

Subject: Judges Bios

From: Daniel Grushkin <dgrushkin@genspace.org>

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Dear Judges,

We're looking forward to seeing you all soon. We had to shorten your bios to fit our printed program. Please have a look and send me any corrections. See you all on June 22nd. Don't forget that we have another session of the judges meeting on Friday at 1pm.

Best,

Dan

Co-Founder, Executive Director

[Genspace](#)

Founder, Program Director

[Biodesign Challenge](#)

Judges

Daniel Beiting is Research Assistant Professor at University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine where he directs the Center for Host-Microbe Interactions. He doctorate in immunology from Cornell University, where he studied how the immune system copes with chronic parasitic infections. Dan uses genomics to study pathogens and the people and animals they infect.

Amber Benezra is Visiting Scholar of Anthropology at New York University. She is working to develop an 'anthropology of microbes' with life scientists. Her research centers around commensal microbes in the human gut and the ontological/material, biological/social imperatives emerging from new microbiome research in the US and Bangladesh.

Katayoun Chamany is Associate Professor of Biology, Chair of Interdisciplinary Science, Project Shepherd and Director of University Science Labs, Eugene Lang College, The New School for Liberal Arts. She researches why some students love biology while others recoil. She launched Stem Cells Across the Curriculum, an open collection of education modules that spans across disciplines.

Kim de Mora is the Director of Development for the iGEM Foundation. He received one of the first Synthetic Biology doctorates in the UK in 2011 from the University of Edinburgh. Kim was a visiting Research Scholar in Pam Silver's lab at Harvard Medical School.

Heather Dewey-Hagborg (See Speakers)

Anthony Dunne is Professor of Design and Emerging Technology, and a Fellow at the Graduate Institute for Design, Ethnography & Social Thought at The New School in New York. He is also a partner in the design studio Dunne & Raby. Between 2005-2015 he was professor and founding head of the Design Interactions programme at the Royal College of Art in London.

Irwin Adam Eydelnant is Founder and Creative Scientific Director of Future Food Studio & BEVLAB where he leads multidisciplinary teams to reimagine how we interact with food at every scale. He holds a B.Eng. and M.Eng. (Chemical Engineering) from McGill University and a PhD (Biomedical Engineering) from the University of Toronto.

Paul Freemont is co-director and co-founder of the Centre for Synthetic Biology and Innovation and the National UK Innovation and Knowledge Centre for Synthetic Biology at Imperial College London. He is Head of the Section of Structural Biology in the Department of Medicine at Imperial and author of 200+ scientific publications.

Jeanne Garbarino is the Director of Science Outreach at The Rockefeller University where she works with the local K-12 community to provide equitable access to authentic biomedical research opportunities and resources. She earned her Ph.D. in metabolic biology from Columbia University, followed by a postdoc in the Laboratory of Biochemical Genetics and Metabolism.

Kirby Gookin is a writer, curator, and professor of critical studies at New York University and The School of Visual Arts. His projects focus on the role of art in human rights initiatives, empowering communities, and shaping bioethics. He recently co-curated *The Value of Food: Sustaining a Green Planet* (2015-16) with Robin Kahn at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City.

Christine Gould is the Founder of Thought For Food (TFF) and Head of Next Generation Engagement at Syngenta. She created TFF to inspire, connect and empower young innovators in food security. As an intrapreneur at Syngenta, she is obsessed with finding ways to make agricultural innovation more open and collaborative.

Gigi Gronvall is a Senior Associate at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security and Visiting Faculty at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her work addresses the role of scientists in health security. She is the author of *Synthetic Biology: Safety, Security, and Promise*, published in 2016.

Cyrill Gutsch founded Parley for the Oceans, a forum where creative industries can act together to protect life-sustaining ecosystems. He is a designer and creative entrepreneur based in New York City. Since 2000, he has created award-winning work for national and international companies.

Denise Hoffman Brandt is principal of Hoffman Brandt Projects, LLC and Director of Landscape Architecture in the Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture at the City College of New York. Her work focuses on landscape as ecological infrastructure—the social, cultural and environmental systems that sustain urban life and generate urban form.

Sarah Hough earned a Bachelor of Science in Design and a Master's of Science in Technology from Arizona State University. She's been a practicing designer/visual communicator for nearly 20 years in higher education. She currently works at the ASU Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts.

Gillian Jarvis is the Director of Design at Twist Bioscience. She is responsible for brand innovation and designing a clear, clean user experience for ordering DNA online. She has worked for eBay and Microsoft and is excited about the improving the future with synthetic biology.

Nancy J Kelley is a nationally recognized executive and lawyer who has driven key strategic initiatives in science and medicine for over twenty years. She has a particularly deep understanding of the healthcare, life science and research fields and has in-depth knowledge of the related legal, business, government, nonprofit and academic sectors.

Todd Kuiken is a Senior Research Scholar with the Genetic Engineering and Society Center at NC State where he explores the scientific and technological frontier. He is a member of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity Ad-Hoc Technical Expert Group on Synthetic Biology.

Margaret MacDonald is a curator and Instructor at Maryland Institute College of Art. She holds a PhD in Chemistry from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has worked as a research chemist for the US Army, as an Andrew W. Mellon Fellow in Conservation Science at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and a Postdoctoral Fellow at the National Gallery of Art.

Oliver Medvedik is a Genspace co-founder and the Director of the Kanbar Center for Biomedical Engineering at The Cooper Union. He received his bachelor's degree in biology from Hunter College, City University of New York, where, as an undergraduate. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in Biomedical and Biological Sciences.

William Myers (See Speakers)

Megan Palmer is a Senior Research Scholar at the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University. Her research program focuses on risk governance in biotech and other emerging technologies. She holds a Ph.D. in Bioengineering from MIT and a B.Sc.E. in Engineering Chemistry from Queen's University, Canada.

Jane Pirone is the Dean of the School of Design Strategies at Parsons, The New School. She served as Director of the Communication Design program until Summer 2011. Her research focuses on methods of interdisciplinary and collaborative design practice and the creation of location/mobile/networked-based media projects.

Hannah Rogers is a Lecturer of Science, Technology, and Society at University of Virginia

She received her Ph.D. at Cornell University in Science & Technology Studies where she focused on the intersection of art and science. She curated Art's Work in the Age of Biotech at the Contemporary Art Museum in Raleigh, NC, and *Emerge: Artists and Scientists Redesign the Future* at ASU.

Harris Wang is an Assistant Professor at Columbia University in the Department of Systems Biology and the Department of Pathology and Cell Biology. He received B.S. degrees in mathematics and physics from MIT and a Ph.D. in biophysics from Harvard, where he pioneered the Multiplex Automated Genome Engineering platform.

Amy Whitaker is Assistant Professor of Visual Arts Administration at NYU Steinhardt. She is the author of *Art Thinking: How to Carve Out Creative Space in a World of Schedules, Budgets, and Bosses* (Harper Business, 2016). She holds an MBA from the Yale School of Management and an MFA in painting from the Slade School of Fine Art at University College London.

Elizabeth Wissinger is a Professor of Sociology at City University of New York, at the Graduate Center, and BMCC. Her research focuses on technology, fashion, and embodiment. She is the author of *This Year's Model: Fashion, Media, and the Making of Glamour* (New York University Press, 2015) in which she explores what she terms 'glamour labor.'

Jenifer Wightman is a scientist, educator, and artist. Trained in environmental toxicology, her research specializes in greenhouse gas inventories and life cycle analysis of agriculture, forestry, waste, and bioenergy systems at Cornell University. She teaches at Parsons The New School for Design.

Isabelle Wymann is Director of Communications at Evolva where she leads the effort to weave design thinking into external communications and beyond. Her industrial expertise spans transportation fashion, semiconductors, and biotech. She holds an MBA with dual degree from EBS Edinburgh and FHNW Basel.