Catering to a self-nominated avantgarde of researchers and artists who work on connections of the digital and the living, this interactive event will explore the “unknown unknowns” that emerge from the confluence of digitalization and artificial intelligence on the one hand, and biomedicine and the human body on the other hand.

WEB: www.oeaw.ac.at/convergence2023

CONTACT: convergence@oeaw.ac.at
EVENT DETAILS

This two-day symposium & workshop takes place in the center of Vienna on October 17-18, 2023. It will investigate and structure the rapidly developing connections of informatics and the life sciences, which are widely expected to change the way we live and die over the course of the 21st century. The event will delve into developments and connections that are only starting to take shape, but which are likely to be of critical importance for the “Homo sapiens digitalis” of the near future. The focus will be on questions, scenarios, prototypes, and pathways, seeking to establish potential futures in broad strokes, while giving due attention to transformative details.

The symposium & workshop comprises of five sessions: (1) BODIES: Cyborgs abound? (2) BRAINS: Connected mind? (3) CELLS: Homo sapiens 2.0? (4) INTERACTIONS: I – you – we? (5) CULTURES: For peace and prosperity?

The event will be opened by Christiane Wendehorst, President of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Michael Stampfer (Vienna Science &Technology Fund - WWTF), and lead organizer Christoph Bock (OeAW Young Academy and CeMM).

An evening event takes place on October 17, 2023, starting at 6pm. This event is open to the general public (registration required). It showcases key elements of the symposium & workshop in a series of lightning talks and a panel discussion.

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

Oskar Aszmann | Medical University of Vienna
Joanna Bryson | Hertie School of Governance, Berlin
Amber Case | Research Director at Metagov, Portland
Dani Clode | University of Cambridge
Mark Coeckelbergh | University of Vienna
Bart de Witte | HIPPO AI Foundation, Berlin
Thomas Feuerstein | Independent artist, Vienna
Thomas Hartung | Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore
Eva Jablonka | Tel Aviv University
Kris Kashtanova | Independent researcher/educator, New York
Tarja Knuuttila | University of Vienna
Tamar Makin | University of Cambridge
Helga Nowotny | European Research Council (former president)
Johannes T.B. Overvelde | AMOLF & Eindhoven University of Technology
Rajesh Rao | University of Washington, Seattle
Natalie Sebanz | Central European University, Vienna
Surjo R. Soekadar | Charité, Berlin
Sarah Spikermann-Hoff | Institute for IS & Society at WU Vienna
Elly Tanaka | Research Institute of Molecular Pathology, Vienna
Manos Tsakiri | Royal Holloway, University of London

More details on speakers can be found here.

REGISTRATION

To attend the full 2-day conference from October 17-18, please register here.
To attend the public evening event on October 17, please register here.