

## Bruce Birren

### Reason for Nomination

Bruce Birren is the director of the Genomic Center for Infectious Diseases at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. He also is the founding advisor to the institute's Diversity Initiative in Scientific Research.

### Academic Background

Birren is an expert in and key contributor to many areas of genomics, and played a central role in mapping and sequencing both human and mouse genomes. He directs one of the largest programs in microbial genomics in the world, leading genome projects for bacteria, viruses, parasites, and insect vectors of disease, as well as research on the human microbiome.

### Contribution to Diversity in Science

In his ongoing role with the Diversity Initiative in Scientific Research, Birren oversees a number of programs dedicated to developing a new generation of leaders from under-represented minorities in genomics-related fields, and actively recruits, trains, and serves as mentor to the program participants. He also serves on the Advisory Board to MIT's Office of Engineering Outreach Programs.