



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Blacklock
Administrator

Beth Gabor
Manager of Public Affairs

625 Court Street, Room 204 • Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 666-8195 • FAX (530) 666-8193
www.yolocounty.org

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Contact: Beth Gabor, Manager of Public Affairs
(530) 666-8042 [w] • (530) 219-8464 [c]

Yolo County Library and UCD Department of Evolution & Ecology/Center for Population Biology Name Winter 2011/12 Big Read

Here is a Human Being, by Duke University Assistant Professor Misha Angrist, has been selected as the Big Read: Open Access Science book for Winter 2011/12. The Big Read is intended to be a community book club in which everyone is a member, reading the same book and joining in discussions of its themes and conclusions. The Big Read is sponsored by the University of California, Davis Department of Evolution & Ecology/Center for Population Biology, in partnership with the Yolo County Library. The library has purchased multiple copies of the book for all Yolo County branch libraries.

UCD has arranged for a public appearance of the author at the Mary L. Stephens Branch Library in Davis on Wednesday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. Financial support for his visit is provided by the UCD Ecology and Evolution Seminar Series.

Additionally, graduate students from UCD will lead public discussions of the book at the Arthur F. Turner Branch Library in West Sacramento on Tuesday, January 31 at 7:00 p.m.; the Esparto Branch Library on Wednesday, February 8 at 6:30 p.m.; the Davis Branch Library on Wednesday, February 15 at 7:00 p.m.; the Winters Community Library on Thursday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m.; and again at the Davis Branch Library on Wednesday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m. For branch locations, visit: www.yolocountylibrary.org.

Misha Angrist was among the first humans to have his complete genome decoded. His book, *Here is a Human Being*, written for a general audience rather than geneticists, 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 all Yolo County Library branches. Dr. Angrist holds a doctorate in genetics from Case Western Reserve University, a masters in genetic counseling from the University of Cincinnati, and a Masters of Fine Arts from the Bennington Writing Seminars.

“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 *Here is a Human Being* author Misha Angrist. “I want to understand what that world might look like.”

For more information about Big Read: Open Access Science, contact br.openaccessscience@gmail.com or visit <http://scienovels.wordpress.com/>.

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