LCSSP | The Ronald and Maxine Linde Center for Science, Society, and Policy

Innovations in Biotech Governance

Towards Responsible Deployment in Open Environments



WHEN

Monday, November 16

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

WHERE

RSC 110, Caltech

Lunch to follow

Genetically-engineered organisms could help address complex problems, from pollution-remediating microbes to drought-resistant plants. But environmental release remains a major hurdle: most oversight relies on conventional containment, which offers limited guidance for organisms meant to function outside controlled settings.

LCSSP has been exploring how to govern these biotechnologies responsibly since 2023. In late 2025, following a workshop on the topic, we convened three working groups of experts in biology, ecology, social science, and law to turn those discussions into concrete recommendations for policy and practice. Now, representatives from all three groups are coming back to campus to share their work.

THREE REPORTS

01 **Risk-Managed Design**
Integrating best practices across the entire biotechnology lifecycle

02 **Standards Clearinghouse**
Developing institutional capacity for consensus-based stewardship

03 **Community Toolbox**
Identifying practical pathways for meaningful engagement and accountability

THE PROGRAM

- Short presentations of each report
- Panel: How the reports came together
- Panel: Putting the reports into practice
- Open Q&A, followed by lunch

Members of the Caltech community are warmly invited. No background in biotechnology or policy is needed.

RSVP by Wednesday, November 11

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