

**From:** [Hans van Beek](#)  
**To:** [Diman van Rossum | NISB Secretary | Pagome Executive Support](#)  
**Subject:** aankondiging seminar Ryan Gutenkunst  
**Date:** 2009 May 27 15:55:07

---

Dear Colleagues,

we are organizing the following seminar by our visitor Ryan Gutenkunst.  
You are very welcome :

Date: Tuesday, June 9th 2009

Time: 14:00

Room: M212 (W&N Science building, VU University Amsterdam)

Speaker:

Dr. Ryan Gutenkunst  
(Theoretical Biology and Biophysics & Center for Nonlinear studies, Los Alamos National Laboratory, NM, USA, <http://cnls.lanl.gov/~ryang/>)

Abstract:

**\*Sloppiness in biochemical modeling and evolution\***

Many quantitative modeling efforts, particularly in biology, are hampered by a profusion of unmeasured parameters. We demonstrate that biochemical network models exhibit a universal "sloppy" pattern of sensitivity to parameter variation; different directions in parameter space vary by orders of magnitude in their constraint. We argue that, consequently, predictions of future experiments may be usefully constrained even when the available data only very poorly constrain parameter values. This suggests a change in mindset for some, away from a focus on parameters and toward a focus on predictions. We also briefly explore potential consequences of sloppiness for evolution.

Hosts: Hannes Hettling (IBIVU) & Hans van Beek (Medical Genomics VUmc)

--

Hans van Beek

ADDRESS :  
Section Medical Genomics  
Department of Clinical Genetics  
VU University Medical Centre

Phone: +31 20 5987460

Contact details:  
Dr JHGM van Beek

Mail address:  
van der Boechorststraat 7  
1081 BT Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

Visiting address:  
Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences (W&N building)  
De Boelelaan 1085  
Amsterdam  
Room B-423

<http://vumc.nl>; <http://ibivuu.nl>; <http://home.hccnet.nl/jhgm.van.beek>  
e-mail: [hans.van.beek@falw.vu.nl](mailto:hans.van.beek@falw.vu.nl)  
secondary e-mail: [hans.vanbeek@vumc.nl](mailto:hans.vanbeek@vumc.nl) (checked infrequently)

FOR YOUR INTEREST  
freely downloadable scientific article on dynamics of energy conversion in the heart :  
Click <http://home.hccnet.nl/jhgm.van.beek/prod02.htm#download>  
and click on "Freely downloadable article in American Journal of Physiology"