



Brendan Cline

"Tinkering with Nature's Irreplaceable Designs"

Florence Levy Kay Fellow in Philosophy & Neuroscience at Brandeis University.



Christopher J. Preston

"Technology & Biological Integrity in a Synthetic Age"

Author, professor of philosophy, and blogger at the University of Montana in Missoula.



Ronald Sandler

"The Ethics of Engineering Species for Conservation"

Professor of philosophy & Director of the Ethics Institute at Northeastern University.

February 29, 2020
9:30AM - 6:30PM

Brandeis University Philosophy Department presents:
the 9th Annual Spring Conference

DESIGNING SPECIES

The event is followed by a Banquet in the Faculty Club!

Mandel Center for the Humanities - Room G12



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Recent technological advances have dramatically enhanced our power to design species. This conference will explore some of the ethical issues raised by the new possibilities that have been opened up. For example, is it acceptable for us to create transgenic organisms that blend genes from multiple distinct species? Do species have a special kind of value that might be put in jeopardy by such interventions? If it is acceptable for us to design species, what constraints should be observed by practitioners? Should we attempt to modify threatened species in ways that might make them more resilient to pathogens or climate change? Would it be good for us to create new species, or resurrect species that have gone extinct?