

# SynBot Institute for Plant Sciences

## *Memorandum*

From: **Director, SynBot Institute for Plant Sciences**

To: **Conceptual Synthesis Project Team**

Subject: **Key tasks for the Conceptual Synthesis project team**

As you know, the **SynBot** Institute for Plant Science is an organisation charged with undertaking research into plants, and explaining the science of plants to the public.

**SynBot**'s work includes studying plant genetics, and exploring how plants can be bred or may be genetically altered to provide food, materials, pharmaceuticals and bio-fuel.

As the Director of the **SynBot** Institute, I have become increasingly concerned that members of the public often fail to understand the importance of our work, and of the potential of plant science to improve the health and standards of living of much of the world's population. We have seen a general indifference to science from much of the population, and an active opposition to aspects of work in plant genetics – often from those who feel our work is a threat to human health, or to the natural environment.

I have therefore decided to form the **Conceptual Synthesis Project** to help explain plants, and aspects of plant science, to the public. The **Conceptual Synthesis Project team** includes a specialist from each of the main areas of science, plus a project manager to organise the work of the team. The biologist, chemist and physicist each bring their specialist knowledge to the project. The project manager has been given details of your project brief, and will coordinate your work. The future of the Institute and its work may depend upon your success. Good luck.