

News

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For Immediate Release

**Dr. Gualberto Rúaño Named to George Washington University Faculty
Genomas founder to be involved in new genomics and regulatory aspects of research endeavors at the nation's capital.**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (October 20, 2003) - Gualberto Rúaño, M.D., Ph.D., has been named to the faculty of the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences (GWUMC) as Adjunct Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

"We're very pleased to have Dr. Rúaño as a member of our faculty," said Prof. Allan Goldstein, chairman of George Washington University's Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Department. "He's truly one of the world's leading authorities on genomics, as well as a leading authority on the potential commercialization opportunities that arise from such research."

Goldstein said Rúaño will help advise the University in the establishment of its McCormick Genomics Center, the first such facility of its kind in Washington, D.C. The proposed center, which will open in 2004, will be housed in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at GWUMC. In addition, Rúaño brings significant expertise relative to FDA activities on genomics in drug approval and regulation.

Dr. Rúaño was the scientific founder and former Chief Executive Officer of Genaissance Pharmaceuticals, taking the company public in 2000. He recently founded Genomas, a company seeking to advance the healthcare industry by deployment of genomics to enhance life, preserve health and prevent disease.

"I am honored by this appointment which is consistent with my view of fostering extensive links and strategic partnerships amongst academia, government and the biotechnology industry for bringing the fruits of the genome to society," Dr. Rúaño said.

Genomas analyzes the diversity in human adaptations to diverse environments and challenges to develop physiogenomic information and diagnostics that will enhance performance, improve daily life and preserve health. The Genomas business model is based initially on consulting and strategic partnering followed by operational deployment of R&D programs with industry and academia. This approach allows the company to leverage its executive and industry experience with a systems biological approach to identify genomic markers of physiological performance and organismic response to various environmental challenges.

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