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Mary J. C. Hendrix

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From: Cook, Shawn [SMTP:shawn-cook@uiowa.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2000 11:25 AM
To: 'Linda.Thekorn@USPTO.GOV'
Subject: Revised Interim Utility Examination Guidelines

I support the patenting of genes where the complete sequence is known and a function of the gene product determined. I am concerned that patenting of segments of genes, including those identified by expressed sequence tags (ESTs), will impede the more complete characterization and patenting of genes and delay or restrict the commercial exploration of these patents for the public good. I urge that you apply high standards of "specific, substantial and credible" evidence in conferring patents to DNA sequences, as recommended by NIH.

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