data types
- Must be able to support data generation utilizing 2-3 distinct, robust assays
- One of these assays must be single cell transcriptomics
- Assays/approaches that generate complementary information are encouraged
- Multi-modal, single-cell assays/approaches are encouraged

- **Biological Samples:**

- Propose study of samples derived from human and/or mouse
- Propose study of specific cell types, fates, or states with focus on those important in development, differentiation, or to human diseases associated with known genomic variants

# RFA-HG-20-045: Single-cell Profiling of Regulatory Element and Gene Activity in Relationship to Genome Function (UM1)

## Some Key Points

- **Mapping Centers will work together to prioritize assays and biological samples**
  - Centers may need to adjust samples or add samples
  - For this reason, technologies must have demonstrated ability to produce high quality data in diverse tissues and cell types

# RFA-HG-20-045: Single-cell Profiling of Regulatory Element and Gene Activity in Relationship to Genome Function (UM1)

**Make sure to adhere to all Instructions for Applicant Submission, including addressing the following:**

- Planning year/first year
- Consortium strategies for data collection and analyses
- How you will work with the consortium

# RFA-HG-20-045: Single-cell Profiling of Regulatory Element and Gene Activity in Relationship to Genome Function (UM1)

## Considered Non-responsive:

- Exclusion of transcriptomics as one of the generated data types
- Research proposed in model systems that are not of human or mouse origin
- Studies proposed that are primarily computational
- Studies proposed to test and characterize the specific biological function of genes and regulatory elements
- Proposed work that does not indicate plans to participate in the ramp-up year and to collaborate with and contribute to consortium-wide, collaborative activities and analyses throughout the course of the project

# RFA-HG-20-047: Developing Predictive Models of the Impact of Genomic Variation on Function (U01)

**Purpose:** Develop innovative computational models to predict the impact of genomic variation on genome function and/or phenotype

# RFA-HG-20-047: Developing Predictive Models of the Impact of Genomic Variation on Function (U01)

## Objectives:

- Develop computational approaches to model/predict relationships among variation/function/phenotype
- Collaborate to define IGVF data collection/analysis strategies
- Generate a variant/element/phenotype catalog for the community
- Contribute analytical expertise to the consortium

# RFA-HG-20-047: Developing Predictive Models of the Impact of Genomic Variation on Function (U01)

## Scope of this FOA also includes:

- Enable others to perform related studies using these approaches
- Create tools to enable inferences about genome function (optional)

# RFA-HG-20-047: Developing Predictive Models of the Impact of Genomic Variation on Function (U01)

## Budget:

- In FY21 budgets are limited to \$275K direct costs
- In FY22-FY25 budgets are limited to \$550K direct costs

# RFA-HG-20-047: Developing Predictive Models of the Impact of Genomic Variation on Function (U01)

**Make sure to adhere to all Instructions for Applicant Submission, including addressing the following:**

- Plan for variant/element/phenotype catalog for the community
- Consortium data collection plan
- Plan to contribute analytical expertise to consortium
- Planning year/first year

# RFA-HG-20-047: Developing Predictive Models of the Impact of Genomic Variation on Function (U01)

## Considered non-responsive:

- Projects proposing extensive wet-lab data generation. Limited (<10% annual direct costs) wet-lab work to inform modeling efforts OK
- Projects proposing models that are not comprehensive in scope (e.g., applicable to only one or a small set of genomic loci/sequences/elements)
- Projects proposing models that are not generalizable (e.g., applicable to one or a small number of diseases)
- Projects not proposing plans to help design experimental strategies generating data useful for predictive modeling
- Projects not proposing contributing analytical expertise to consortium
- Projects not proposing participation in the ramp-up year and collaboration/contribution to consortium-wide, collaborative activities and analyses throughout the project

# RFA-HG-20-044: Defining Genomic Influence on Gene Network Regulation (U01)

**Purpose:** Explore the effects of genomic variation on phenotypes at the network level

# RFA-HG-20-044: Defining Genomic Influence on Gene Network Regulation (U01)

## Objectives:

- Apply systematic genomic/multi-omic data collection methods
- Measure changes in gene/regulatory element activity during biological changes
- Develop/refine approaches to model gene-regulatory networks using collected data
- Identify, test network-level relationships among variants, elements, genes, phenotypes

# RFA-HG-20-044: Defining Genomic Influence on Gene Network Regulation (U01)

## Scope of this FOA also includes:

- Collaborate to define the IGVF consortium data collection and analysis strategies
- Enable others to perform related studies using these approaches

# RFA-HG-20-044: Defining Genomic Influence on Gene Network Regulation (U01)

**Make sure to adhere to all Instructions for Applicant Submission, including addressing the following:**

- If applicable, rationale for selecting any non-human system(s), including transferability of findings to studies of human health and disease
- If applicable, rationale for selecting disease system(s), including generalizability of approaches/findings to other systems

# RFA-HG-20-044: Defining Genomic Influence on Gene Network Regulation (U01)

## Budget:

- Application budgets are limited to \$900K direct costs per year

# RFA-HG-20-044: Defining Genomic Influence on Gene Network Regulation (U01)

## Considered non-responsive:

- Projects focused on specific biological or disease systems that are unlikely to lead to generalizable approaches and paradigms
- Projects that do not propose systematic collection of multi-modal genomic data
- Projects that focus on a single gene or functional element, or small number of genes or functional elements
- Projects that do not propose to develop network models or do not use models to predict impacts of genomic variation
- Projects that do not propose experimental tests of model predictions
- Projects that do not indicate plans to participate in collaborative activities and analyses throughout the course of the project

# RFA-20-046: Genomic Variation and Function Data and Administrative Coordinating Center (DACCC) (U24)

**Purpose:** serve as coordinating center for the IGVF consortium

# RFA-20-046: Genomic Variation and Function Data and Administrative Coordinating Center (DACCC) (U24)

## Objectives:

- Coordinate submission and uniform processing of data, metadata, protocols and tools
- Develop a database and portal for housing and sharing of consortium resources
- Serve as an administrative and coordinating center for the consortium
- Coordinate consortium-led analyses and lead outreach efforts

# RFA-20-046: Genomic Variation and Function Data and Administrative Coordinating Center (DACCC) (U24)

## Scope of this FOA also includes:

- Enable others to perform related studies using consortium approaches
- Contribute to defining a strategy for data collection and analyses for the consortium
- Contribute to generating a variant/element/phenotype catalog as part of the consortium's community data resource

Contact: Stephanie Morris, [morriss2@mail.nih.gov](mailto:morriss2@mail.nih.gov)

# RFA-20-046: Genomic Variation and Function Data and Administrative Coordinating Center (DACCC) (U24)

## Budget:

- In FY21 application budgets are limited to \$2.5M direct costs
- In FY22-FY25 application budgets are limited to \$3.5M direct costs per year

# RFA-20-046: Genomic Variation and Function Data and Administrative Coordinating Center (DACCC) (U24)

## Some Key Points:

- Division of center's activities into two components: (1) Data Coordination and (2) Administrative Coordination is encouraged
  - Each should be managed by a team with appropriate expertise and leadership
- Center must be prepared to work with metadata and data from a range of experimental and computational genomics research; review of companion FOAs is encouraged
- Center should have experience with, and plans for, working with data consented for unrestricted access and controlled-access
- Propose a transition plan for the consortium-generated resource that addresses sustainability
- Center will be responsible for facilitating consortium coordination and communication; propose budget that addresses meeting logistics and communication platforms

# RFA-20-046: Genomic Variation and Function Data and Administrative Coordinating Center (U24)

**Make sure to adhere to all Instructions for Applicant Submission, including addressing the following:**

- Planning year/first year
- Consortium strategies for data collection and analyses
- How you will work with the consortium



# Timeline for FOAs

- Contact NHGRI about your ideas
- Letter of intent due: 4 October 2020
- Receipt date: 4 November 2020
- Review: March 2021
- Council: May 2021
- Earliest start date: July 2021

# NHGRI Contacts for IGVF

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RFA	Program	Grants	Review
RFA-HG-20-043 Characterization	Mike Pazin <a href="mailto:michael.pazin@nih.gov">michael.pazin@nih.gov</a>	Anneliese Galczynski <a href="mailto:anneliese.galczynski@mail.nih.gov">anneliese.galczynski@mail.nih.gov</a>	Rudy Pozzatti <a href="mailto:pozzattr@exchange.nih.gov">pozzattr@exchange.nih.gov</a>
RFA-HG-20-044 Networks	Daniel Gilchrist <a href="mailto:daniel.gilchrist@nih.gov">daniel.gilchrist@nih.gov</a>	Lisa Oken <a href="mailto:loken@nih.gov">loken@nih.gov</a>	Rudy Pozzatti <a href="mailto:pozzattr@exchange.nih.gov">pozzattr@exchange.nih.gov</a>
RFA-HG-20-045 Mapping	Stephanie Morris <a href="mailto:morriss2@mail.nih.gov">morriss2@mail.nih.gov</a>	Devon Bumbray-Quarles <a href="mailto:db400w@nih.gov">db400w@nih.gov</a>	Rudy Pozzatti <a href="mailto:pozzattr@exchange.nih.gov">pozzattr@exchange.nih.gov</a>
RFA-HG-20-046 DACC	Stephanie Morris <a href="mailto:morriss2@mail.nih.gov">morriss2@mail.nih.gov</a>	Devon Bumbray-Quarles <a href="mailto:db400w@nih.gov">db400w@nih.gov</a>	Rudy Pozzatti <a href="mailto:pozzattr@exchange.nih.gov">pozzattr@exchange.nih.gov</a>
RFA-HG-20-047 Modeling	Daniel Gilchrist <a href="mailto:daniel.gilchrist@nih.gov">daniel.gilchrist@nih.gov</a>	Lisa Oken <a href="mailto:loken@nih.gov">loken@nih.gov</a>	Rudy Pozzatti <a href="mailto:pozzattr@exchange.nih.gov">pozzattr@exchange.nih.gov</a>

# Question and Answer Session

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- Please ask your questions via Q&A (not chat), webform <https://forms.gle/DrgqfDCd2p71Cw47A> or via email to [briana.nunez@nih.gov](mailto:briana.nunez@nih.gov)
- All attendees will be muted
- These slides will be available on the NHGRI IGVF website after the second webinar: <https://www.genome.gov/Funded-Programs-Projects/Impact-of-Genomic-Variation-on-Function-Consortium>
- A list of frequently asked questions and answers (FAQs) will be posted on the NHGRI IGVF website
- We are focusing on general questions in today's Q&A. If specific questions remain please follow-up with the appropriate contact



The **Forefront**  
of **Genomics**

# IGVF: Resource and Research

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Resource

Research

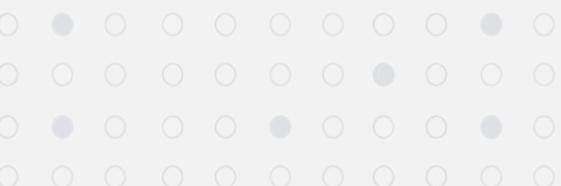
Mapping Centers

Data Coord. Center

Functional Char. Centers

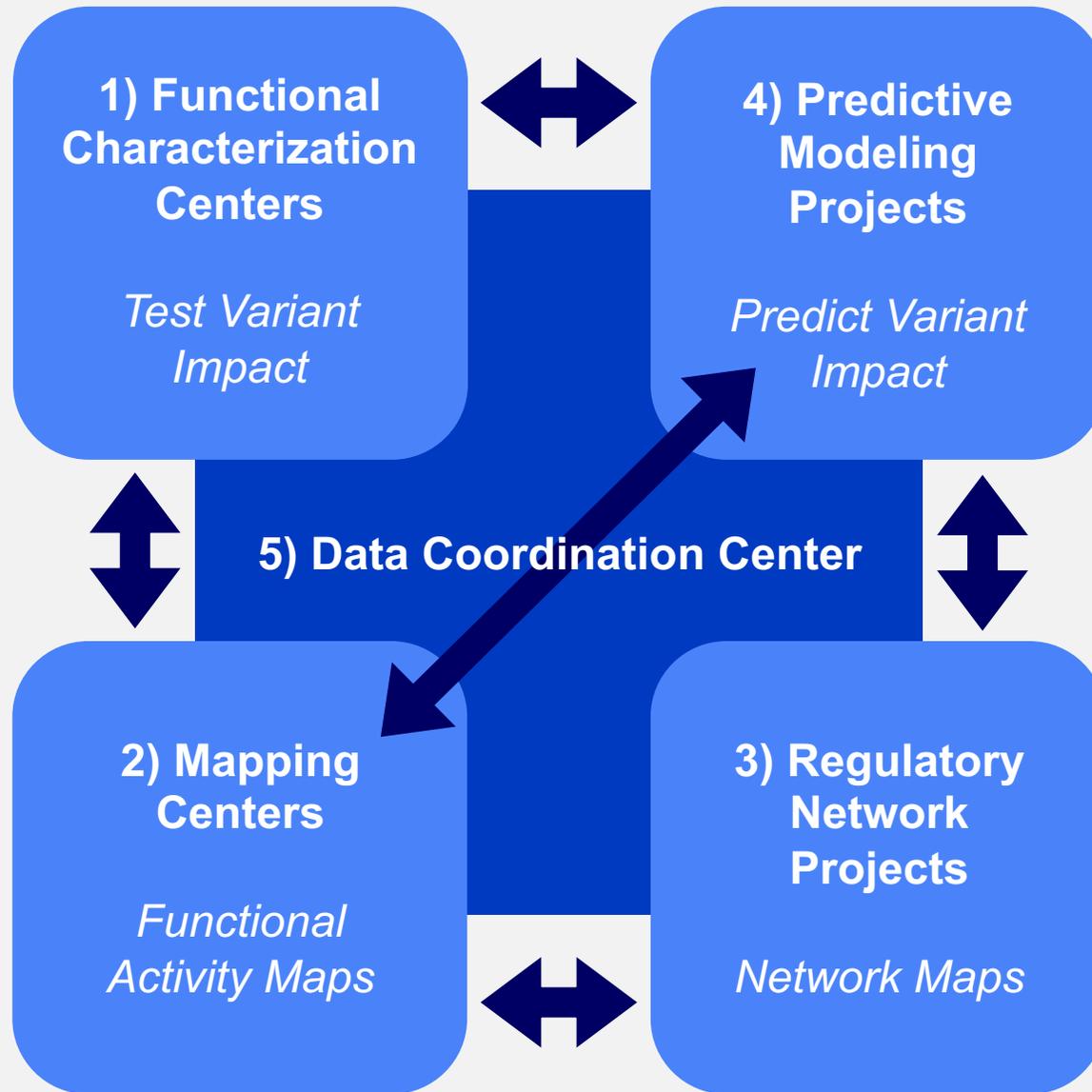
Predictive Modeling Projects

Regulatory Network Projects



# Synergies Within The IGVF Consortium

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Characterization centers help prioritize samples to be mapped; element maps inform testing by systematic perturbation

Characterization and mapping data inform predictive models; models help prioritize variants to test, samples to map

