

PLEASE POST

***Columbia University Seminars: Population Biology, 521***

**Topic: Breeders, Propagators, & Creators: Culture, Biology, and the Future of Human Evolution**

**Speaker: *Christopher X J. Jensen, Ph.D.***

Dept. of Mathematics and Science, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY



**Date: Monday, March 7, 2016**

**Time: 6:00 PM**

**Place: Faculty House, Columbia University**

Chairs: Dr. Kathleen A. Nolan and Alison Cucco

St. Francis College, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories DNA Learning Center

[knolan@sfc.edu](mailto:knolan@sfc.edu); [acucco@sfc.edu](mailto:acucco@sfc.edu)

**Please RSVP to K. Nolan for dinner reservations**

**Abstract:**

For most species, evolutionary immortality can be achieved by only one means: the production of offspring. Humans are different. Because a combination of genes and culture enable our survival, humans can contribute to the future of the species in three different ways: the production of offspring, the propagation of existing culture, and the creation of novel ideas. But because all three of these fundamental human activities require resources, each person faces a tradeoff between breeding, propagating, and creating. Different people in different places negotiate this tradeoff in very different ways, and the resulting difference in reproductive and cultural outputs have implications for the future of human evolution. This talk will explore what we know about patterns of human breeding, propagating, and creating and whether we can interpret these patterns in terms of biological and cultural selection.

We invite you to meet us at for the **talk at 6 PM** in the Faculty House, and have **dinner at 7:00 PM** (\$25 for an elegant all-you-can-eat buffet). Come early, as parking can be difficult.

**To get to the Faculty House**, walk east on 116<sup>th</sup> St. and cross Amsterdam Ave. Pass by the Jerome Green Hall, which will be on your left, and take a left into a courtyard. Walk north one block, and you will see a sign for the Faculty House. Take a right; pass the Jerome Greene annex, and the Faculty House will be the last building on your right before Morningside Drive. (Technically, the Faculty House is on 117<sup>th</sup> St.)