## The Michigan Synthetic Biology Team presents:

## Genetically Modified Organisms: Applications and Concerns

October 19th, 2017

The **Michigan Synthetic Biology Team** is a student run organization that designs and executes a research project in synthetic biology to present at the International Genetically Engineered Machine (IGEM) competition every year. This year's competition takes place on November 9<sup>th</sup>, we are very excited to present our project: "Thermolyze: A Temperature Controlled Kill-Switch for Containment of Pathogenic Bacteria in Research Labs".

## **PROFESSOR INFORMATION:**

Steven Clark



Professor Clark is a plant molecular biologist and Professor in the Department of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology. He received his Ph.D from the University of Chicago, where he was a Searle Fellow. Dr. Clark is a leading plant geneticist, with pioneering work studying signal transduction pathways that regulate meristem and organ development in the classic genetic model *Arabidopsis thaliana*. His recent studies have shed light on the regulation of stem cell specification in plants.

Julian Adams



Professor Adams is a Professor Emeritus in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and the Dept. of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology. He received his Ph.D. degree from the University of California at Davis. He has held visiting appointments at universities in Brazil and Germany. From 1996 - 2001, he was chair of the Department of Biology. He serves as associate editor for the journals of Molecular Biology and Evolution and Genetics and was chair of the 1997 Gordon Research Conference on Microbial Population Biology. His recent research concerns the molecular and biochemical analysis of the process of adaptation in

microbial populations.

Brian Zikmund-Fisher



Professor Fisher is an Associate Professor of Health Behavior and Health Education in the School of Public Health as well as a Research Associate Professor of Internal Medicine. Dr. Fisher received his doctoral degree in Behavioral Decision Theory from Carnegie Mellon. His research interests involve studying factors that affect individual decision-making about a variety of health and medical issues, notably consumer decisions related to GMOs.

Aniket Aga



Dr. Aga, PhD, is a professor in the School for Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan. He recently completed his PhD work in Sociocultural Anthropology at Yale University. His interests lie at the intersection of Science & Technology Studies (STS) and the Anthropology of Democracy. Dr. Aga's dissertation research focuses on the ongoing debate over Genetically Modified (GM) crops, in particular food crops, in India in order to analyze the relationship between science and politics in the world's largest democracy.



