

# UC DAVIS

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## DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

### Physics Colloquium

**Stephen Hsu (Oregon)**

***Title: Genetics, intelligence and other quantitative traits***

Abstract: How do genes affect cognitive ability or other quantitative traits such as height? I begin with a brief review of psychometric measurements of intelligence, introducing the idea of a "general factor" or IQ score. The main results concern the stability, validity (predictive power), and heritability of adult IQ. Next, I discuss ongoing Genome Wide Association Studies which investigate the genetic basis of intelligence. Due mainly to the rapidly decreasing cost of sequencing, it is likely that within the next 5-10 years we will identify genes which account for a significant fraction of total IQ variation.

Monday, Feb 13  
4:10pm Room 55 Roessler