



United by science for a better tomorrow

July 10 – 11, 2024 Mainz, Germany & Online



Key partners



Platinum sponsors



Organizer

Future Insight e.V.

United by science for a better tomorrow



CURIOUS 2024

FUTURE INSIGHT CONFERENCE

July 10 – 11, 2024 Mainz, Germany & Online



The best conference
I have ever attended

The Woodstock of
science & technology

Such days let us
hope for the world



health, nutrition, life sciences, material sciences,
digitalization, AI, energy, mobility, space flight, robotics, the
secrets of the human mind and new ways of working together.

<http://curiousfutureinsight.org>



~2,000

Attendees from Academia and Industry



Top Speakers

Nobel Laureates, CEOs, Young Talent

Examples of other great Speakers Curious 2018/2022

Craig Venter – Human Genome Pioneer

Justin Sanchez – DARPA

Yoshiyuki Sankai – Cyberdyne

Daniel Zajfman – Weizmann Institute

George Whitesides – Harvard University

Klaus Schwab – World Economic Forum

Sandrine Dixon-Declève – Club of Rome

Linda Hill – Harvard Business School

Gordon Freeman – Harvard

Sarah Seager – MIT

George Church – Harvard

Tom Knight – Ginkgo Bioworks Inc.

Martin Rees – University of Cambridge

Phil Baran – Scripps

Otmar Wiestler – Helmholtz

Katja Becker – DFG

Rafael Laguna de la Vera – SPRIND

Paul Workman – ICR

Renée Mauborgne – INSEAD

Dietmar Harhoff – Max-Planck Institute

Nobel Laureates Curious 2018/2022

1. **Ada Yonath**, Weizmann Institute of Science – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2009
2. **Benjamin List**, Max-Planck-Institut für Kohlenforschung - Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021 (after presentation at Curious2018)
3. **Brian Kobilka**, Stanford University School of Medicine – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2012
4. **Bruce Beutler**, UT Southwestern Medical Center – Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2011
5. **Emmanuelle Charpentier**, Max Planck Unit for the Science of Pathogens – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2020 (after presentation at Curious2018)
6. **Frances Arnold**, Caltech – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2018 (after presentation at Curious2018)
7. **Fraser Stoddart**, Northwestern University – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016
8. **Harald zur Hausen**, German Cancer Researcher Center – Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2008
9. **Jean-Marie Lehn**, University of Strasbourg – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1987
10. **Joachim Frank**, Columbia University – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2017
11. **Peter C. Doherty**, University of Melbourne – Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 1996
12. **Robert Huber**, Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1988
13. **Stefan Hell**, Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2014
14. **Thomas C Südhof**, Stanford University – Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2013
15. **William Moerner**, Stanford University – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2014



Nobel Laureates Curious 2024

1. **Steven Chu**, Stanford University – Nobel Prize in Physics 1997
2. **Jean-Pierre Sauvage**, University of Strasbourg - Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016
3. **Thomas C. Südhof**, Stanford University – Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2013
4. **Randy W. Schekman**, University of Berkeley – Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2013
5. **Hartmut Michel**, Max Planck Institute of Biophysics – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1988
6. **Mario Capecchi**, University of Utah – Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2007
7. **Benjamin List**, Max Planck Institute für Kohleforschung – Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021



Keynote speakers at Curious2024 – Future Insight conference



Tim Appenzeller
News Editor
AAAS Science



Johannes Baillou
Chairman
E. Merck KG



David Baker
University of Washington
and Howard Hughes
Medical Institute



Danny Bar-Zohar
Merck KGaA, Darmstadt
Germany



Jelena Begovic
Minister of Science,
Technological Development and
Innovation, Republic of Serbia



Sven Behnke
Rheinische Friedrich-
Wilhelms-Universität,
Bonn



Rachel Bernstein
AAAS Science



Ulrich Betz
Merck KGaA, Darmstadt,
Germany



Mario R. Capecchi
University of Utah



Alon Chen
Weizmann Institute
of Science



Steven Chu
Stanford University



Tobias Erb
Director Max-Planck Institute for
Terrestrial Microbiology,
Marburg, Germany



Makoto Fujita
University
of Tokyo



Bélen Garijo
CEO Merck KGaA, Darmstadt,
Germany



Sir Charles Godfray
Oxford Martin School



Michael Graetzel
École Polytechnique
Fédérale de Lausanne
(EPFL)



Peter Guenter
Merck KGaA, Darmstadt,
Germany



Nino Haase
Major of Mainz



Clemens Hoch
Minister for Science and Health,
Rheinland-Pfalz



Brett Kagan
Chief Scientific Officer
Cortical Labs



Robert Langer
Massachusetts Institute
Of Technology

Keynote speakers at Curious2024 – Future Insight conference



Benjamin List
Max Planck Institute
für Kohleforschung



Abraham (Avi) Loeb
Harvard University



**Melanie Maas-
Brunner**
CTO of BASF FE



Ralph Marquardt
Chief Innovation Officer
Evonik



Hartmut Michel
Max Planck Institute
of Biophysics



Shahaf Peleg
FBN Dummerstorf



Joe Quirk
Seasteading Institute



Marc Raibert
Boston Dynamics
The AI Institute



Aysa Rolls
Technion



Uğur Şahin
CEO of BioNTech



Khalid Salaita
Emory University



**Jean-Pierre
Sauvage**
Prof. Emeritus, University
Strasbourg



Randy Schekman
University of California, Berkeley
UCLA, Howard Hughes Medical
Institute and Stanford University



Harpreet Singh
CEO
Immatics N.V.



Orla Smith
Editor, AAAS/Science
Translational Medicine



**Thomas C.
Südhof**
Stanford University



Tanja Weil
Max-Planck-Institute for
Polymer Research

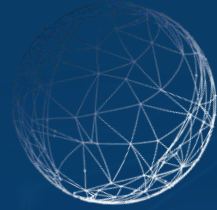


Omar Yaghi
University of California,
Berkeley



More to come

Conference Modules



Hybrid Event on-site & online

Top Keynote Lectures
Short Talks/Ignite
Sessions



Networking Formats
Match-Making
Partnering

Top Prize Ceremonies:
Future Insight Prize,
Johann Anton Merck Award
Nature Spin-off Prize



Exhibition
E-Poster Sessions



AAAS Science - Roundtable
Nature - „Science in Shorts“

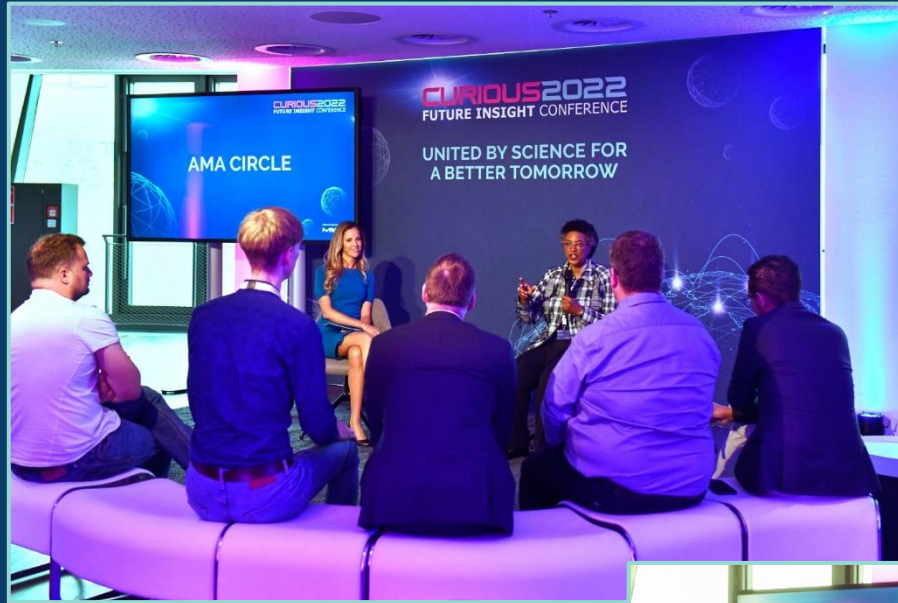


Workshops

A huge futuristic screen on the main stage



Discussions with speakers in a smaller round at the Ask-Me-All Circle



Workshops



Innovation Exhibition



Networking





CURIOUS 2024

FUTURE INSIGHT CONFERENCE

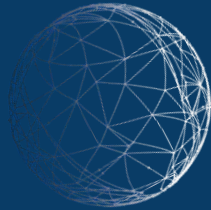
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

- **Short Talk**
- **Start-up Fair Booth**
- **Poster Session**

**Submission
deadline
31. March
2024**



Startup Fair



Bright minds, pioneering entrepreneurs and influential investors unite to redefine the future of innovation. Dive into a transformative platform designed for pre-revenue startups and academic teams driven to spearhead innovation as science and technology startups.

As part of the Curious2024 – Future Insight event, you'll be amidst a high-caliber audience.

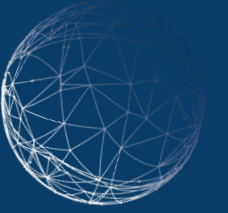
- **Submit Your Compelling Pitch:** Provide a succinct 200-word description explaining why your startup deserves a spot. <http://curiousfutureinsight.org>
- **Elevate Your Startup:** Receive a small exhibition area, ideal for showcasing your product or presenting a captivating poster or roll-up.
- **Forge Key Connections:** Engage with Strategic Partners, Investors, and Collaborators, fostering potential synergies and growth opportunities.
- **Scale Up Your Impact:** Purchase an upgrade to a more spacious area, enabling you to make an even more significant impression.
- **Investors:** For premium investment opportunities to engage in the Startup Fair reach out to info@future-insight.org

UNITE, IGNITE, INNOVATE
Where Visionaries Shape Tomorrow



**Startup
Special**

Curious – Future Insight Conference - 3 Key Differentiators



1

Interdisciplinary coverage of top hot areas of science explained by leaders and pioneers in the field

2

Amazing science presented by world experts in a technologically advanced format that will leave you speechless. An impressive stage for impressive visions.

3

Emotionally engaging, providing a positive outlook on a bright future. A one-of-a-kind call to action that combines science, ethics and inspiration – united for a better tomorrow

Collaborations with Nature and Science

SPRINGER NATURE

Prize 1

- Nature Spinoff prize

Prize 2

- Science in shorts award

Books

- Curious2018, Curious2022, Curious2024

Science AAAS

Panel Discussion 1

- Future Breakthroughs in Science & Technology

Panel Discussion 2

- Mentoring early career researchers

Poster

- Milestones of science



ISBN
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**Initiated 2018 at the occasion
of the 350th anniversary of
Merck, the world's oldest
pharmaceutical & chemical
company**

**Read in the book
from Springer about
the fantastic success
of the legacy event
in 2018**

CURIOUS2018

FUTURE INSIGHT CONFERENCE

Platinum sponsor



**" The best conference
I have ever attended "**

**" The Woodstock of
science & technology "**

**" Such days let us
hope for the world "**

Statements from participants

By the Numbers:

CURIOUS2022
FUTURE INSIGHT CONFERENCE



Africa/
Middle East
10%

Australia
< 1%

Asia
8%

Europe
70%

North
America
11%

South
America
< 1%



2,000
Attendees
on-site and online



320
Academic
and Universities



23
Exhibitors



85 %
Feedback survey
excellent/good



80+
Speakers



9
Nobel Laureates



77
Countries



160
Companies

CURIOUS2022

FUTURE INSIGHT CONFERENCE

AUDIENCE PROFILE

Fields of business



Research & Development
57%



Business Development
7%



Marketing & Sales
8%



Production
3%



Other
26%

Organization type



Academic/University
29%



Non-profit organization
3%



Large corp.
251+ employees
62%



Medium corp.
51 – 250 employees
2%

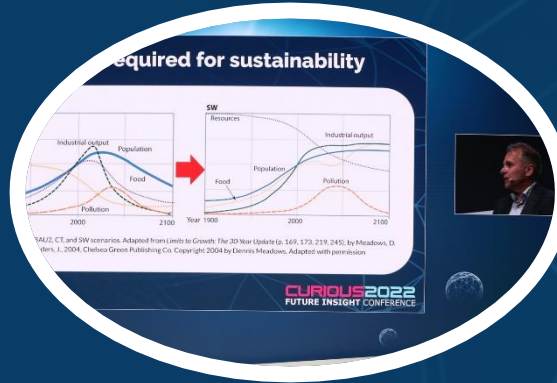


Start-ups & Small/Micro corp.
1 – 50 employees
4%

Key Benefits for Participants and Partners



Position you and your organization as leading innovators, work with some of the world's best scientists, most accomplished Entrepreneurs, and industry-leading strategists



Learn early on about key game changing developments in science & technology shaping our future



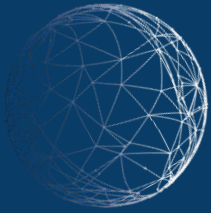
Create and sustain enabling partnerships with top global science & technology players



Motivate and inspire your employees with hope to make a better future a reality

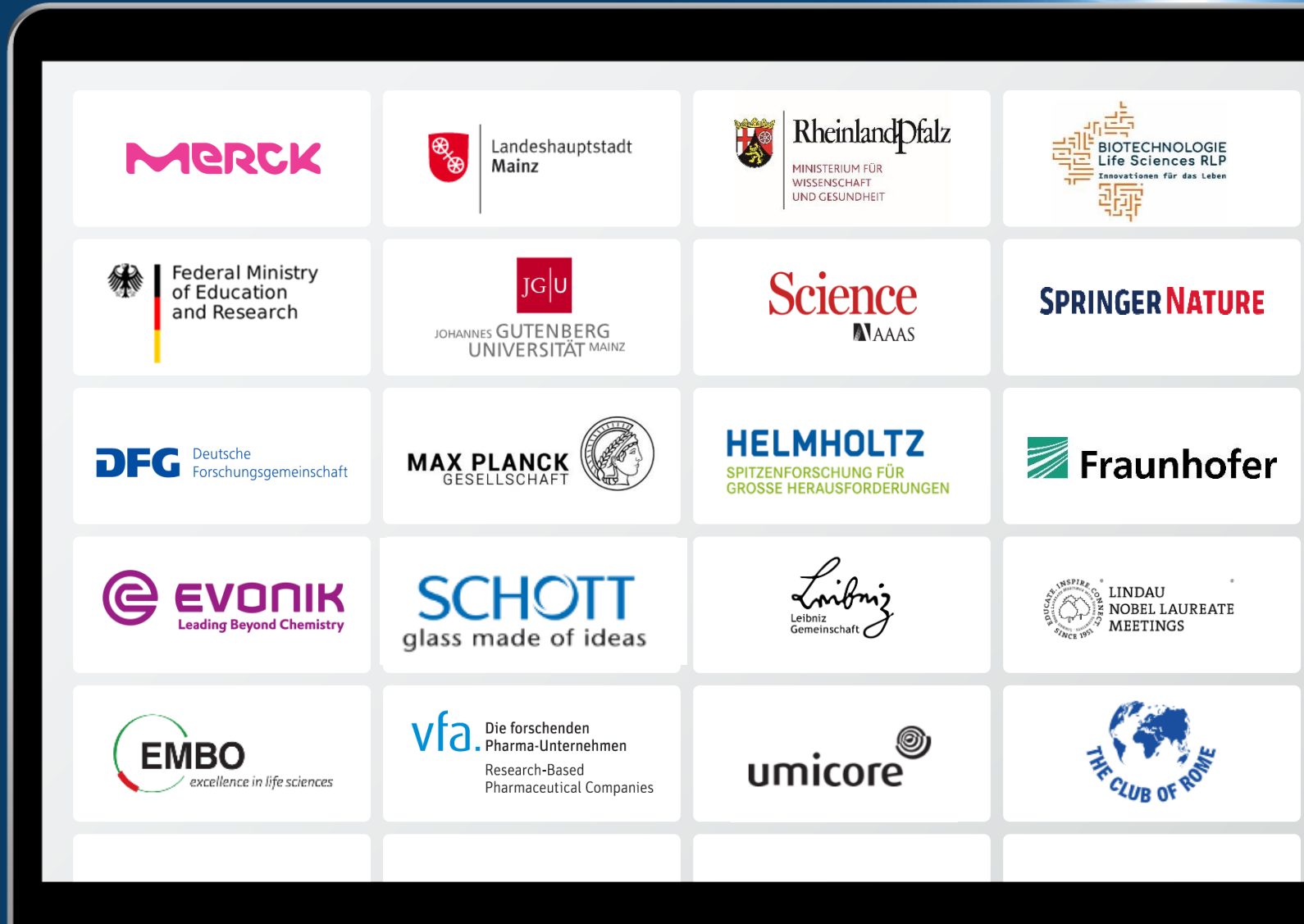


Access breakthrough ideas and top talent



>200

World-Class Institutions Partner with Curious Examples



Strong support from politics for Curious – Future Insight



Angela Dorn

Hessian Minister
of Higher Education,
Research and the Arts



Anja Karliczek

Federal Minister
of Education and
Research Germany
2018 - 2021



**Bettina Stark -
Watzinger**

Federal Minister
of Education and
Research Germany



Clemens Hoch

Rheinland-Pfalz
Minister for Science
and Health



Jens Spahn

Federal Minister
of Health
Germany
2018 - 2021



Mariya Gabriel

European Commissioner
for Innovation, Research,
Culture, Education and
Youth



Nino Haase

Mayor of Mainz



Peter Altmaier

Federal Minister
of Economic Affairs
and Energy Germany
2018 - 2021





CURIOUS 2024

FUTURE INSIGHT CONFERENCE

Scientific Awards



Merck Future Insight Prize

- Upto €1,000,000 research grant for research area of high importance for humanity



Johann-Anton-Merck Award

- €30,000 annual prize for outstanding preclinical research in drug discovery



Nature - Science in Shorts

- Best 1 min. videos explaining research project to general audience
- 10x €5,000 prize

nature awards
science in shorts

in partnership with
MERCK



Nature – Spinoff Prize

- Most innovative spinoffs from universities
- €30,000 prize

nature awards
the spinoff prize

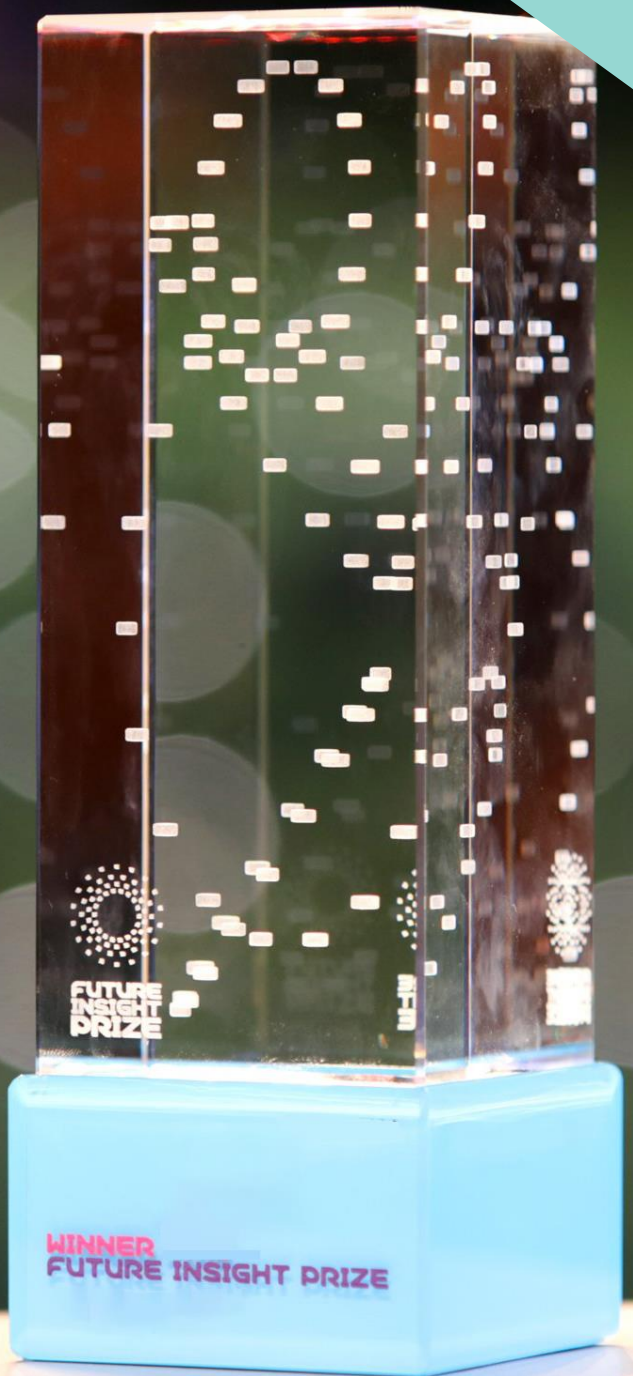
University spinoff
companies apply now
for the 2024 prize

in partnership with
MERCK



A woman in silhouette is walking towards a bright, glowing doorway made of vertical light bars. The scene is set against a dark blue background with a network pattern of white lines and dots. The text "Upstream of innovation lies imagination" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Upstream
of innovation
lies imagination



future insight prize

PRESS RELEASES /

Merck Announces Future Insight Prize of up to € 1 Million for Groundbreaking Scientific Work

Merck today announced a new research prize. The company will award the "Future Insight Prize" of up to € 1 million annually for the next 35 years.



**FUTURE
INSIGHT
PRIZE**



SHARE

17 JUL 2018 DARMSTADT, GERMANY



- ◆ **First prize to be awarded 2019 for work on a visionary product to protect humanity from newly emerging viral diseases**
- ◆ Merck committed to "Future Insight Prize" for the next 35 years
- ◆ Announcement made at "Curious2018 – Future Insight" conference premiere

Merck Future Insight™ Prize

REALIZING THE DREAMS OF A BETTER TOMORROW

The Future Insight™ Prize will be **awarded annually** from 2019 onwards for the next 35 years to

HONOR AND ENABLE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS

in science & technology towards a ground-breaking innovation important

for the future of humanity in the areas of health, nutrition and energy with a research grant of up to **1 MILLION € sponsored by Merck.**



HEALTH

Early pandemic warning system

2023

ENERGY

Photocatalytic fuel production from atmospheric CO₂

2022

NUTRITION

Technologies to feed a growing world population

2021

HEALTH

Multi-drug resistance breaker

2020

HEALTH

Rapid protection from newly emerging infectious agent

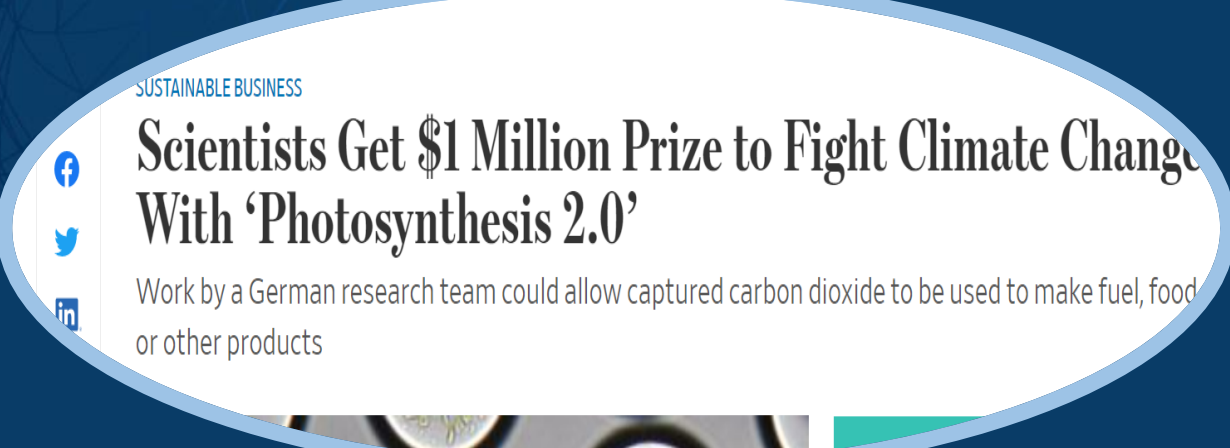
2019



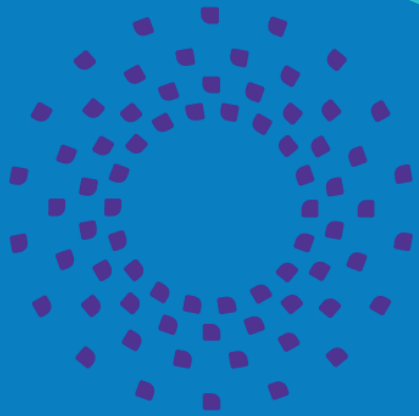
Merck Future Insight™ Prize



Microbiologist Stephen Techtmann and bioengineer Ting Lu



Future Insight Prize 2024



FUTURE INSIGHT PRIZE

AI against pandemics

An AI-driven modeling tool that can help detect outbreaks early, quickly process data from multiple sources, and predict future scenarios.



Illustration by Elif Siebenpfeiffer



Share your dreams for a bright future...
How can science & technology contribute?

Future Insight Prize 2025



www.curiousfutureinsight.org/dreamboard/

Dare to dream big!



#curiousdreamboard



Curiosity Cube

The **Curiosity Cube**[®] is a 6 x 2,5m shipping container that has been transformed into a mobile science lab.



Key Components:

- Features interactive, **hands-on science lessons** to spark curiosity in STEM.
- Reaches students **ages 8-13** who might not otherwise have access, such as those at lower-resourced schools.
- Equipped with the **latest technology**, enabling visitors to immerse themselves into science.
- Staffed by **scientists**, allowing visitors to ask questions and discuss careers in STEM.





Unterstützt durch:



Rheinland-Pfalz

MINISTERIUM FÜR BILDUNG



Rheinland-Pfalz

MINISTERIUM FÜR WISSENSCHAFT UND GESUNDHEIT



Landeshauptstadt Mainz

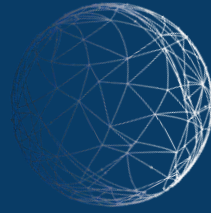


Junior Visions

Future Insight e.V.



World Science Declaration Make Science Not War



Sign the
declaration
today at
<http://make-science-not-war.org>



Make Science Not War

A global call to action to invest more resources in the advancement of science and technology for a peaceful future.



Future Insight e.V.

Join the global movement and become a member TODAY

The Curious - Future Insight Conference is organized by the Future Insight e.V. association. The association unites like-minded individuals and organizations in its mission to support the advancement of science for the benefit of humanity, aligned on the three fundamental principles of truth, love and hope - science, ethics and inspiration.

Membership form:

<https://www.curiousfutureinsight.org/about-us/>



United for a better tomorrow

Science



Ethics

Inspiration



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Senior Vice President Innovation
Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany
Member of the German Council
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