VCU Genomics Core –
a research resource for everything genomics

Co-Directors: Dr. Karolina Aberg & Dr. Greg Buck
Mission:

Provide state-of-the-art lab-technical genomic services and analysis support to advance genomic research at VCU and beyond.
Pillars for the rebooted Genomics Core:

1) A new expanded team with extensive expertise in various aspects of genomics
   - Sequencing engineer - Vladimir Lee, PhD
   - Laboratory specialist - Lin Xie, MS
   - New core manager - search is ongoing
   - Part-time master-level bioinformatician
Pillars for the rebooted Genomics Core:

2) A restructured laboratory space and improved routines

- Separated pre- and post-amplification areas to minimize contamination risks.
- Standardized cleaning routines.
- Laboratory coats required - including for ALL visitors.
Pillars for the rebooted Genomics Core:

3) Improved infrastructure
   - Performed quality control and repairs of existing instrumentation
   - Installed a new cost-effective sequencing instrument for mid-size projects
   - Collaboration with other units to maximize the use of existing research infrastructure
Pillars for the rebooted Genomics Core:

4) A new customer service model
   - Initial “consultation” to understand needs and set expectations
   - Continues communication about project progress and challenges
   - Data delivered together with a quality control report
Pillars for the rebooted Genomics Core:

5) New business model
   - Traditional fee-for-service
   - Do-it-yourself (DIY) genomics
   - Lab-expertise for hire

Assistance with experimental planning, study design and letters of support
Traditional fee-for-service:

The most commonly requested analyses are available as off-the-shelf services.

Less frequently used analyses will be provided as needed following established protocols.
Do-it-yourself (DIY) genomics:

- Selected instruments are available to the investigators for hands on analyses.
- Training is available (and required) for faculty, staff, students, post-docs, etc.
- Instrument time is booked via the VCU FORCE system (not yet implemented).
Lab-expertise for hire:

- For projects that require protocol development.
- For large scale projects.
- For project that require troubleshooting and optimization.
Building a strong reputation:

- Knowledgeable customer service
- Timely response & turn-around time
- Deliver high quality data

Fulfill, or exceed, expectations
We are looking forward to work with you!

To discuss an ongoing or upcoming project email us: genomics@vcu.edu

Visit our webpage to learn more: www.genomics.vcu.edu