In-class discussion, part I

Tue, Oct 31st, 9:15-10:15

Combine your team with one other team (ending up with a group of 8); organize yourselves around a whiteboard / flipover.

Using the whiteboard, the ‘non-experts’ from your group (i.e. those people without a background in biology) draw and explain to the ‘expert’ audience what Nick explained in his lecture of Tuesday. The ‘experts’ of your group can aid, complete and correct the ‘non-experts’ if necessary.

Use the following questions to guide your discussion:

- Describe each of the steps involved in extracting mature messenger RNA (mRNA) from a sample of tissue.
- What is a cDNA library, and how is it obtained?
- How does DNA sequencing work?
- What is the difference between the transcriptome, the exome and the genome?
- How well does sequencing the mature mRNA of a cell measure gene expression?
- Do you expect the population of mRNA to differ through development and between tissues?