Thursday, March 19, 2009
1:00 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. (refreshments available)
Bremner Lounge, Centennial Forum Student Union

“Biotechonomy”

Speaker:
Juan Enriquez

Abstract:

The future of biotechnology has arrived, but much has yet to be discovered and developed. This could or already has opened up exciting new ways to address an array of issues, ranging from increasing food production to pursuing energy independence and curing disease. In other cases, a number of major corporations have quietly developed new processes and materials using techniques not even considered a short time ago. Where might the applications of this science involving the manipulation of molecules lead to as our knowledge of how to control and direct gene and protein data expands at a rapid pace? In this special presentation, Juan Enriquez, who was the Founding Director of the Harvard Business School’s Life Science Project and a preeminent expert on the economic and political impacts of the life sciences, will talk about how computer science is being applied to biology to respond to both practical business issues as well as to address some of mankind’s most pressing needs.

Bio Sketch:

Mr. Enriquez is an experienced business leader, author, and academic who is recognized as one of the world's leading authorities on the economic and political impacts of life sciences. He is a Managing Director in Excel Medical Ventures, a venture capital firm that invests in life science companies whose products/services significantly change their field. He was the founding director of Harvard Business School’s Life Sciences Project. He then founded Biotechonomy LLC, a life sciences research and investment firm, where he remains as Chairman and CEO. In July of 2005, he co-founded Synthetic Genomics, Inc., a synthetic biology company focused on developing and commercializing genomic-driven solutions to address global energy and environmental challenges. He has been an active investor in early-stage private companies in the biotechnology and information sciences sectors. While at Harvard, he wrote various articles and case studies, won a McKinsey Prize, and published the best-selling As the Future Catches You, an analysis of the impact of genomics on business and society. His latest book Untied States explores why, as technology advances, some countries are successful while others disappear. He earned a BA and MBA from Harvard, with Honors.

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