



February 17, 2009, Convo Hour
Collins Center

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The Genome is the New Soul

The completion of the Human Genome Project 50 years after Watson and Crick first described the structure of DNA marks a fundamental shift in the way we view ourselves and in the way biology is practiced. At the same time the new fields of genomics, bioinformatics, and systems biology are shifting the biotechnology research paradigm from viewing genes one at a time to analyzing whole systems, the reductionist view of the gene has unabashedly entered popular culture with the ubiquity of such phrases as "it's in my DNA." I will take us on a whirlwind tour of the last 100 years of genetics and the last 50 years of molecular biology which brings us to the near future where personal genome sequences may revolutionize medicine, take us closer to *GATTACA*, or both. I will impart my view of what the promise and perils of this type of research entails, giving examples from my own systems biology research in yeast.

Please **RSVP** by Feb 12, 08, noon
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For more information, check out: <http://myweb.lmu.edu/dherreiner/junfacseminar.html>
To be added to the mailing list, please email dherreiner@lmu.edu