Collaborations with the Mouse
Sue, Hester, Elspeth and Matt visited the Mouse Genomic Nomenclature Committee (MGNC) at the Jackson Laboratory Bar Harbor, Maine during 24-25 June, 2002. This once again proved to be a very useful meeting, where we discussed gene families and groupings, splice variant definitions, annotation projects, and gene ontology.

We also held a teleconference with NCBI discussing nomenclature, and general database editing issues. In the last 12 months we have exchanged over two thousand emails with MGNC and approved over 50 new gene families. A report of the meeting will be made available in due course.

Genew Search Engine Update
The new version of the Genew search engine is now online. This can be found at the same URL http://www.gene.ucl.ac.uk/cgi-bin/nomenclature/searchgenes.pl and now links through to the gene record. There is also now the option of linking directly to the gene record by using either the HGNC ID or gene symbol. For example the link for CFTR is:
http://www.gene.ucl.ac.uk/cgi-bin/nomenclature/get_data.pl?hgnc_id=1884

Guidelines
We have updated the guidelines twice since publication, clarifying the suggested nomenclature for splice variants and adding the abbreviations Sec and "U" for selenocysteine.

Gene Families
Four new families have been approved:
ABHD abhydrolase domain containing
RHOBTB Rho-related BTB domain containing
COG component of oligomeric golgi complex
DEFB defensin, beta
In addition the dynein webpage has been updated.

If you would like to be added to our Nome News mailing list or if you have questions or comments on any human gene nomenclature issue, please email us at: hgnc@genenames.org