GENETIC ENGINEERING AND SOCIETY CENTER

Integrating scientific knowledge & public values in shaping the futures of biotechnology

The Genetic Engineering and Society (GES) Center at NC State University serves as an international hub of interdisciplinary research, engaged scholarship and inclusive dialogues surrounding opportunities and challenges associated with genetic engineering and society. Positioned at the nexus of science and technology, the social sciences and humanities, the GES Center has taken a national and international lead in examining the technical, ethical, and societal dimensions of the products and impacts of biotechnology.

OUR WORK

Genetic Engineering Methods

- GMOs, CRISPR, gene drives — Innovations in biotechnology are moving fast. GES is home to many of the world’s foremost experts in the field.

Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation

- GES is studying the potential of synthetic biology to impact grand challenges, such as species conservation and climate change.

Responsible Innovation and Governance

- Via engaged research, scholarship, and engagement with industry, NGOs, and governments, GES builds bridges between the bench and society.

Interdisciplinary Scholarship

- GES graduate students learn to take a convergent approach to compelling problems, deeply integrating scientific disciplines.

OUR PEOPLE

GES is led by Co-directors Dr. Jennifer Kuzma and Dr. Fred Gould and supported by an Executive Committee of three faculty and two staff, plus a large cohort of affiliated faculty. The Center combines expertise from an interdisciplinary team of scholars, spanning genetic engineering, ecology, risk analysis, mathematical modeling, public engagement, plant systems, synthetic biology, economics, and more.

GES is part of the Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Cluster Program and is supported by four colleges, the Office of Research and Innovation, and the Provost. GES collaborates broadly with many local and national organizations and universities.

IN THE MEDIA

GES Center affiliates are frequently featured and quoted in major news outlets, including New York Times, Washington Post, NBC, NPR, Scientific American, etc. Read more at go.ncsu.edu/ges-media

PUBLICATIONS

In May 2018, our paper “Wicked Evolution” was the cover article in Science. Our faculty have lead or served on multiple National Academies of Sciences reports, and published two special journal issues in 2018. Browse articles at go.ncsu.edu/ges-pubs

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