



**Waikato Branch of the Royal Society of New Zealand  
Final Lecture for 2016  
All welcome.**

**World-changing DNA technologies  
Professor Cristin Print  
Director  
Bioinformatics Institute  
University of Auckland**

**Waikato University, 7.30pm Tuesday November 8, Room A.G.30**

**Abstract**

The first human genome sequenced cost US \$3 billion and took 13 years. Scientists can now sequence your genome for as little as \$1,000 in 2-3 days, and regularly modify the genomes of plants, animals and individual cells as part of their research. DNA technologies are growing so fast that even the experts cannot keep up! How do we harness the benefits of these technologies for mankind while using them safely in a culturally and ethically acceptable way?

Cris will explore the current state of DNA technologies including genome sequencing and cloning. He will raise points for discussion about how these technologies are transforming medicine, the significant ethical, cultural and social issues they raise, and how quickly these technologies are transforming science fiction into science fact.

**Brief Bio**

Cris graduated in Medicine from Auckland Medical School in 1989. He worked as a house surgeon and undertook asthma research for a year in Dunedin before completing an immunology PhD at the University of Auckland. He undertook research using mammalian genetic modification in Melbourne, Australia, before moving to Cambridge University, UK, where he was a fellow of St Edmund's College. He co-founded a successful Japanese biotechnology company before returning to New Zealand in late 2005 where he is using DNA technologies to better understand human pathology, with special focus on cancer. Cris is currently Director of the University of Auckland's Bioinformatics Institute, Chair of the Auckland Regional Tissue Bank's Scientific Advisory Board and immediate past President of the New Zealand Society for Oncology.

Room A.G.30 is within the School of Maori & Pacific Development. Entry is easiest through Gate 8 on Hillcrest Rd. A campus map is available at <http://www.waikato.ac.nz/contacts/map.pdf> . There is no charge for this event.