



Thematic Research Training 2020-2021

Rules of Life group

Chair: Professor Clare Blackburn (University of Edinburgh) and Dr Sam Miller (University of Aberdeen)

Session 1: “Biotechnology for our future world(s)” - 14 January 2020, 10:00-15:40

Session organisers:

- Anastasia Ellis - ae47@st-andrews.ac.uk
- Alex Perkins - a.j.p.perkins@sms.ed.ac.uk
- Katherine Pickup - k.e.pickup@sms.ed.ac.uk
- Miguel Robles Garcia - m.robles.garcia@sms.ed.ac.uk
- Hwei Ling Tan - H.L.Tan-3@sms.ed.ac.uk

Session description:

This session will involve the chance to debate controversial topics about the biotechnology of our future, exploring the logistics and ethics of patenting human genes, treating ageing and expanding longevity, creating synthetic life forms, using CRISPR in humans and growing organs.

Session Schedule:

Times	Sessions
09:45-10:00	<i>Set up and Registration</i>
10:00-10:15	Welcome & Opening
10:15-11:15	Keynote talk and discussion
11:15-11:30	<i>Screen coffee break</i>
11:30-12:45	Debate Session: 'Should we treat ageing?' & 'Should human genes be patented?'
12:45-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30-14:00	Informal Quiz
14:00-15:30	Balloon Debate: Biotech in colonising Mars
15:30-15:40	Closing remarks

Session 2: “Deep Learning for Dummies” - 11 February 2021, 9:30-16:30

Session organisers:

- Stephen Bradley s.w.bradley@sms.ed.ac.uk
- Thomas Clarke Thomas.Clarke@ed.ac.uk
- Zuzanna Konieczna s1505470@sms.ed.ac.uk
- Anastasia Leligdowicz a.leligdowicz.20@abdn.ac.uk
- Annamaria Wakileh aw274@st-andrews.ac.uk

Schedule:

9:45 – Start

10:00 – Introductions

10:15 – “Introduction to Deep Learning” by Stewart Hamilton (University of Herriot-Watt)

11:05 – Screen Break
11:20 – “Deep Learning Powered Computer Vision As A Promising Avenue For Phenomics” by Moritz Lürig
12:15 – Lunch break
At 13:15 We will have a little social/virtual game for people who want to play!
13:45 – Debate “Self Driving Cars – A Green Light Or A Car Crash?”
14:45 – Screen Break
15:00 – Debate “AI in Medicine - Should We Trust Robo-Doctors?”
16:00 – Screen Break
16:10 – Creating Our Own Deep Learning Game
16:20 – Closing Remarks
16:30 – End

Session 3: “Life with cell walls – Fungi, Flora, Food and Health” - 19 April 2021, 9:30-15:30

Session organisers:

- Zoe Barr <zkb1@st-andrews.ac.uk>
- Eszter Denes eszter.denes.16@abdn.ac.uk
- Kara McHugh kmchugh@dundee.ac.uk
- Rachael Murray <R.M.Murray-2@sms.ed.ac.uk>

Schedule:

9.45 - Introduction
10.00 - Talk by Professor Sarah Gurr – “The Movement of Fungal Pathogens: Perils and Predictions”
11.00 - Screen break
11.15 - “Pick a line, any line... Abstract extraction” - Student activity
12.15 - Lunch break
13.00 - Talk by Dr Eleanor Gilroy (Plant Pathology)
14.00 - Screen break
14.30 – “Your coffee, your research and you” -Student discussion
15.30 - Closing remarks

Session 4: “COVID-19 & bullsh*t” - 24 June 2021, 9:30-16:00

Session organisers:

- Laura Gaskell-Mew <lgm3@st-andrews.ac.uk>
- Emily Haley emily.haley@ed.ac.uk
- Michaela Kompauerova <s1507601@ed.ac.uk>
- Lucy Lansch-Justen l.lansch-justen@sms.ed.ac.uk;
- Javier Sanchez Utges <2394007@dundee.ac.uk>

In this session, speakers will cover a range of new applications, techniques, and technologies used to study aspects of COVID-19, including how to deal with misinformation and conspiracy theories surrounding the virus.

Schedule:

Times	Session details
9:30	Welcome and Introduction
10:00	Dr Jane Hilton: "Suppressing SARS-CoV-2 transmission in public spaces through surface engineering"
11:00	Screen break
11:15	Debate: "Which will be the biggest threat to future global health?"
12:00	Lunch break
13:00	Retraction Watch Quiz
14:00	Talk: Prof. Martin Rosvall: "Spotting and refuting bullsh*t"
15:00	Screen break
15:15	Communication Workshop
16:00	Closing Remarks