



# COUNTY OF YOLO

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Library Collaborates with UC Davis for Big Read: Open Access Science

(Woodland, CA) – The University of California at Davis Department of Evolution & Ecology/Center for Population Biology (UCD), in partnership with the Yolo County Library, will sponsor the first “Big Read: Open Access Science” for Yolo County residents this winter. The Big Read will feature the book *Here is a Human Being*, by Duke University Assistant Professor Misha Angrist. *Here is a Human Being* is the first book to be part of this annual collaboration between UCD and the Yolo County Library.

The general public is urged to read the book and discuss the issues it raises. There will be a public appearance of the author at the Mary L. Stephens Branch Library, located at 315 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street in Davis, on Wednesday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. His visit is being supported through the UCD Evolution and Ecology Seminar Series. Graduate students from the Population Biology Graduate Group will lead public discussions of the book in other Yolo County Library branches as well. More information to follow.

“The Yolo County Library invites everyone to discuss the future and learn more about cutting edge science,” said Yolo County Librarian Patty Wong. “This collaborative Big Read brings the university community to all of us who are interested, curious and want to know more about science and the world around us.”

Misha Angrist holds a PhD in genetics from Case Western Reserve University, an MS in genetic counseling from the University of Cincinnati, and an MFA from the Bennington Writing Seminars. Angrist was among the first humans to have his complete genome decoded. His book, *Here is a Human Being*, details many of the personal and public policy issues created by human DNA research such as the possibility of predicting and treating genetic disorders, the commercialization of DNA-based treatments and property/privacy rights related to personal DNA information. A bibliography and magazine reprints will be available at the library.

“I suspect that most of our children will have genome scans as a routine part of their health care, to say nothing of their social lives,” said Misha Angrist, who has written the book for a general audience rather than geneticists. “I want to understand what that world might look like,”

For more information about Big Read: Open Access Science, contact Jay Johnstone at [jay.johnstone@yolocounty.org](mailto:jay.johnstone@yolocounty.org) or Angus Chandler at [jschandler@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jschandler@ucdavis.edu).

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