

Title: Difficult Concepts in Systems Biology: Function and Purpose

Summary: The overall motivation for the present project is the rise of integrative genomics and systems biology in the biosciences which use the concept of function on a large scale. Molecules and genes are often labelled by their ³function², where function has been defined by a different person than the one doing the annotation. Additionally, this is being done on such a large scale that there is a move towards automation of this process. Clearly, this necessitates clarity and convention around the concept of function.