thursday 7/29 5pm 715 café

Moderated by IDEO's Dave Blakely

Dave Blakely will host Andrew Hessel for his presentation on synthetic biology and open source biology. Andrew is an expert at presenting complex biological concepts to nontechnical audiences, and Dave will guide the discussion through the staggering implications of synthetic biology on the human race.

KNOWHOW

Andrew Hessel

Intelligent Design: An Introduction to Synthetic Biology

Biological engineering for the non scientist

Andrew Hessel is an outspoken champion of DNA technologies, catalyzing new project developments, investment, and relationships in synthetic biology and bioengineering. His overarching message is that biology is poised to become the IT industry of the 21st century. This industry will be fueled by young researchers and entrepreneurs armed with technologies such as DNA sequencing and DNA synthesis that are becoming exponentially more powerful yet much less expensive. The possible applications are virtually limitless and include the typical global challenges (sustainable fuel production, environmental remediation, and better diagnosis treatment of human disease) but also extend into new, uncharted scientific territories.

He co-chairs the bioinformatics and biotechnology track at the Singularity University, an institution founded by futurist Ray Kurzweil and X Prize Foundation CEO Peter Diamandis, with sponsorship from leading organizations such as Autodesk, Google, and NASA. He is also the founder of the Pink Army Cooperative, an experimental bio-technology venture working to open source personalized cancer therapies.

Andrew's ideas and writing have been featured in *The New York Times, The Futurist, h+,* and Wired News.

Photos courtesy of Andrew Hessel.

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