



Garvan Institute of Medical Research

Leaders in Science & Society



Prof Richard Gibbs

Director, Baylor College of Medicine Human Genome Sequencing Centre
Wofford Cain Professor of Human & Molecular Genetics

“Precision Medical Research”

Monday 30 May 2016 12PM, AUDITORIUM

Host: Prof John Mattick

Richard Gibbs was born in Australia and graduated from Melbourne University and the Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute in 1986 in Genetics and Radiation Biology. He moved to the USA to Baylor College of Medicine, where he performed key work on the molecular characterization of human genetic disease and provided an early leadership role for the Human Genome Project. In 1997 he founded the BCM Human Genome Sequencing Center – the HGSC – that was one of five main groups to complete the HGP. The HGSC then completed the genomes of many model species and provided leadership for other international projects, including the Mammalian Gene Collection, the Hapmap Project, the 1000 Genomes Project and the Cancer Genome Atlas. The HGSC has also been a technology leader, including developing the DNA exome capture technologies now used ubiquitously.

The HGSC continues to work on large scale comparative genomics and development of genome technologies. Beginning in 2007 the group developed the field of personal human genomics, beginning with personal genome sequences of James Watson and James Lupski and culminating with creation of the first Genetics Diagnostics Laboratory to be based on whole gene sequencing. He now leads the HGSC efforts in large scale clinical translation.

Gibbs has served on many NIH Advisory Councils and was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2011, named an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia in 2011 and recognized as one of the 400 most influential biomedical scientists in the world in 2013 (Eur J. Clin. Invest. 2014). He is currently the Wofford Cain Distinguished Professor of Molecular and Human Genetics and Director of the HGSC.