

ANNUAL VANDEVEER CHAIR PUBLIC LECTURE IN ECONOMICS

PROFESSOR JOHN CONLEY

Abstract: The world is becoming increasingly centralized. We have fewer platforms to choose for our financial, social, technological, of informational needs every day. We have to accept whatever terms and conditions they impose. Bitcoin uses blockchain to break free of this in the financial realm. While Bitcoin has many limitations, it is only one possible use of more generalizing distributed ledger technology. New developments expand these possibilities to all types of trustless, decentralized interactions. Blockchain is fundamentally a source of data consistency that offers a foundation for new types of platforms that empower individuals, and allow us to live our lives as we choose without requiring permission from central authorities.

Bitcoin's Legacy, and Blockchain's Future

**November 10, 2022
5:00 PM
Guyon Auditorium
Morris Library**



Professor of Economics,
Vanderbilt University

John Conley completed his undergraduate work at the University of Chicago and received his Ph.D. from the University of Rochester in Economics. He was a Professor of Economics at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign for thirteen years and currently at Vanderbilt University. He spent the 2016-17 academic year at Microsoft Research working on cryptocurrencies, biometrics, FCC spectrum auctions, the Internet of things, and game theoretic aspects of WiFi and PCS radio protocols. He is the co-founder and first president of the Association for Public Economic Theory (APET), the co-founder and editor of the Journal of Public Economic Theory (JPET) and of an open-access letters journal called the Economics Bulletin (EB). He has worked extensively on public economics and game theory. Currently, he has been working on cryptoeconomics and the economics of information and communications technology (ICT). He is also Chief Economist for the Geeq Project, an infrastructure blockchain startup.

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