



NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY  
**CITY TECH**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **City Tech Symposium Explores General Education From Microbes to Stars**

Brooklyn, NY—October 7, 2015—To celebrate the integrative and interdisciplinary nature of general education at City Tech, the College will host the Living Lab General Education Symposium **"From Microbes to Stars,"** on Friday, October 23, in Namm 119, 300 Jay Street, Downtown Brooklyn, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The symposium will feature Dr. Monica Devanas, Director of Faculty Development and Assessment Programs, Center for the Advancement of Teaching, at Rutgers University and will celebrate the launch of L4: the Living Lab Learning Library. Dr. Devanas' keynote address, "Integrating Learning for Living," will engage participants in an exciting interdisciplinary activity that will benefit all who are interested in enhancing general education and enriching their teaching by bridging disciplines and courses.

Participants at the symposium will also be a part of the unveiling of L4: the Living Lab Learning Library, City Tech's new online resource exchange for innovative teaching activities—available to educators around the world. Using L4, educators will find unexpected connections and invaluable teaching resources developed and implemented by City Tech faculty.

The mission of the Living Lab over the past five years has been to re-envision general education as a "living laboratory," using City Tech's signature strengths – hands-on experiential models of learning and our vibrant Brooklyn Waterfront location. And, as a result, the College has adopted Living Lab initiatives such as the Living Lab General Education Seminars, which bring together diverse groups of Faculty Fellows to revitalize general education through place-based learning and high-impact educational practices; and The OpenLab (<http://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu>), which creates an innovative digital platform to support open teaching and learning at City Tech, and enhances the intellectual and social fabric of the college community.

The five-year, \$3.1 million Living Lab grant ("A Living Laboratory: Redesigning General Education for a 21st-Century College of Technology") was awarded by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) and built on a series of grants to City Tech from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) that supported interdisciplinary study.

The grant is part of the DOE's Strengthening Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Title V Program, which has the goal of improving retention and graduation rates of Hispanic and low-income students. For City Tech, the additional goal is to prepare students for leading roles in the cutting-edge technological and professional workforce.

Breakfast and lunch will be served and the symposium will provide opportunities for dialogue with colleagues from across the college and the university.

The Living Lab General Education Symposium is sponsored by A Living Laboratory, Faculty Commons, the General Education Committee and the Interdisciplinary Committee.

Please RSVP at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/living-lab-general-education-symposium-tickets-18740993817>

For more information about the symposium, contact Professor Anna Matthews, [amatthews@citytech.cuny.edu](mailto:amatthews@citytech.cuny.edu) or Professor Laura Westengard, [lwestengard@citytech.cuny.edu](mailto:lwestengard@citytech.cuny.edu).

For information about the Living Lab and general education at City Tech, contact Professor Karen Goodlad at [kgoodlad@citytech.cuny.edu](mailto:kgoodlad@citytech.cuny.edu)

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**About City Tech (New York City College of Technology)**

City Tech, of The City University of New York, is the largest four-year public college of technology in the Northeast and a national model for technological education. City Tech has an enrollment of more than 17,000 students in 25 baccalaureate and 27 associate degree programs. For more information, visit [www.citytech.cuny.edu](http://www.citytech.cuny.edu).

The College is committed to a policy of equal employment and equal access in its educational programs and activities and to non-discrimination in accordance with federal, state and city laws. For questions or concerns on non-discrimination, please contact the College's Chief Diversity Officer; for those regarding sex discrimination and sexual misconduct, please contact the College's Title IX Coordinator or the Office of Civil Rights of the United States.