Supplemental Data for *Feng Xu et al.*

Plasmids expressing either wild type or K56 substituted histone H3 were transformed into yeast strains containing an *URA3* reporter inserted at telomere VII-L, *HMR*, *HML* and the ribosomal DNA (rDNA) repeats. Tenfold serial dilutions of wild type and K56 substitution strains were spotted onto SD-Trp⁻ plate lacking or containing 0.1% 5-FOA. Silencing of the *URA3* reporter was evaluated by cell growth on the 5-FOA plates. The absence of growth indicates expression of *URA3* that enables conversion of 5-FOA into toxic 5-fluorouracil.

1

Figure S2. H3 K56G substitution doesn't affect the acetylation of histone N-terminal sites at telomere

Levels of histone acetylation were evaluated by ChIP assay using antibodies specific for individual sites on histone tails in both WT and K56G cells. Acetylation sites examined are indicated above the graph. Acetylation state at 15 kb from telomere VI-R were shown as a control of euchromatic region. All ChIP data are first normalized to an internal control (*SPS2*) and the input DNA, then to the level of histone H3. Gene map under the graphs shows the positions of fragments amplified in PCR. These results are averages of three independent ChIPs with error bars shown for standard deviations.

Figure S3. Substitutions of H3 K56 don't lead to decreased Rap1, Sir3, Sir4 binding and histone H3 level at telomere

Rap1 (A), Sir3 (B), Sir4 (C) binding and H3 level (D) were examined by ChIP assay using antibodies against individual proteins in WT and K56 substitution strains. The ChIP data were normalized to an internal control (*SPS2)* and the input DNA. Generally, Rap1, Sir3 and Sir4 binding at the telomeric silent region and the adjacent euchromatic region don't decrease in K56 substitution mutants (K56Q and K56R) as compared to WT cells. Histone H3 level at this 20-kb region in the mutants is also comparable to the WT strain. Gene map under the graphs

shows the positions of fragments amplified in PCR. The results are averages of three independent ChIPs with error bars shown for standard deviations.

Figure S4

ChIP DNA of K56 acetylation and H3 C-terminus antibodies and input were amplified, fragmented, labeled and hybridized to GeneChip *S.cerevisiae* Tiling 1.0R Array. A percentile rank was assigned for each 500 bp chromosomal region or each gene exclusively according to its actual K56 Ac or H3 intensity value and the moving averages of these percentile ranks were plotted against (A) the distance from telomere end (window size, 20; step size, 500 bp) or (B) gene transcription rate (window size, 100; step size, 1).

Figure S5

Figure S5. Sir2 is required for deacetylating K56 Ac maximally at the telomere

ChIP assay was performed using H3 K56 acetylation and H3 antibodies in the WT, sir2∆, hst3∆hst4∆ and sir2∆hst3∆hst4∆ strains. Levels of K56 acetylation and H3 at the telomere (Chr. VI-R) were determined by analyzing the ChIP DNA using real-time PCR and the data were normalized to the corresponding input. After normalizing to the histone H3 level, K56 acetylation increases significantly in the *sir2* strain and less so in the *hst3hst4* double mutant as compared to the WT. In the triple mutant, K56 acetylation doesn't increase further than in the sir2 \triangle strain, which argues that Sir2 is required for deacetylating K56 acetylation maximally at the telomere.

Figure S6

Figure S6. Sir2 deacetylates H3 K56 to a similar extent as H4 K16 *in vitro*

In vitro deacetylation assays were performed by incubating 10 µg recombinant yeast Sir2 and various acetylated peptides in the presence of 1 mM NAD⁺. Samples were taken from reaction mixture at different time points and subjected to MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry analysis to determine the percentage of peptide deacetylation.

Figure S7. Telomeric chromatin is accessible to *dam* **methylase in** *sir2* **mutant**

Yeast genomic DNA was isolated from sir24 cells expressing the *E.coli dam* methyltransferase. DNA samples were first digested with *Nde* I (lanes -) to yield a 870 bp telomeric fragment (fragment A), then a fraction of *Nde* I digested DNA was further cleaved with *Dpn* I or *Mbo* I or *Sau3* AI. Enzyme digested DNA samples were subjected to southern blot analysis using a 544 bp telomere VI-R DNA probe (indicated by a solid box in the gene map under the graphs). Percentile of enzyme cleavage in $\sin 2\Delta$ strain was calculated by dividing the sum of the intensities of B and C bands by the sum of the intensities of all the bands in the corresponding lane ($(B+C)/(A+B+C)$). Right panel shows a representative

southern blot. Position of the telomeric southern blot region was shown under the graph. D, *Dpn* I, *Mbo* I and *Sau3* AI site; N, *Nde* I site.

Supplemental Experimental Procedures

Yeast strains and plasmids

All plasmids used in this study are listed in supplemental table 1. Histone H3 amino acids substitution plasmids pFX04 (H3 K56G), pFX05 (H3 K56Q) and pFX06 (H3 K56R) were constructed using the QuikChange Site-Directed Mutagenesis Kit (Stratagene) and confirmed by sequencing. Plasmid pMW102L is a kind gift from Jeff Thompson. The 1.7 kb yeast *SIR2* gene was cloned into *Nhe* I-*Xho* I sites of pET-24a(+) vector (Novagen) to yield Sir2 expression plasmid pFX21.

All yeast strains used in this study are listed in supplemental table 2. Silencing testing strains UCC7262 (*hmr::URA3*), UCC7266 (*hml::URA3*), UCC1188 (*RDN1::URA3*) and MWY102LU (*adh4::URA3-TEL*) were kindly provided by Daniel Gottschling and Jeff Thompson. To test the silencing phenotypes of K56 mutants at individual silent loci, plasmid pRM200 (WT), pFX04 (K56G), pFX05 (K56Q) and pFX06 (K56R) were shuffled (Mann and Grunstein, 1992) into UCC7262, UCC7266, UCC1188 and MWY102LU to generate FXY7262WT (H3, *hmr::URA3*), FXY7262G (K56G, *hmr::URA3*), FXY7262Q (K56Q, *hmr::URA3*),

9

FXY7262R (K56R, *hmr::URA3*); FXY7266WT (H3, *hml::URA3*), FXY7266G (K56G, *hml::URA3*), FXY7266Q (K56Q, *hml::URA3*), FXY7266R (K56R, *hml::URA3*); FXY1188WT (H3, *RDN1::URA3*), FXY1188G (K56G, *RDN1::URA3*), FXY1188Q (K56Q, *RDN1::URA3*), FXY1188R (K56R, *RDN1::URA3*); JTY200U (H3, *adh4::URA3-TEL*) (Thompson et al., 1994), QZY013 (K56G, *adh4::URA3- TEL*), QZY014 (K56Q, *adh4::URA3-TEL*), QZY015 (K56R, *adh4::URA3-TEL*), respectively. FXY18 (K56Q) was made by transforming plasmid pFX05 into RMY102 to replace plasmid pRM102. To test the effects of K56 substitutions on telomeric heterochromatin structure, plasmids pFX04 (K56G), pFX05 (K56Q) and pFX06 (K56R) were shuffled into GFY3001 to generate FXY55 (K56G, *dam+*), FXY56 (K56Q, *dam⁺*) and FXY57 (K56R, *dam⁺*), respectively. As a control, *SIR2* was disrupted with a *KanMX6* fragment from GFY3000 to yield FXY59. MW83- 6A (WT) and NLM7 (*hst3, hst4*) strains are kind gifts from David Toczyski. *SIR2* was disrupted with a *HIS3* fragment from MW83-6A and NLM7 background to yield FXY58 and FXY60, respectively. All yeast cultures were grown in YEPD medium unless otherwise noted.

Silencing assay

Silencing of an *URA3* reporter gene integrated at telomere VII-L, *HML*, *HMR* and rDNA was examined by growth of cells on media containing 5-fluoroorotic acid (5-FOA). Cells with silenced *URA3* are resistant to 5-FOA, but cells with expressed *URA3* are sensitive to 5-FOA due to conversion of 5-FOA into toxic 5-

10

fluorouracil. Early log phase cells were collected and spotted in a 10-fold dilution series onto SD-Trp⁻ plate lacking or containing 0.1% 5-FOA. Then the plates were incubated at 30 °C for 2-3 days before photographing.

RT-PCR for mRNA quantitation

Total RNA was prepared from logarithmically growing cells using hot-phenol extraction (Rundlett et al., 1998) and 0.5-1 μ g total RNA was treated with 1 unit DNase I (Invitrogen) to remove genomic DNA contaminations. We carried out a 25 µl RT reaction using 1x First-Strand Buffer (Invitrogen), 10 mM DTT, 0.75 mM dNTPs, 1 U μ ⁻¹ RNasin (Promega), 0.165 μ g random 9-mer, 0.1 μ g total RNA and 8 U μ I⁻¹ M-MLV reverse transcriptase (Invitrogen) at 23 °C for 10 min, 37 °C for 60 min and 70 °C for 15 min. One microliter of this RT reaction was used in the subsequent quantitative PCR reaction. Sequences of the primers used in RT-PCR were listed in supplemental table 3.

Supplemental Table 1. Plasmids

Supplemental Table 2. Yeast Strains

hst4::KanMX

YDS2 *MATa, ade2-1, can 1-100, leu2-3,-112, his 3-11,-15, trp1-1, ura3-52* (Laman et al., 1995)

Supplemental Table 3. Primers

Supplemental References

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Mann, R. K., and Grunstein, M. (1992). Histone H3 N-terminal mutations allow hyperactivation of the yeast GAL1 gene in vivo. Embo J *11*, 3297-3306.

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