

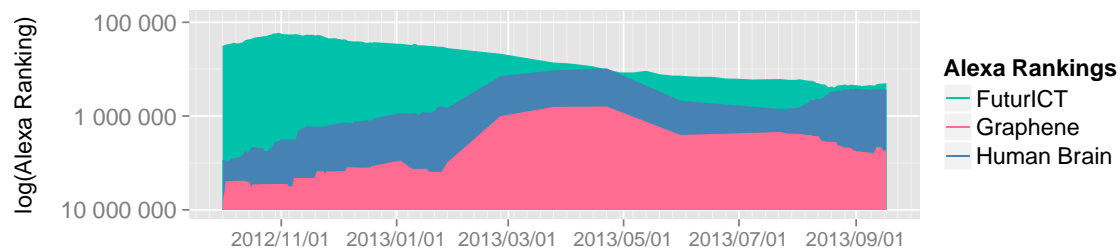
## A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM DIRK HELBING



**Dear FuturICT Supporters,**

It is time for another newsletter to keep you updated with all our recent activities.

The FuturICT vision is still alive and our community is thriving as can be seen from our social media metrics that we follow. A big THANK YOU to all who participate in our activities and share our posts. Our webpage ranking shows that we are still ahead of the two selected flagships, please keep visiting our webpage!



FuturICT has generated a lot of positive feedback on the ideas it proposed. I have almost everyday meetings with representatives from business, politics, science, arts, and the media. Did you know that Hungary received millions of funding to run a national FuturICT project?

The recent revelations of state surveillance by Edward Snowden and ensuing discussions about privacy and surveillance underline that the ethical ICT approach adopted by FuturICT has not been misplaced or alarmist, but has proved very prescient, indeed. FuturICT has been significantly engaged in the related public discussions on privacy. In fact, most of the FuturICT blogs on the subject have been published in newspapers, and I have had also many interviews and public engagements on the subject. (See Blog page <http://www.futurict.blogspot.ch/>)

That apart, FuturICT's science is also progressing with a number of international events organised or attended this year with the output of many exciting papers.

## FuturICT @ MIT

In particular, I would like to highlight a FuturICT workshop held from 13-14 February at the Media Lab based at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The meeting was organized alongside the 2013 AAAS Annual Meeting and the SwissnexBoston Science and Policy Symposium. This event was co-sponsored by SwissnexBoston, ETHZ, MIT Connection Science and Engineering (a virtual centre including MIT Media Lab CSAIL, and LIDS).

You can read more about the event at: <http://connection.media.mit.edu/events.html> and <http://www.futurict.eu/event/futurict-workshop-mit-media-lab-boston-usa>

Presentation slides are available of Hideaki Aoyama, Peter S. Dodds, Ramesh Jain, Jeffrey Johnson, Paul Lukowicz, Michael Szell and Irena Vodenska via the Dropbox link

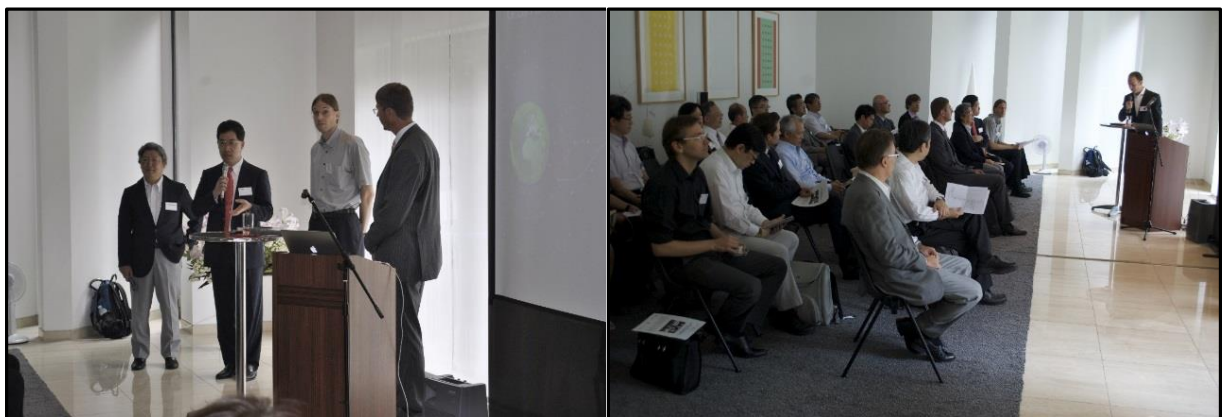
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*With Prof Sandy Pentland*

## FuturICT Science and Policy Symposium @Swiss Embassy in Tokyo

The Symposium held on July 16, was jointly organized by ETH Zurich and the Science & Technology Office of the Embassy of Switzerland in Tokyo. The primary purpose of the meeting was to intensify collaboration and to set a joint EU and Japan research agenda to address the challenges faced by our society in the new internet and communication technology era.



*At the Swiss Embassy in Tokyo*

The meeting highlighted the ability of the scientific enterprise to create economic growth, solving social problems, and satisfying the essential human drive to understand the world where we live. At this event I introduced "Economics 2.0", a concept that enables a self-regulating, participatory market society to counter complexity and extreme events.

Prof. Saito followed with his vision of innovation and entrepreneurship, the keys to find solutions to the big challenges awaiting our society and Japan, and introduced the concept of simulationics, as a new bottom-up approach to support changes in society. The last part was dedicated to software in the cloud, their present challenges, and opportunities and how education and development should be shaped. Read more about this event at: <http://www.futurict.eu/event/futurict-science-and-policy-symposium>

### FuturICT @ ECCS'13

This one-day event was held on Thursday 19th September as a satellite of the ECCS 2013. Apart from the many outstanding keynotes and invited lectures, a panel discussion was organized to discuss the future developments and opportunities for the FuturICT community.

The meeting saw the participation of Josè Fernadez Villacanas (EU), Alex Jaimes (Yahoo! Labs), David Osimo (Open Evidence), and Giorgio Prister (Major Cities of Europe). I also gave an invited talk on **"Sensorship or Censorship - that's the question"**, see

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1L1FECsY8Vs>

More details on the event and speakers can be found at: <http://www.eccs13.eu/index.php/satellites>  
[www.futurict.eu/event/eccs-13-satellite-meeting-global-computing-our-complex](http://www.futurict.eu/event/eccs-13-satellite-meeting-global-computing-our-complex)

### FuturICT @ TEDx (videos coming soon).

Recently in September I gave a TEDx talk in Martigny, Switzerland. 'Next Civilization: Towards a Self-Regulating, Participatory Market Society to Counter Complexity and Extreme Events'. We will inform you as soon the videos become available <http://www.tedxmartigny.com/speakers-2013/>



At TEDx Martigny

## Future Funding Opportunities within Horizon 2020

Apparently, there will not be money for further FET flagships, but we can apply for support in the **Marie Curie** and **ERC programs**, in the area of **smart cities, smart grids, global systems science, high-performance computing, collective awareness platforms, Big Data**, and the **digital social sciences** and **humanities**.

As you will discover, many of the upcoming calls appear to be inspired by the FuturICT vision and, therefore, it was a good strategy on our part to publish many of our ideas. **Don't forget to cite our position papers, by the way, to ensure our community will be remembered for our ideas - they are well deserving milestones.**

Finally, I would like to wish you good luck with your applications for national and European money. I am sure our community can get many millions of research funding. It would be also great to stay in touch, so we can coordinate our exciting and important efforts.

## Innovation Accelerator platform

There is Innovation Accelerator platform at (<http://www.inn.ac/>) where you will find many useful tools, such as a Virtual Journal helping you to discover relevant papers; a Living Archive, providing you with Open Data, and Living Science, visualizing publication activities all over the world.

- QScience: <http://www.qlectives.eu/qscience>
- Vijo: <http://vijo.inn.ac/>
- Living Science: <http://livingscience.inn.ac/>
- Nanobrowser: <http://nanobrowser.inn.ac/>

And here are some related, entertaining introductory movies:

- QScience Intro: <http://vimeo.com/77706401>
- Vijo: <https://vimeo.com/75722905>
- Living Science: <https://vimeo.com/77449655>
- Nanobrowser: <https://vimeo.com/77163363>

**It would be even more exciting if you decided to make a contribution to these information platforms so that it could work for us like a "Wikipedia for scientists".**

## FuturICT Hackathons and Wiki-style Crowd Sourced Development of PNS and more

We have recently had 2 hackathons (<https://github.com/mosgap/hackdays2>). The goals are to eventually have a joint and open code base for the following aspects:

- Apps to read sensor data for the sake of distributed measurements and to share them for scientific purposes, given users provide their consent; preprocessing might be necessary (e.g. when using microphones to measure noise levels in cities, it must be ensured that we are not recording what people are saying)
- Apps to conduct scientific decision experiments
- Apps to play games with a scientific purpose, requiring a visual interface, multi-person interactivity, real-time transmission of data between players, and recording of gaming data for scientific analysis
- Apps allowing users to give informed consent and to download their own data for the sake of transparency and sharing

The outcomes of the hackdays so far:

- **"I am Science"**: A central app/platform for science apps (<https://github.com/mosgap/i-am-science>)
- **"Nervous"**: A test app for the Planetary Nervous System (<https://github.com/mosgap/nervous>)
- **"ShowMeYourWorld"**: An app for taking and sharing pictures that could be used for scientific purposes (<https://github.com/mosgap/showmeyourworld>)

**It would be great if you joined our Wiki-style team developing these Apps for everyone's benefit!**  
**Please contact Dr. Tobias Kuhn <[tobias.kuhn@gess.ethz.ch](mailto:tobias.kuhn@gess.ethz.ch)>**

### **FuturICT Social Media Communication**

Do remember that we offer continuous and timely information sharing on our FuturICT Facebook, Twitter, Blog, Vimeo and YouTube channels. These channels are not restricted and (when using a regular browser) you don't need to be registered or logged in, if you want to view these sites.

So, don't forget to follow our channels and to share them with your network of collaborators. It is our way of keeping our vibrant community active and alert to new opportunities. I discover many interesting news there myself. Please send us your own notable publications and any interesting news to [social-media@futurict.eu](mailto:social-media@futurict.eu) so we can share them with our community.

Our social media channels are accessed by hundreds of people! They contain a lot of interesting materials and they will eventually replace our newsletters. Therefore, please follow our Facebook and Twitter accounts and Blog regularly.

So, let's keep things moving!

All the best,

*Dirk*

*November 2013*

### **CONTACT AND COMMUNICATION INFORMATION:**

If you have news, events or publications relevant to FuturICT that you would like to share with the community please send these in to [social-media@FuturICT.com](mailto:social-media@FuturICT.com). Be an active participant of this endeavour: your ideas, news items, feedback and comments are always welcome. If you are not signed up to receive our Newsletter and would like to receive the newsletter by email, please register at the FuturICT website <http://www.futurict.eu/>. Just click on the green box "Register" and enter your email

You can find news, information, support material and other useful data about the FuturICT coordination action through the following channels:



**Website:** Visit our website -<http://www.futurict.eu>



**Twitter:** Follow us on Twitter -<http://www.twitter.com/futurict>



**Facebook:** Like us on Facebook -<http://www.facebook.com/futurict>



**LinkedIn:** Join the group on LinkedIn - FuturICT



**Blog:** Read our blog -<http://www.futurict.blogspot.com>



**Vimeo:** Watch our videos -<http://www.vimeo.com/futurict>



**Tube** Watch our videos -<http://www.vimeo.com/futurict>



**Scoop.it:** Read our curation -<http://www.scoop.it/t/futurict-in-the-news>