Buffalo Institute for Genomics (BIG) Gaining Momentum in First Year

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Machine room in UB Center for Computational Research

Funded by New York State, the Buffalo Institute for Genomics (BIG) is a \$110 million collaboration between the University at Buffalo and the New York Genome Center to create a national center for genomics research. Formed in 2014, BIG focuses on personalized medicine to advance the diagnosis and treatment of human disease.

Three UB centers on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus are providing high-performance computing, informatics and biomedical expertise as part of this major initiative:

Center for Computational Research (CCR)

New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences (CBLS)

Institute for Healthcare Informatics (IHI)

BIG hosted an update on January 22, 2015, at which leaders gave an overview and outlined plans. A key element in the plans is industry partnerships to develop marketable, diagnostic, genomic assays that will guide treatment strategies and drive economic development in the region.

Led by <u>Thomas Furlani PhD</u>, Director CCR, <u>Norma J. Nowak, PhD</u> Executive Director of the CBLS, and <u>Peter Winkelstein MD MBA</u>, Executive Director of the IHI, this unique initiative has the potential to usher in a new era of personalized medicine, leading to breakthrough treatments in serious diseases and improving doctors' ability to identify individuals at risk of disease.

See here, here and here for more information.