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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SoftGenetics supports new GCAT-Seek initiative**

**September 16, 2011, State College PA** SoftGenetics announced it has agreed to support the GCAT-Seek initiative by furnishing its NextGENe software at very nominal cost to the GCAT-Seek member Colleges and Universities.

"We would like to thank SoftGenetics for their generous support. Both students and faculty associated with GCAT-SEEK network can now implement sophisticated algorithms in a classroom setting, allowing even beginners to participate in the Genomics revolution." Vince Buonaccorsi, Associate Professor of Biology, Juniata College, Huntingdon PA.

John Fosnacht, VP and Co-Founder of SoftGenetics "We welcome the opportunity to provide our NGS analysis tool, NextGENe, to the undergraduates of GCAT-Seek, we sincerely hope this initiative helps create a deep fervor in undergraduates to expand our knowledge of genetics into the future."

The focus of the NSF supported GCAT-Seek network is to develop a research and education network of faculty from small, primarily undergraduate institutions with the goal of including novel next-generation DNA sequence analysis in ongoing research, so that these research activities can be incorporated into core courses within the undergraduate life sciences curriculum. The network is collaborating with a genomic sequencing core facility located at Penn State University (University Park) to enable access to state-of-the-art sequencing technology to undergraduate students and faculty at small colleges in the mid-Atlantic region. Initial network participants include Juniata College, Susquehanna University, Duquesne University, Hampton University, Morgan State University, Ramapo College of New Jersey, Gettysburg College, Lycoming College, Lock Haven University, Mount Aloysius College, Bucknell University and Hood College, with the genome sequencing facility at Penn State supporting the data acquisition and dissemination aspects of the initiative.

SoftGenetics is providing the network with its NextGENe software for the processing of the sequencing data as well as local licenses of the NextGENe Viewer/Browser which permit undergraduates to review, edit and create customized reports of their NGS analysis on their local or personal computers.

For further information on GCAT-SEEK please visit: <http://www.gcat-seek.org>

For further information on SoftGenetics or NextGENe please visit: <http://www.softgenetics.com>

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*SoftGenetics, LLC specializes in the development of genetic analysis tools for both research and diagnostic applications. Hallmarks of SoftGenetics software tools are advanced technologies, providing exceptional accuracy, and sensitivity in an easy-to use Windows® user interface.*

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