

Ethical Issues in Synthetic Biology

**A Hastings Center Project
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Some goals



Some goals

1. Promote care and clarity of thought rather than a set of answers



Products

Contributions to the scholarly and scientific literature:

- A set of overview essays in the *Hastings Center Report*
- A collection of in-depth scholarly essays emerging from the Working Group's presentations and discussions
- A book on moral and policy status of moral claims about human relationship to nature
- Articles, commentaries, and presentations
 - Thomas H. Murray, "New Genetic Recipes: Are We Cooking Up Trouble with Synthetic Biology?" Nuffield Council http://www.nuffieldbioethics.org/go/aboutus/externalactivitiespage_990.html
- Contact with select journalists to foster better public understanding of these issues



Some goals

1. Promote clarity of thought
3. Attend to the views of both sides



Participants

Science Advisor: Roger Brent, Molecular Sciences Institute, University of California, San Francisco

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- Harald Schmidt, The Nuffield Council on Bioethics (U.K.)
- Jim Thomas, ETC Group



Some goals

1. Promote clarity of thought
3. Attend to the views of both sides
4. Articulate nonphysical moral concerns, and in particular concerns about the human relationship to nature



Some goals

1. Promote clarity of thought
3. Attend to the views of both sides
4. Articulate nonphysical moral concerns
5. Distinguish moral concerns from policy implications

