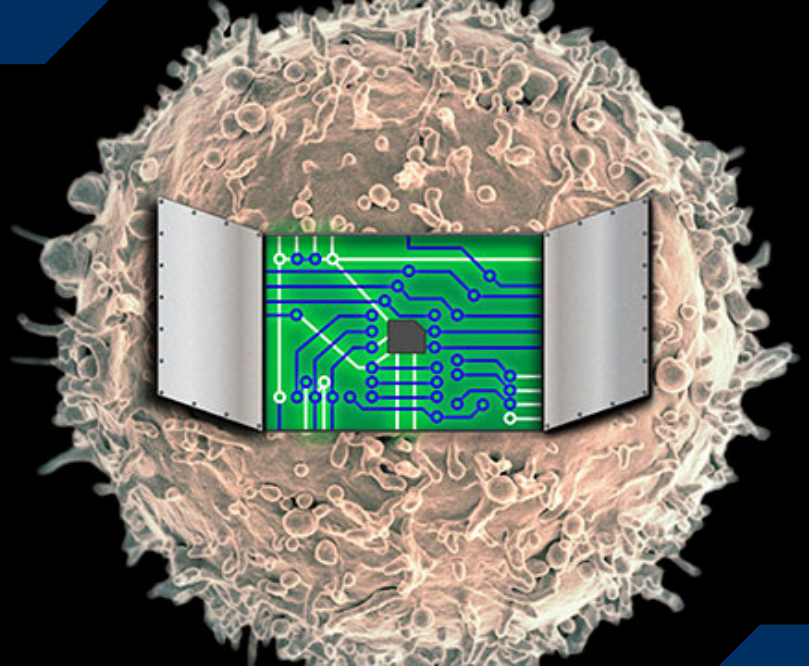




THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Centre for Stem Cell Systems &
Melbourne Law School



Designed To Order:

Contemplating A Future Where Synthetic Human Cells Are Made On Demand

An Interdisciplinary Workshop

Science has now progressed to a stage where we may soon be able to redesign our own biology. Through understanding the componentry within our cells, it may be possible to rewrite our biological blueprint and design cells with new functions, or even cells not seen in nature. With this knowledge, human stem cells could be harnessed to create cells and devices that are designed to sense, act and report on their environments. Such inventions might, for example, provide new ways to monitor our wellbeing, address future health challenges and allow us to study ourselves and our own biology at unprecedented resolution. The use of synthetic human cells have the disruptive potential to profoundly change our perceptions of technology and redefine what it means to be human. Discussions about the potential social and ethical implications of designer cell technology are imperative. Specifically, questions concerning if, how, when, to what or whom this technology should actually be applied need to be undertaken concurrently with scientific investigation and involve wide ranging community engagement and consultation. This timely workshop will bring together an interdisciplinary mix of scholars and stakeholders to consider the social goods that designer cell technologies aspire to achieve, lessons from other countries, and cross-disciplinary and governance practices and processes required to responsibly enable progress.

Workshop Details

Date:

Thursday 25 October 2018

Time:

9.30am to 2.30pm

Venue:

Ian Potter Auditorium,
Kenneth Myer Building,
The University of Melbourne

Enquiries:

03 8344 9384

Bookings:

Bookings are essential:
<https://designed-to-order-uom.eventbrite.com.au>

Featured speakers:



Prof Jane Calvert
- Keynote
University of Edinburgh



Prof Christine Wells
University of Melbourne



Prof Jane Kaye
Oxford University &
University of Melbourne



A/ Prof Claudia Vickers
CSIRO &
University of Queensland