Dear ________,

I am writing to inform you about a program developed by the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) to provide genetics resources to your classroom and students. Given the extremely rapid pace of genetics research, and the many medical, ethical, and social implications of human genetics, we believe it is important for students to have an opportunity to discuss these issues, particularly with members of the genetics community. To address this need, we have created the Genetics Education and Outreach Network (GEON) to provide in-depth and personal learning opportunities for students, teachers and classrooms across the country.

ASHG has a long history of providing educational opportunities for students and science and biology teachers, at the ASHG annual scientific meeting, at national teacher conferences, and through individual efforts of hundreds of ASHG members. Through the GEON site (http://www.ashg.org/education/k12_geon.shtml), teachers can search online for a genetics mentor in their region and/or by an area of specialty. GEON members are available to respond to student and teacher inquiries about genetic topics, identify educational resources on genetics for teachers and students, or visit classrooms to speak to students directly about genetics research and applications.

As a member of the GEON, I would be delighted to visit your classroom or serve as a genetics resource for you and your students. If you are interested in having me visit your classroom, I can be reached at ______________ or by e-mail (_____________) to schedule a time that would be convenient for both of us. I look forward to talking with you and providing any assistance I can to aid your efforts in teaching genetics.

Sincerely,