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.

~2,000 Attendees from Academia and Industry

Top Speakers
Nobel Laureates, CEOs, Young Talent

http://curiousfutureinsight.org
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)
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
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

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

Networking Formats
Match-Making Partnering

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
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

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

Submission deadline
31. March 2024
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](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
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

**Panel Discussion 1**
- Future Breakthroughs in Science & Technology

**Panel Discussion 2**
- Mentoring early career researchers

**Poster**
- Milestones of science
Milestones of Science
Initiated 2018 at the occasion of the 350th anniversary of Merck, the world’s oldest pharmaceutical & chemical company

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"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:

- 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

By Region:

- Africa/Middle East: 10%
- Australia: < 1%
- Asia: 8%
- Europe: 70%
- North America: 11%
- South America: < 1%

Platinum sponsor
Fields of business

Research & Development: 57%
Marketing & Sales: 8%
Academic/University: 29%

Organization type

Business Development: 7%
Production: 3%
Non-profit organization: 3%

Large corp. (251+ employees): 62%
Medium corp. (51 – 250 employees): 2%
Start-ups & Small/Micro corp. (1 – 50 employees): 4%

Other: 26%
Position you and your organization as leading innovators, work with some of the world’s best scientists, most accomplished Entrepreneurs, and industry-leading strategists.

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

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

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

Access breakthrough ideas and top talent.

Key Benefits for Participants and Partners
>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

Peter Altmaier  
Federal Minister of Economic Affairs and Energy Germany 2018 - 2021

Anja Karliczek  
Federal Minister of Education and Research Germany 2018 - 2021

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

Bettina Stark-Watzinger  
Federal Minister of Education and Research Germany

Nino Haase  
Mayor of Mainz

Clemens Hoch  
Rheinland-Pfalz Minister for Science and Health

Bettina Stark-Watzinger  
Federal Minister of Education and Research Germany

Jens Spahn  
Federal Minister of Health Germany 2018 - 2021

Bettina Stark-Watzinger  
Federal Minister of Education and Research Germany

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

Jens Spahn  
Federal Minister of Health Germany 2018 - 2021

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

Bettina Stark-Watzinger  
Federal Minister of Education and Research Germany

Mariya Gabriel  
European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth
Merck Future Insight Prize
• Upto €1,000,000 research grant for research area of high importance for humanity

Nature - Science in Shorts
• Best 1 min. videos explaining research project to general audience
• 10x €5,000 prize

Johann-Anton-Merck Award
• €30,000 annual prize for outstanding preclinical research in drug discovery

Nature – Spinoff Prize
• Most innovative spinoffs from universities
• €30,000 prize
Upstream of innovation lies imagination.
Future Insight Prize
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.

17 JUL 2019, 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>AWARD</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>HEALTH</td>
<td>Rapid protection from newly emerging infectious agent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>HEALTH</td>
<td>Multi-drug resistance breaker</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>HEALTH</td>
<td>Technologies to feed a growing world population</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>ENERGY</td>
<td>Photocatalytic fuel production from atmospheric CO₂</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>HEALTH</td>
<td>Early pandemic warning system</td>
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Scientists Get $1 Million Prize to Fight Climate Change With ‘Photosynthesis 2.0’

Work by a German research team could allow captured carbon dioxide to be used to make fuel, food or other products.
**Future Insight Prize 2024**

**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 Siebenpfleffer
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.
World Science Declaration
Make Science Not War

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

Make Science Not War

Sign the declaration today at http://make-science-not-war.org
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
Dr. Ulrich A. K. Betz  
Chairman of the Board Future Insight e.V.  
Senior Vice President Innovation  
Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany  
Member of the German Council of Science and Humanities

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