

Lecture: Whole Genome Sequencing

Canadian law professor to speak on ethical and legal issues

On Thursday, October 27th 2011, Canadian law professor Bartha M. Knoppers will speak at Heidelberg University on the ethical and legal issues that arise from whole genome sequencing. The McGill University scholar is known internationally as a leading expert on the topic. The English-language lecture entitled "Researcher / Physician Obligations and Whole Genome Sequencing" will take place at the Bioquant Building, Im Neuenheimer Feld 267, in Room EG 41 at 10:15am. The event is hosted by Heidelberg University's Marsilius Kolleg.

Professor Knoppers is Director of the "Centre of Genomics and Policy" at the McGill University Faculty of Medicine in Montreal. From 1996 to 2004, Knoppers held the position of Chair of the "International Ethics Committee of the Human Genome Organization" (HUGO). She was also a member of the UNESCO International Bioethics Committee that drafted the noted "Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights." The upcoming lecture was organised by the Marsilius Kolleg as a part of their project entitled "Ethical and Legal Aspects of Total Genome Sequencing" (EURAT). Working together on this project are scholars from Heidelberg University and the University Hospital, the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), the National Center for Tumor Diseases (NCT) and the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law.

The Marsilius Kolleg is a cornerstone of Heidelberg University's institutional strategy in the framework of the Excellence Initiative. Its aim is to bring together top researchers from different scholarly cultures, thereby promoting a research-based dialogue between the humanities, the social sciences, legal studies and the natural and life sciences.

Further information can be found on the web at:

<http://www.uniheidelberg.de/totalsequenzierung/english.html>

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„Ethical and legal aspects of Total Genome Sequencing“ (EURAT)

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