November 7, 1997

Dear Colleagues:

It was a pleasure interacting with many of you in Baltimore. I believe we made great progress, and are in excellent position to go forward. As we discussed, attached please find the Consortium Agreement. In this Agreement, the Steering Committee has attempted to lay out reasonable ground rules for participation based on our discussions. If you are seriously concerned about aspects of the proposal, please let me know as soon as possible. Also attached is a letter fragment that each group should modify as approporiate, sign, and return to verify taking part in the Consortium.

Later this weekend I will be sending you this same information by FAX, together with the with forms for marker and map information; thanks to the Analysis Committee, for putting these forms together. Early next week, I will be sending out minutes of our Balitmore meeting, including Committee memberships and meeting dates. Late next week, you also should be receiving forms from the Diagnosis Committee seeking your input on the phenotypic information available on your families.

I look forward to working together on this important effort.

Best regards,

Michael Boehnke

P.S. We now have a group e-mail address: niddm.consortium@umich.edu
Please let me know if you wish to be taken off this list.

Draft of letter of participation (to be accompanied by a summary document -- draft of summary document follows)

To the Type 2 Diabetes Linkage Analysis Consortium Steering Committee:

This letter is to confirm our decision to take part in the Type 2 Diabetes Linkage Analysis Consortium. We will abide by the rules of participation described in the Consortium Agreement. We will provide genotype data on our families according to the specified timeline. Our sample(s) consist(s) of XXX individuals from XXX families of (specify racial/ethnic backgrounds). These families constitute the complete set of families available in these samples, and will not be chosen to exclude interesting subsets of the data.

We look forward a productive collaboration.

Sincerely,

etc.

Draft Type 2 Diabetes Linkage Analysis Consortium Agreement (Chromosome 20)

A consortium of groups mapping genes for NIDDM in diverse populations has come together to carry out a joint analysis of their linkage data. Because of a number of interesting findings both published and not yet published, the Consortium initially will focus on mapping NIDDM on chromosome 20.

Participants in the Consortium agree to abide by the following schedule and rules:

1. Each participating group will submit a letter to the Consortium indicating their willingness to participate in the consortium effort and to abide by the rules outlined in this Consortium Agreement. Groups are encouraged to join by November 21, 1997, so that their current chromosome 20 maps will be considered in the construction of the Consortium chromosome 20 map (see below). Groups may join after this date upon approval of the Consortium Steering Committee.

2. Each participating group will submit information on the chromosome 20 markers and maps they have used in their individual efforts on forms provided by the Consortium. Groups are strongly encouraged to return these forms by November 21, 1997, so that their current chromosome 20 maps will be considered in the selection of the Consortium framework map for chromosome 20.

3. Participating groups agree to genotype a 20 cM framework map of five markers on their families. Groups will be encouraged to genotype an additional set of five markers that together with the initial set result in a 10 cM framework map. In addition to their own families, participants agree to genotype two Consortium-selected CEPH individuals as size standards for all framework markers they genotype; two additional CEPH individuals may optionally be genotyped. Information on these marker sets and the specific CEPH standards will be distributed to participating groups on or about December 8, 1997. Groups that already have typed framework markers are encouraged to re-type them on their entire sample using primer sequences provided by the Consortium to simplify data merging. To facilitate joint analysis of the data, participating groups agree to report data from framework markers in allele sizes that conform to the standard primer sequence sets recommended by the Analysis Committee. Allele size differences that result from altered primer sequences should be corrected before data are reported to the Analysis Committee.

4. Participating groups will provide all family and CEPH genotype data and all family phenotype data (as described below) to Dr. Braxton Mitchell at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research on or before March 1, 1998. The format of these data will be provided to participating groups no later than January 5, 1998. Phenotype data will include: diabetes disease status (required), ethnic/racial group (required), age of diagnosis (for affected individuals, strongly encouraged), age at last exam (strongly encouraged), body mass index (strongly encouraged), and any other variables deemed necessary by the Diagnosis Committee. Genotype data will include the Consortium framework map as well as data on all other chromosome 20 markers the participating group has successfully typed. Participating groups agree to provide

cleaned data in which known or suspected relationship errors and all Mendelian incompatibilities have been resolved or removed. Requests for exceptions to the requirement for providing all chromosome 20 marker data will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Steering Committee

5. Participating groups agree to the best of their ability to sort out overlap of family material with other participating groups prior to submission for data analysis, so that any individual will appear no more than once in the Consortium joint analysis.

6. Genetic analyses on the combined data will be conducted by the Analysis Committee over all data as well as for all racial/ethnic groups represented in more than one center. Results of completed analyses will be immediately and equally available to all participants. As much as possible, they will be completed in time for presentation and discussion at a meeting tentatively scheduled for June 8-9, 1998 in Chicago. All individuals participating in the analysis pledge to keep Consortium data confidential and promise not to undertake additional analyses not explicitly agreed to by the Analysis Committee as a whole.

7. Results of these analyses will be summarized for a publication to be authored by "The Type 2 Diabetes Linkage Analysis Consortium". Lists of the participating groups and their key participants will be included in a footnote or appendix, or by other appropriate means. Most of the writing will be done by the Analysis Committee, with assistance from the Diagnosis Committee and other Consortium participants. As a condition of participation, participating groups agree to publication of results when scientifically appropriate, with no non-scientific restrictions on timing or content. Participating groups who have met all Consortium requirements will be included. In cases of disagreement, the Steering Committee will be responsible for the final list of groups and individuals named in the publication.

8. All data submitted for this project will remain in the Consortium database once results of the study have been published. No group or individual has intellectual property rights to the results.

9. Consortium members will decide at the June meeting (a) whether additional analyses of the existing data are warranted, (b) on the ultimate disposition of the database, and (c) whether the Consortium effort should be extended to additional phenotypes, markers, and/or regions of the genome.