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Professor Yoshimichi Ejima  
President, Kyoto Institute of Technology

Professor Yuji Kohara  
Chair, Project Promoting Committee  
National BioResource Project

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to indicate my strong support of the renewal application to fund the continued operation of the *Drosophila* Genetic Resource Center at Kyoto Institute of Technology.

For several years now the research in my laboratory has relied on the availability of chromosomal rearrangements and mutant lines that are available to the *Drosophila* community only in the Kyoto collection. These stocks have allowed us to map and clone genes controlling specific stages of embryonic development and to analyze the phenotypes associated with specific chromosomal deletions. More recently we have initiated a molecular characterization of the repetitive heterochromatic sequences of the X chromosomes and autosomes. These experiments relied totally on Kyoto's maintenance of Y-A translocation generated in the classic paper of Lindsley and Sandler. These stocks are no longer maintained in the US Bloomington Stock collection and our experiments would have been impossible without material obtained from the Kyoto DGRC.

The Kyoto DGRC collection is a unique resource and if it is lost or eliminated, it can NEVER be built up again. I support the petition and urge you to continue to support the Center at a level that allows it to fully maintain the important service it provides the scientific community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Wieschaus".

Eric Wieschaus  
Squibb Professor of Molecular Biology