The Eleventh joint EMBL/EMBO science and society conference, Heidelberg, Germany

From 2010-10-05 to 2010-10-05, Germany

The Eleventh joint European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)/European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO) Science and Society conference will take place on 5 and 6 October 2010 in Heidelberg, Germany.

The conference, entitled ‘Difference Between the Sexes - From Biology to Behaviour’, will examine the question of whether certain behaviours, diseases and sensibilities can be ascribed as fundamentally male or female. The conference aims to bring together a wide range of scientists, philosophers, policy makers and members of the public to engage in the debate.

The event will consist of four sessions over two days. The first day will involve presentations and discussions concerning the evolution of sexual reproduction, as well as to the development of sex specific traits. Leading scientists will present their field of research, including their own work, to a mixed audience of scientists and non-scientists. Talks in each session will be followed by panel discussions.

During the second day, attention will turn to comparative research on sex differences in brain and behaviour of various species. The conference will also re-examine the relationship between innate versus acquired sexual characteristics in humans, and attempt to assess some familiar questions of differences between the sexes in the light of new knowledge emerging from the life sciences.

While modern science has begun to unravel many of the mysteries of sexual dimorphism, sexual reproduction and sexual selection, differences between the sexes remains a fascinating, intriguing topic. As with past EMBL/EMBO Science and Society conferences, the overall aim is to promote constructive dialogue between a wide range of professionals and members of the public.

Source: European Molecular Biology Laboratory

Reference documents: Based on an event announcement

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Subjects

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