FINDING RICHARD III

TURI KING
GENETICS
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Dr. Turi King is a molecular geneticist in the Department of Genetics and Genome Biology at the University of Leicester whose work bridges fields including archaeology, history, and geography. Dr. King led the international research team’s discovery of the skeletal remains of King Richard III under a car park in Leicester, England more than 500 years after his death. The research team included archeologists with expertise in historical ruins analysis to identify likely burial spots and bone experts to analyze the age, sex, and health of the remains and compare signs of battle injury with the historic record of his death. It also included geneticists to extract useable DNA from the available tissues and historians to conduct the genealogical analysis to identify surviving modern-day descendants to whom Richard’s DNA could be compared. Dr. King’s confirmation of the remains of King Richard III closes what is probably the oldest forensic case to date. Her talk will narrate this process of discovery and the vast public interest that this discovery engendered.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

4:00 PM
CHEM 360

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