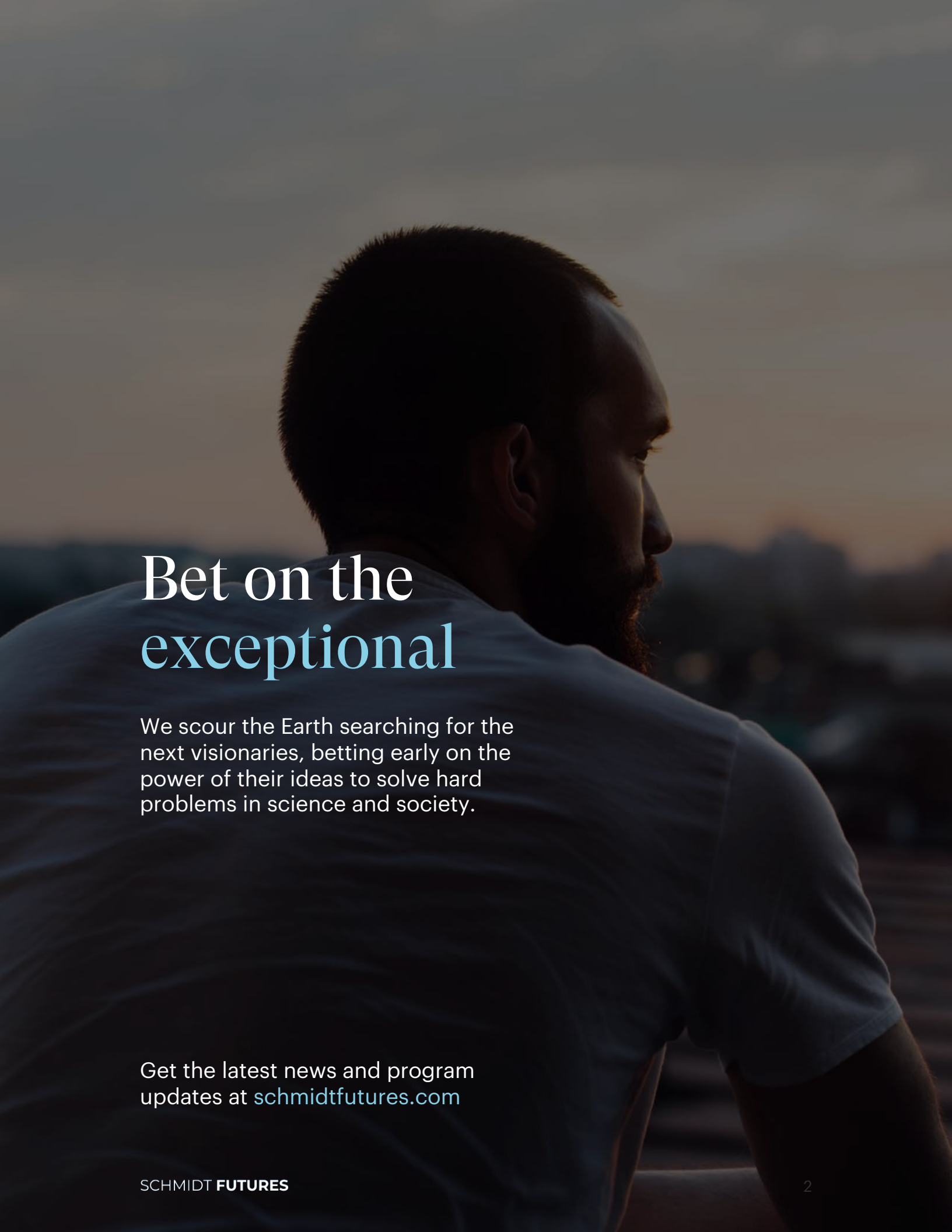
SCHMIDT **FUTURES**

Fact Sheet for Partners
April 2022



Bet on the exceptional

We scour the Earth searching for the next visionaries, betting early on the power of their ideas to solve hard problems in science and society.

Get the latest news and program updates at schmidtfutures.com

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Solving the world's toughest challenges requires risk that governments and businesses can't take alone. At Schmidt Futures, we partner with leaders in the public and private sectors to help promising new ideas scale.

In the pages that follow, you will find an overview of our mission, our values, and a selection of programs to showcase what we do and who we are. We have done a lot in a short time, but there is so much more to do. This document is intended to serve as a fact sheet for potential partners. We look forward to working together with you in the months ahead as we help exceptional people to solve hard problems in science and society.

Our greatest strength is our people, who help our vision become reality. The answers to the world's hardest problems already exist inside the imaginations of the world's brightest minds. We invite you to learn more.

Our mission & vision

Schmidt Futures bets early on exceptional people making the world better

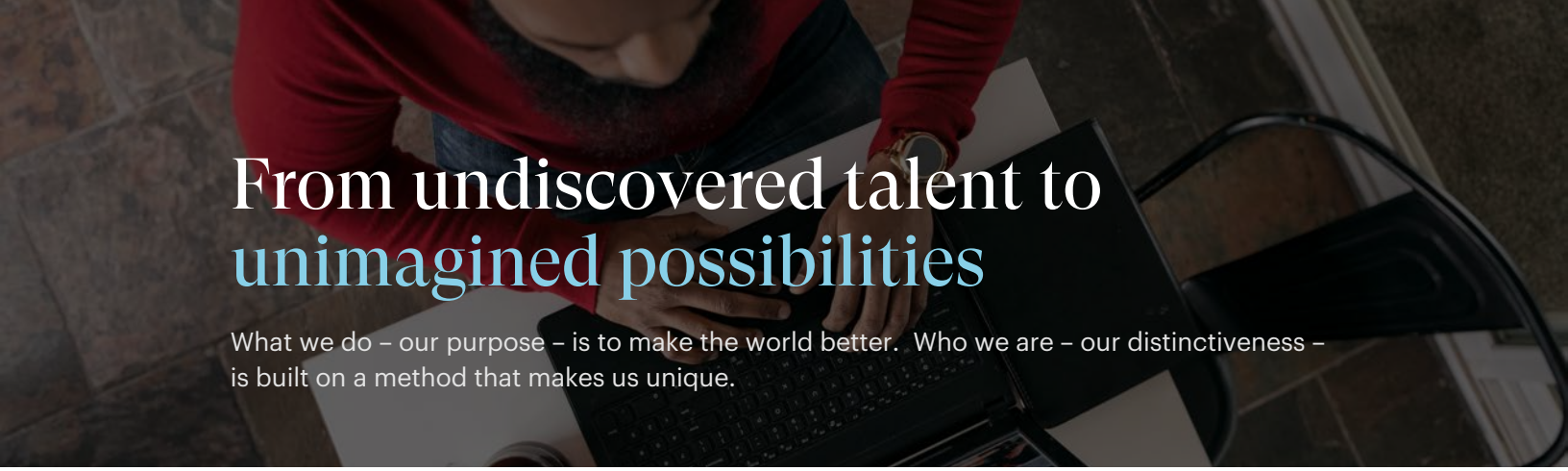
The market for talent is broken. If we want to solve the hardest problems in science and society, we must change the way in which the most exceptional people everywhere prove out their ideas.

We scour the Earth searching for the next visionaries, betting early on the power of their ideas to solve hard problems in science and society.

These visionaries are people with new insight to address important challenges; people who need new opportunities for their ideas to be heard, or to access modern tools and technology; and people who want to join together in a network of the sharpest minds to make more of a difference to more people, in more places.

Through the power of example we inspire others with more resources, including government and business, to scale efforts that improve people's lives. In this sense, we are "***engineering possibility.***"

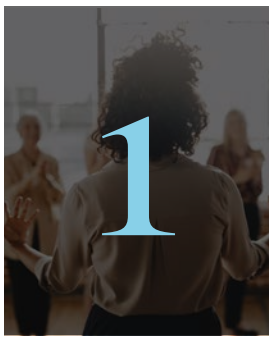
Our work



From undiscovered talent to unimagined possibilities

What we do – our purpose – is to make the world better. Who we are – our distinctiveness – is built on a method that makes us unique.

In our work, we aim to do three things well:

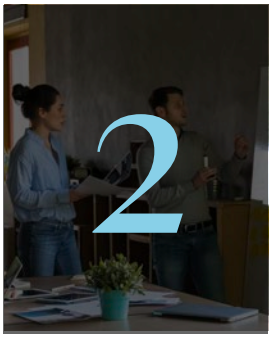


Building networks of talent

Creating the best, largest, and most persistent pipeline of exceptional talent globally and matching it to opportunity to serve others for life.

Featured Programs:

- Rise (page 11)
- Associate Product Managers (page 13)
- International Strategy Forum (page 15)
- Schmidt Science Fellows (page 17)
- Innovation Fellows (page 19)
- Entrepreneurs in Residence (page 21)



Mobilizing talent to solve hard problems

Mobilizing talent to solve specific hard problems in science and society, and helping them to work across fields and organizations for better results.

Featured Programs:

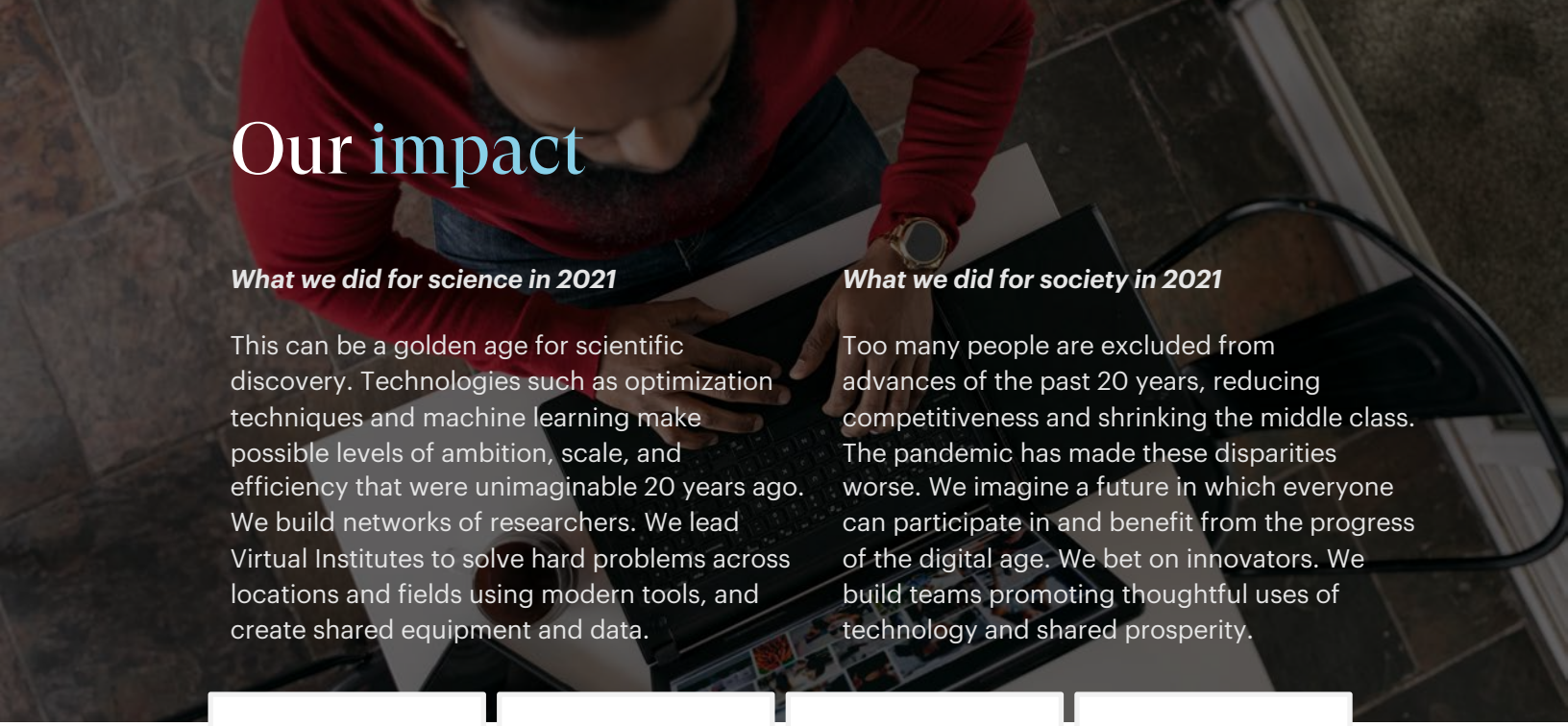
- Virtual Earth System Research Institute (page 25)
- Synthetic Biology (page 27)
- Plaintext Group (page 29)
- Connectivity & Access (page 30)
- Reimagine New York Commission (page 31)
- Alliance for the American Dream (page 33)
- Families and Workers Fund (page 34)
- Afghan Future Fund (page 35)

Creating platforms for scale

Advancing "common goods for common good" — open-source data, systems, equipment, and partnerships to help the best ideas and research efforts to grow and replicate.

Featured Program:

- Convergent Research (page 39)



Our impact

What we did for science in 2021

This can be a golden age for scientific discovery. Technologies such as optimization techniques and machine learning make possible levels of ambition, scale, and efficiency that were unimaginable 20 years ago. We build networks of researchers. We lead Virtual Institutes to solve hard problems across locations and fields using modern tools, and create shared equipment and data.

What we did for society in 2021

Too many people are excluded from advances of the past 20 years, reducing competitiveness and shrinking the middle class. The pandemic has made these disparities worse. We imagine a future in which everyone can participate in and benefit from the progress of the digital age. We bet on innovators. We build teams promoting thoughtful uses of technology and shared prosperity.

OVER 10,000

proteins screened by Schmidt Science Fellow's new AI to identify cancer targets in cellular condensates

1st

first climate model delivered that automatically learns from diverse data through Virtual Earth System Research Institute (VESRI)

1000x

accelerated Bayesian learning in climate models and predictions

50

states and 16 territories served through the first-ever tech platform for government broadband leaders

over 1000

at-risk Afghans evacuated in 2021

470+

broadband planning tools delivered to state governments

100

Rise global winners selected from 42 countries across 6 continents to support for life as they work to serve others

25%

decrease in North Dakota's prison population following Associate Product Managers work with Recidiviz

7000

7000+ more life-saving organ transplants every year due to data-driven reforms by Innovation Fellows

32k

foster children who may be permanently placed via new data-driven foster parent recruitment pilot by Innovation Fellow

50k

students provided free internet access through NY Emergency Fund, supported by Schmidt Futures

215k

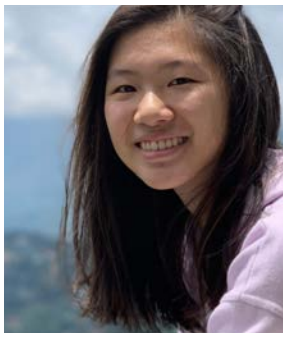
workers and families provided emergency cash relief during pandemic

Featured programs

Building networks of talent

Today, many brilliant people with promising ideas are never found or not given a chance in the first place. We are working to create the best, largest, and most persistent network of exceptional talent globally and to match it to opportunity to serve others for life.

Featured Programs



Rise

Rise finds brilliant people who need opportunity and supports them for life as they work to serve others.

(more on page 11)

Associate Product Managers

Our Associate Product Manager program is a pathway for university graduates to use their technical degrees for public benefit.

(more on page 13)

International Strategy Forum

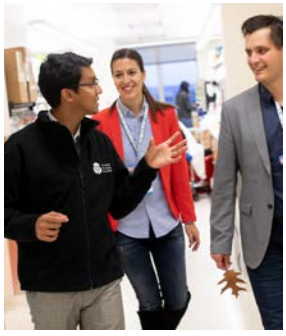
International Strategy Forum creates an interdisciplinary network of rising leaders to strengthen progress and security in a changing world.

(more on page 15)

Innovation Fellows

The Innovation Fellows program supports extraordinary mid-career individuals and teams using technology to solve societal challenges.

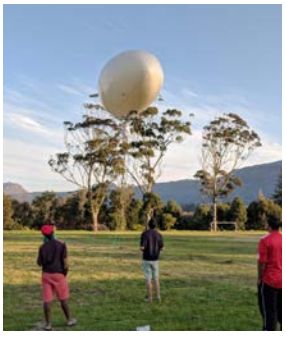
(more on page 19)



Schmidt Science Fellows

The Schmidt Science Fellows program places exceptional emerging scientists in a postdoctoral fellowship outside of their current field.

(more on page 17)



Entrepreneurs in Residence

The Entrepreneurs in Residence (EIR) Program provides talented social entrepreneurs with the opportunity to incubate new ideas for public benefit and to support efforts with the potential to change entire sectors at scale.

(more on page 21)

BUILDING NETWORKS OF TALENT

Rise

Rise finds brilliant people who need opportunity and supports them for life as they work to serve others. Rise starts at ages 15–17 and offers access to a lifetime of benefits including scholarships, mentorship, access to career development opportunities, funding, and more as Global Winners work toward solving humanity's most pressing problems. An initiative of Schmidt Futures and the Rhodes Trust, Rise is the anchor program of a $1 billion commitment from Eric and Wendy Schmidt to find and support global talent.

2021 Program Highlights

50K

applicants from 178 countries in year 1

100

Rise Global Winners from 42 countries across 6 continents

22

languages spoken by first cohort of Rise Global Winners

People Profile

Jennifer Uche, Rise Global Winner – Year 1 - United States

Jennifer uses her voice to connect people and inspire social change. She cares deeply about empowering other young people to challenge issues like poverty, oppression, racism, and violence. For her Rise project, she launched a podcast that highlights the importance of youth advocacy and the power of young people to change the world. She also created her own literary magazine in support of the Black Lives Matter movement. She wants to inspire other young people to speak up and become advocates for the things they believe in.

Rise

Diler Salim, Rise Global Winner - Year 1 – Germany

Diler is interested in psychology, economy, and law. An Iraqi refugee, Diler and his school leader started various initiatives to make school life easier for people with migration backgrounds. When he was 11 years old, he brought together youth speaking multiple languages to help those who had to flee during the mass exodus from Iraq in 2015 by translating for them. For his Rise project, he built a prototype hut that could be used to host homeless people at a very low cost.

Madalena Rosa Carneiro - Rise Global Winner - Year 1 – Germany

Madalena is most passionate about two things in life: films and gender equality. An aspiring movie director, she hopes to combine the two in her work and advance equality by dismantling gender stereotypes with her movies. For her Rise project, Madalena created an app that would help balance domestic work between men and women in the household. The app, now in its testing phase, has been sponsored by Dell through the company's gender equity CSR project.

> *"For me, 'Reimagining Tomorrow' means empowering young people, getting out of their way and ensuring they have the resources and opportunities it takes to build a better tomorrow. It means planting trees today under whose shade we know we will never sit."*
>
> ***Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg*** Executive Director, Rise

Inside Google Billionaire Eric Schmidt's $1 Billion Moon Shot Plan To Fund The World's Most Promising Teens

Read more

Source: Forbes
Publication date: Oct 25, 2021

Associate Product Managers

The Schmidt Futures Associate Product Manager (APM) program is a first-of-its-kind pathway for cohorts of university graduates to use their technical degrees for public benefit. The APM program brings together talented young technologists for two years and matches them to rotational opportunities to solve hard social problems. APMs receive personalized leadership training, deepen their skills, engage with leaders across fields, and are mentored by distinguished figures in technology. They emerge from the program ready to manage technical teams, start businesses, take on leadership positions, and become social and policy entrepreneurs.

2021 Program Highlights

50K

people notified about potential COVID-19 exposure via a Colorado Digital Service app supported by an APM

25%

decrease in North Dakota's prison population following an APM's work with Recidiviz

850

farmers in Kenya supported through an APM's work with PlantVillage

> *"The opportunity to both have that kind of help as an organization, and to help train up the next generation of technical founders and product leads, is a rare gift to a social-impact organization. We've loved both of our APMs to date, and they've contributed meaningful, long-term impact to our work."*
>
> ***Andrew Warren*** Head of Product, Recidiviz

Associate Product Managers

People Profile

Adedoyin Olateru-Olagbegi

Adedoyin Olateru-Olagbegi is currently on an external APM rotation at Tech Matters, a technology nonprofit organization led by Jim Fruchterman, a Schmidt Futures Innovation Fellow. At Tech Matters, Adedoyin is supporting the development of Aselo, an open-source contact center platform that enables child helplines around the world to better help children in need. She is focused on adding features for helpline counselors, as well as improving the ways that Aselo evaluates product success and gathers user feedback. This work will support Aselo's 2022 plans to more than double the number of helplines that it supports.

As a former emergency medical technician, Adedoyin enjoys being able to think about assisting individuals in crisis from a new perspective. While supporting Schmidt Futures' International Strategy Forum, she researched technologies likely to be highly relevant to geopolitics in the next 10 years. While working hand in hand with our strategy team, she spent time developing technical solutions and methods to understand outcomes over time.

Jonathan Lipman

Jonathan Lipman recently completed an internal rotation through the APM program on the Schmidt Futures Strategy team. APMs complete their first rotation internally to learn product skills and get to know people at Schmidt Futures. At Schmidt Futures, the Strategy team is focused on quadrupling our impact and coordinating org-wide visions.

As a technical member of the Strategy team, Jonathan worked on mapping out a new grantmaking tracking tool, conducting a risk analysis of our portfolio of programs, and thinking about how we can better measure and utilize our network of partners and grantees. He greatly enjoyed the opportunity to learn about the wide variety of work happening at Schmidt Futures and building relationships with his colleagues.

BUILDING NETWORKS OF TALENT

International Strategy Forum

ISF aims to forge an interdisciplinary network of rising leaders to strengthen progress and security amid technological innovation and a changing world order. ISF bets early on the next generation of problem solvers with extraordinary potential in geopolitics, innovation, and public leadership. ISF seeks out nontraditional talent across boardrooms, newsrooms, laboratories, policy-making councils, foundations, and beyond. ISF then knits that talent together into a lifelong community, pairing fellows with mentors and providing them with a framework to better analyze and tackle hard strategic problems in global affairs.

2021 Program Highlights

141

fellows selected across 20+ disciplines

300+

network of 300+ nominators at institutions across 3 continents

37

nations represented

> *"The International Strategy Forum has become an incredible global network of policymakers, innovators, and technologists, bringing them together at a stage in their careers where they can learn from one another and work alongside one another on the world's great challenges for decades to come."*
>
> ***Fareed Zakaria*** CNN Host, Best-Selling Author, and Senior Advisor to Schmidt Futures

International Strategy Forum

People Profile

Camille Stewart

Camille Stewart is a cyber-authority with experience providing solutions to critical security policies and directives affecting programs across the public and private sectors. She is Global Head of Product Security Strategy at Google.

Nataliya Bugayova

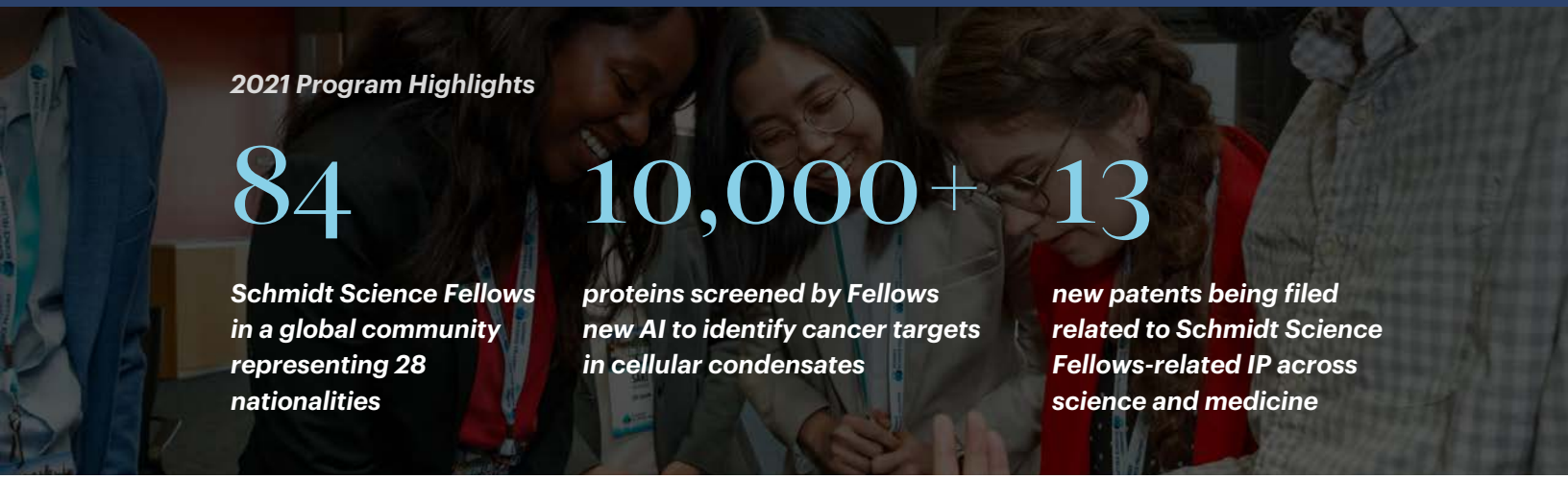
Nataliya Bugayova is a Ukrainian entrepreneur and security analyst who was previously a non-resident National Security Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of War (ISW), and specifically led their Russia and Ukraine research team from 2019-2020. Nataliya is currently the Director of Strategic Insights at Vertical Knowledge.

Alex Loehr

Alex Loehr has spent his career bringing modern digital practices to government's most important missions. As Chief Technology Officer at the National-Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA), Alex is responsible for growing the agency's technical expertise and empowering its workforce.

Schmidt Science Fellows

The Schmidt Science Fellows program brings together the world's best emerging scientists and places them in a postdoctoral fellowship in a field different from their existing expertise. SSF brings together the brightest minds who have completed a PhD in the natural sciences, mathematics, engineering, or computing, and places them in a fellowship in a field different from their existing expertise. The program funds training for the scientists and the research they undertake, and creates a community of interdisciplinary leaders. The program is an initiative of Schmidt Futures and the Rhodes Trust.



2021 Program Highlights

84

Schmidt Science Fellows in a global community representing 28 nationalities

10,000+

proteins screened by Fellows new AI to identify cancer targets in cellular condensates

13

new patents being filed related to Schmidt Science Fellows-related IP across science and medicine

People Profile

Shriya Srinivasan

Shriya is a biomedical engineer who has pioneered new approaches to help individuals requiring amputation to restore the sense of touch and feeling in prosthetic limbs. The methods she developed during her PhD at MIT have been translated to the clinic and are already benefiting patients, delivering improved quality of life.

As a Schmidt Science Fellow, Shriya is working at the Langer Lab, pivoting her science to focus on gastrointestinal motility disorders, which can prove debilitating for millions of people around the world. She aims to investigate the underlying mechanisms of smooth muscle stimulation and then develop new solutions, including optically driven micro-devices that could be swallowed. She has also been spearheading efforts to expand ventilator capacity to meet the shortfalls caused by COVID-19. Shriya is interested in leading an academic research program focused on more seamlessly interfacing human physiology with synthetic devices.

Schmidt Science Fellows

Peyton Greenside

Peyton co-founded BigHat Biosciences, which aims to improve human health by making it easier to design advanced antibody therapeutics. She was recently named one of the 2021 Women of Influence in Silicon Valley.

Fahim Farzadfard

Fahim combines interests in life and physical sciences and, following a Schmidt Science Fellows-supported postdoc at MIT, is now co-founder of two start-ups that have raised more than $7M combined.

Hal Holmes

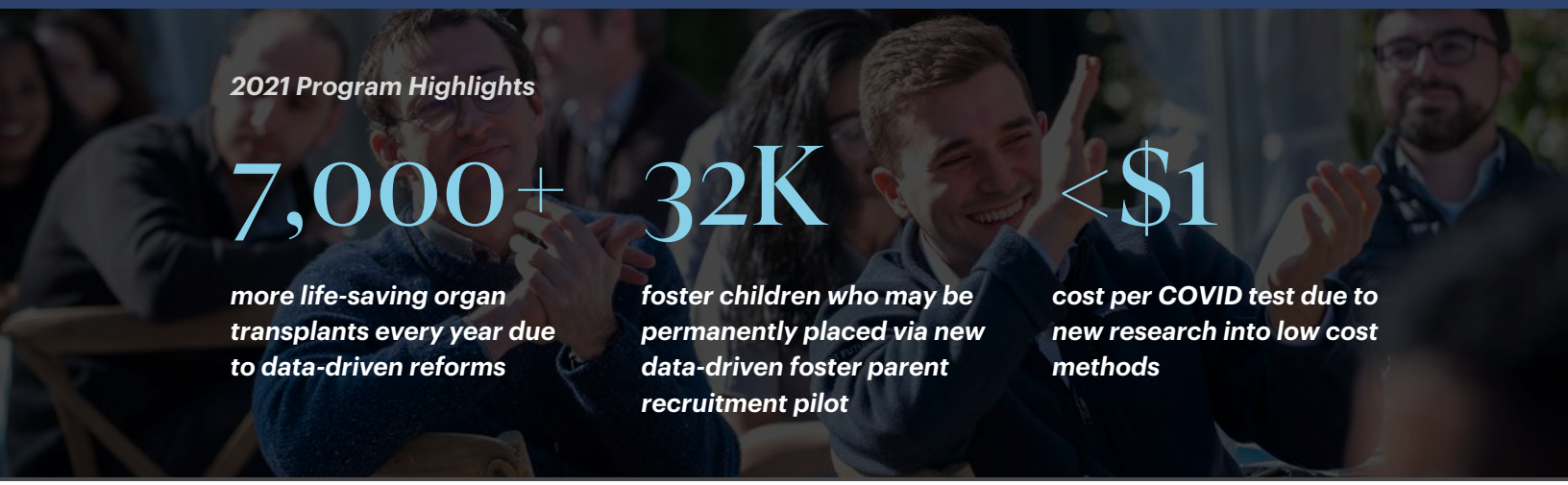
Hal aims to tackle illegal trade in endangered species. He learned new techniques in a cancer lab supported by the Fellowship and has worked with Fahim Farzadfard to turn his technology toward detecting COVID-19.

> *"From COVID to cancer, from climate change to food insecurity, our Schmidt Science Fellows are harnessing the power of interdisciplinary science to advance discovery for the benefit of the world."*
>
> ***Dr. Megan Kenna*** Executive Director, Schmidt Science Fellows

BUILDING NETWORKS OF TALENT

Innovation Fellows

The Innovation Fellows Program supports extraordinary mid-career individuals and teams with ideas to leverage technology thoughtfully to solve important societal challenges. The program aims to serve as a force multiplier for their ideas and to bring them together into a community to support one another and mentor others.



2021 Program Highlights

7,000+

more life-saving organ transplants every year due to data-driven reforms

32K

foster children who may be permanently placed via new data-driven foster parent recruitment pilot

<$1

cost per COVID test due to new research into low cost methods

People Profile

Lucia Coulter

Dr. Lucia Coulter is the co-founder and director of the Lead Exposure Elimination Project (LEEP), a charitable organization focused on reducing the human cost of lead poisoning. A medical doctor, Dr. Coulter previously worked as a physician in London, and has both clinical and research experience. Dr. Coulter graduated from the University of Cambridge with an M.B., B.Chir. in Clinical Medicine and an M.A. in Natural Sciences. In addition to her professional service, Dr. Coulter has contributed expertise to a number of effective altruist projects.

> *"The Innovation Fellows program has provided community, network, and funding that has been catalytic to our work to eliminate childhood lead poisoning in low income countries. It's an inspiring community to be part of and connecting with other fellows has already led to multiple new ideas and collaborations."*
>
> ***Lucia Coulter*** Director and Co-Founder of Lead Exposure Elimination Project

Innovation Fellows

Gyude Moore

W. Gyude Moore is a Senior Policy Fellow at the Center for Global Development (CGD). He previously served as Liberia's Minister of Public Works with oversight over the construction and maintenance of public infrastructure from December 2014 to January 2018. Prior to that role, Moore served as Deputy Chief of Staff to President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf and Head of the President's Delivery Unit (PDU). As Head of the PDU, his team monitored progress and drove delivery of the Public Sector Investment Program of Liberia—a program of over $1 billion in road, power, port infrastructure, and social programs in Liberia after the civil war. As one of the President's trusted advisors, he also played a crucial role in supporting President Sirleaf as Liberia responded to the West Africa Ebola outbreak and shaped its post-Ebola outlook.

Mr. Moore is a lecturer at the University of Chicago's Harris School for Public Policy where he teaches a class on the role of infrastructure in the practice of foreign policy and international development. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Berea College and a Master's degree in Foreign Policy and International Security from Georgetown University.

Ilan Gur

Ilan Gur is Founder & CEO of Activate, whose fellowship enables entrepreneurial scientists and engineers to transform their research into world-changing products and businesses. Activate's entrepreneurial fellowship model originated at Cyclotron Road, a Division of Lawrence Berkeley National Lab that Gur founded in 2014. Gur previously founded two science-based startups including Seeo, an advanced battery startup acquired by Bosch, and served as Senior Advisor & Program Director at the U.S. Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects Agency, ARPA-E.

Gur received Ph.D., M.S., and B.S. degrees in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. He is a Schmidt Futures Innovation Fellow, an advisor to the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation in support of the Moore Inventor Fellowship, and a judge for MIT Technology Review's TR35 award.

BUILDING NETWORKS OF TALENT

Entrepreneurs in Residence

The Entrepreneurs in Residence (EIR) program provides talented social entrepreneurs with the opportunity to incubate new ideas for public benefit and to support efforts with the potential to change entire sectors at scale. Current EIRs are residents at Schmidt Futures for two years.

2021 Program Highlights

3K

onboarded more than 3000 new users into Sociability, an app that helps disabled people find accessible spaces; mapped the accessibility of more than 5,000 local venues

$20M

allocated over $20 million in real estate helping small and medium businesses scale

161

achieved a <1% recidivism rate with 161 people. Collective compensation is $14M+ with $3.1M in estimated marginal recidivism cost savings.

People Profile

Kuljot Anand

Kuljot owes his character, passion, and work ethic to his immigrant upbringing living in India and Canada. He hails from a family of small business entrepreneurs. As one of the Entrepreneurs in residence with Schmidt Futures, he is focused on building a venture to empower the millions of B2B-focused small and medium businesses (SMBs) by helping them manage their financial and operational lives. In short, they are building a "Shopify for B2B."

The venture is specifically focused on helping businesses onboard new customers, reducing operational overhead by digitizing their order intake, invoicing and payments processing/operations, and building financial products (payments and lending) that improve business resiliency and strength. Prior to Schmidt Futures, Kuljot was Head of Product at Amazon Web Services (AWS) Commerce Platform where his teams built products to process $5 billion+ in revenue. He also led Mastercard's Digital Payments business in Hong Kong. Kuljot is a graduate of MIT and Cornell University.

Entrepreneurs in Residence

Project Profile

Building a network of impact entrepreneurs with world-changing ideas

Too many exceptional people and ideas are left on the sidelines of traditional venture capital funding. The Impact Ventures Competition is here to change that. Through the four-week program, entrepreneurs will compete to level up their impact venture and entrepreneurial skills. Participants will receive constructive feedback, strengthen their ideas, and compete to win USD $50,000.

> *"In 2021 we partnered with the Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute which serves students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The first phase of this long-term collaboration began with an agreement involving overflight of their campus and farming facilities. In the future we aim to incorporate our technology into their training programs and recruit graduates."*
>
> ***Spencer Horne***

Building networks of talent

We bring together the brightest minds and leaders across fields to address hard problems in science and society. Our Talent Partners, some of whom are featured below, work with Schmidt Futures to support our talent and prove out our big ideas.

Featured Talent Partners

Russell Westbrook

An Olympic gold medalist, and basketball player, Russell Westbrook is committed to the perseverance of at-risk communities through education, development and mental health resources. Together with Schmidt Futures CEO Eric Braverman, Russell co-authored "Going for Gold," an op-ed published in USA Today that explores what the Olympics can teach us about developing world-changing talent.

Fareed Zakaria

Fareed Zakaria is a global, award-winning broadcast journalist, columnist, and author covering international policy and affairs. As Senior Advisor to Schmidt Futures, he helped design and create the Schmidt Futures International Strategy Forum that he now co-chairs.

Dr. Elizabeth Kiss

Warden of Rhodes House and CEO of the Rhodes Trust since August 2018, Dr. Elizabeth Kiss was the first woman to hold this position. Under her leadership, we have collectively advanced the Schmidt Science Fellows and launched Rise, an initiative of Schmidt Futures and the Rhodes Trust.

Mobilizing talent to solve problems

We aren't going to prove our breakthrough ideas by leaving brilliant people to work alone and to build all their tools from scratch. To increase the chances of success, we crowd in talent from our network toward specific problems and help them to work across fields and organizations for better results—building teams and institutions that are often both virtual and interdisciplinary.

Featured Programs

Virtual Earth System Research Institute (VESRI)

VESRI aims to improve the accuracy and credibility of major climate models by addressing some of the hardest problems that challenge them.

(more on page 25)

Synthetic Biology

The Task Force on Synthetic Biology and the Bioeconomy develops strategy and recommendations to help realize the potential of the U.S. bioeconomy for public benefit.

(more on page 27)

Plaintext Group

The Plaintext Group is a nonpartisan technology innovation policy initiative working to strengthen U.S. leadership through the advancement of technological exploration and scientific discovery.

(more on page 29)

Afghan Future Fund

The Afghan Future Fund is a partnership between Schmidt Futures and the Yalda Hakim Foundation to support talented Afghan civil society leaders, women's advocates, women university students, and others whom the fund evacuated from Kabul through multiple airlifts.

(more on page 35)

Alliance for the American Dream

The Alliance for the American Dream is a network of communities, each anchored by a public research university, that provides access to capital and access to market for new ideas to support distressed communities locally.

(more on page 33)

Reimagine New York Commission

A commission chaired by Eric Schmidt that made recommendations, now in implementation, to build back a better and more resilient New York with greater opportunity for all.

(see page 31)

Families and Workers Fund

The Families and Workers Fund is a five-year collaborative effort bringing together more than 20 philanthropies who are dedicated to building a more equitable economy that uplifts all.

(see page 34)

Connectivity & Access

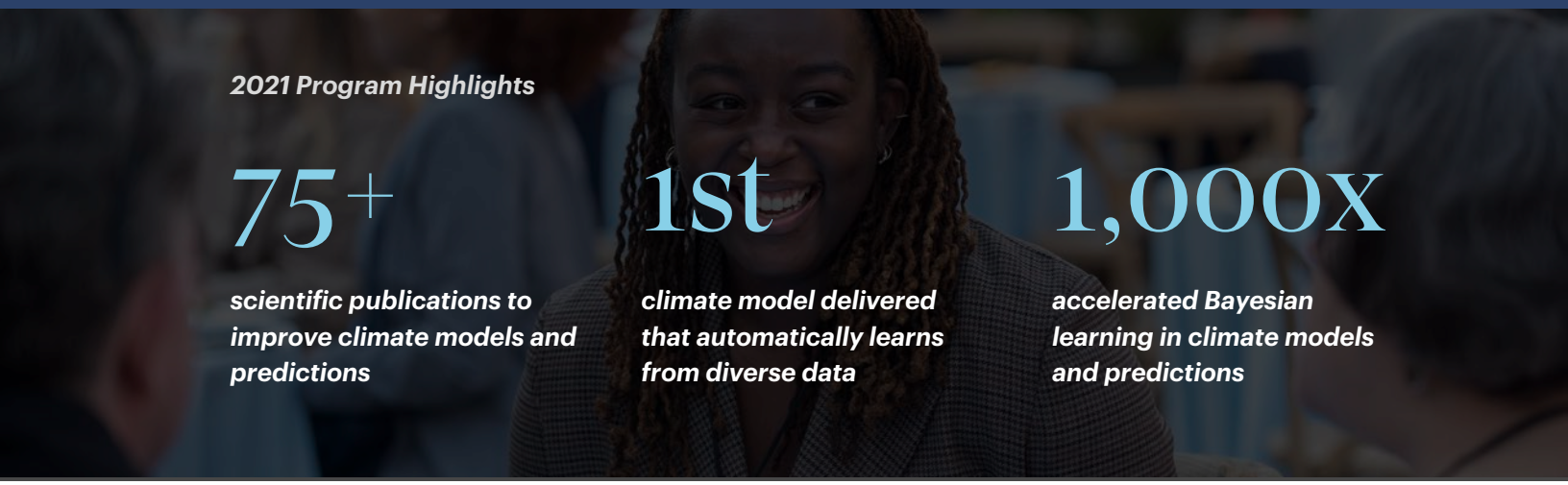
The Connectivity and Access program promotes shared prosperity by making high-speed internet universally accessible and affordable to grow access to public benefits.

(see page 30)

MOBILIZING TALENT TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

Virtual Earth System Research Institute

VESRI provides sustained multi-year funding and embedded technical expertise toward transformational climate modeling research by jointly exploiting advances in models of the Earth systems, Earth observations, computational tools, and bringing tools and approaches from outside the climate sciences to bear within it. Ultimately, VESRI aims to improve climate modeling and to change the direction of multiple models globally, so that they may be used to support decisions on climate mitigation and adaptation.



2021 Program Highlights

75+

scientific publications to improve climate models and predictions

1st

climate model delivered that automatically learns from diverse data

1,000x

accelerated Bayesian learning in climate models and predictions

People Profile

Tapio Schneider

Tapio Schneider is lead Principal Investigator of CliMA, the Theodore Y. Wu Professor of Environmental Science and Engineering at Caltech, and a Senior Research Scientist at JPL. His research focuses on how the climate of Earth and other planets comes about and may change, for example, by changes in atmospheric circulation or cloud cover. To improve climate predictions, he is currently developing next-generation climate models that fuse observations with process models of the Earth system. He was named one of the "Top 20 Scientists under 40" by Discover Magazine, was a David and Lucile Packard Fellow and Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow, recipient of the James R. Holton Award of the American Geophysical Union, and serves as a Scientific Advisory Board Member on Schmidt Futures' Virtual Earth System Research Institute (VESRI).

Virtual Earth System Research Institute

Laure Zanna

Laure Zanna is the lead Principal Investigator of M2LInES, a Schmidt Futures sponsored international effort to improve climate models with scientific machine learning, and a Professor in Mathematics & Atmosphere/Ocean Science at the Courant Institute, New York University. Her research focuses on the dynamics of the climate system and the main emphasis of her work is to study the influence of the ocean on local and global scales. Prior to NYU, she was a faculty member at the University of Oxford until 2019, and obtained her PhD in 2009 in Climate Dynamics from Harvard University. She was the recipient of the 2020 Nicholas P. Fofonoff Award from the American Meteorological Society "For exceptional creativity in the development and application of new concepts in ocean and climate dynamics." Dr. Zanna is the lead principal investigator of the NSF-NOAA Climate Process Team on Ocean Transport and Eddy Energy. She currently serves as an editor for the Journal of Climate, a member of the International CLIVAR Ocean Model Development Panel, and on the CESM Advisory Board.

> *"Schmidt Futures' support has been invaluable in fostering our interdisciplinary, international collaborative research to improve the physics of community climate models in which we leverage cutting-edge advances in scientific machine learning and massive amounts of data, combined with geoscience expertise to provide more reliable climate projections."*
>
> ***Dr. Laure Zanna*** Lead principal investigator of M2LInES

The Task Force on Synthetic Biology and the Bioeconomy

The Task Force on Synthetic Biology and the Bioeconomy aims to develop recommendations and a strategy to help realize the potential of the U.S. bioeconomy for public benefit. A key focus of the task force is to bring multiple types of capital to bear, to accelerate and expand biotechnology applications, including carbon management and sustainability. Members of the task force include subject matter experts across academic disciplines, including physics, ethics, and synthetic biology; venture capitalists and industry leaders from both small and large companies; and leaders from the biotechnology consortia.

People Profile

Andrea Hodgson

Andrea Hodgson is a Fellow at Schmidt Futures developing and co-leading the Bioeconomy Program, an effort focused on maximizing the potential of biotechnology toward a circular bioeconomy. Previously, she was a senior program officer on the Board of Life Sciences at the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. She joined the Academies as a Christine Mirzayan Science & Technology Policy Fellow in 2016.

Andrea conducted postdoctoral training in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where she also obtained her PhD in Molecular Microbiology & Immunology. She has a BS in Microbiology from the University of Rhode Island.

Mary Maxon

Mary Maxon is a Senior Fellow at Schmidt Futures developing and co-leading the Bioeconomy Program, an effort focused on maximizing the potential of biotechnology toward a circular bioeconomy. She is on leave from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory where she serves as Associate Laboratory Director for Biosciences.

Previously, she was Assistant Director for Biological Research at the Office of Science and Technology policy. Currently, Mary serves as a US State Department-appointed Delegate to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, and Converging Technologies Working Party.

Mary holds a PhD in Molecular Cell Biology from the University of California at Berkeley, and did postdoctoral training in genetics at the University of California, San Francisco.

The Task Force on Synthetic Biology and the Bioeconomy

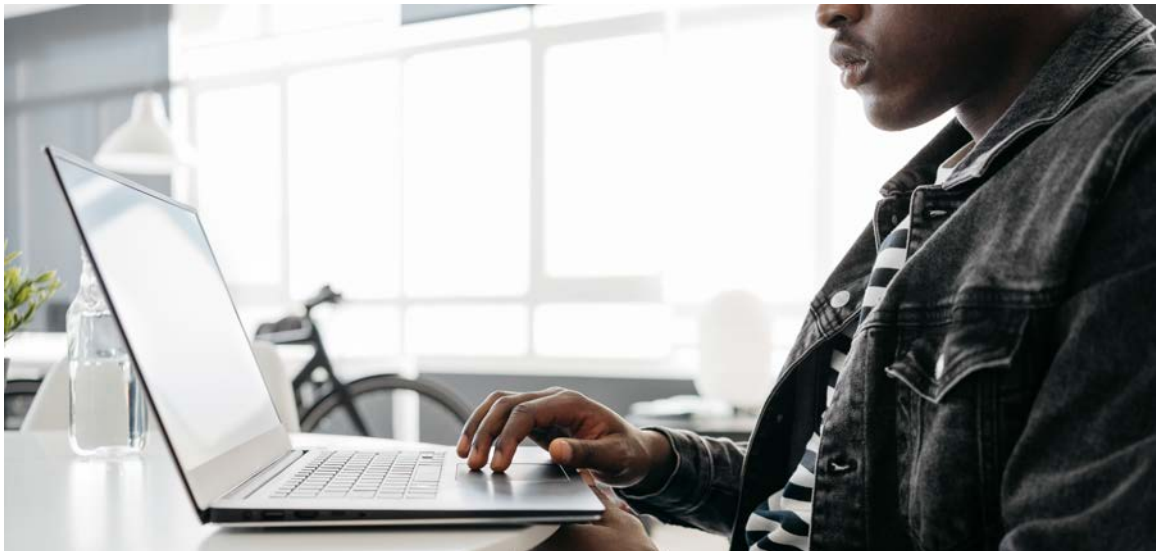
> *"Mobilizing talent and supporters is vital to solve today's problems and set the course for a truly circular economy in the future, ensuring the U.S. keeps the competitive edge on biotech."*

Mary Maxon Senior Fellow, Schmidt Futures

How to grow the economy with biology

Read more

Source: Axios
Publication date: Dec 01, 2021



MOBILIZING TALENT TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

The Plaintext Group

The Plaintext Group brings together technologists and policy professionals to translate complex technical concepts into comprehensible "plain text" for policymakers, researchers, philanthropies, and nonprofits. Plaintext aims to inform debate by producing novel, relevant, and considered research insights into today's most important technology innovation policy issues, including AI research and development, semiconductor manufacturing, modernization of government, and more.

Project Profile

National Robotics Research Cloud (NRRC)

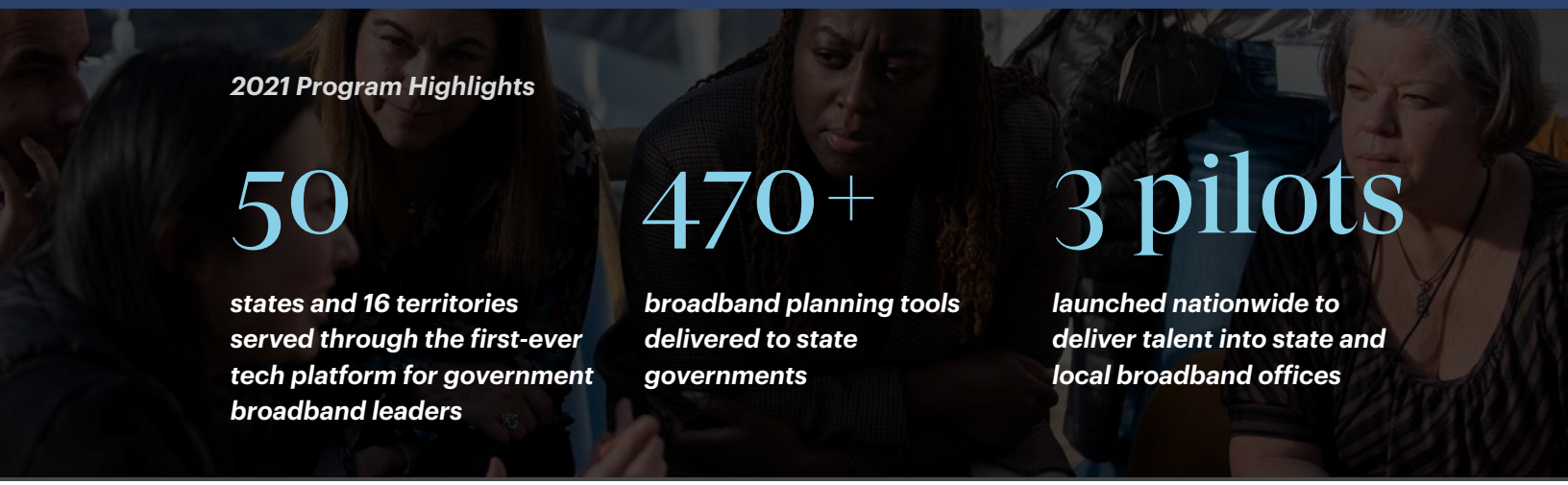
National Robotics Research Cloud (NRRC) seeks to solve several challenges facing robotics research today, from the lack of standardization and an internet-scale robotics dataset to the high cost of building a lab. To help solve this, the Plaintext team worked with researchers at CMU to seed a pilot effort for NRCC consisting of university-based centers filled with remotely operable robots in standardized environments.

These common goods will make cutting-edge robotics research broadly accessible, help the field identify promising new approaches that succeed on agreed-upon benchmarks, and create a massive real-world robotics dataset similar to those that have revolutionized machine learning for images and text. By accelerating intelligent robotics innovation, the program aims to enable the wider commercialization of robots and help supercharge advanced manufacturing in the U.S.

> *"Many of the greatest challenges in geopolitics and policy today are technical at their core. Solving them will require new approaches, pioneered by top technologists that have also developed a high degree of literacy in policy. Plaintext represents that new approach."*
>
> ***Elizabeth Young McNally***
> Executive Vice President, Talent Ventures, Schmidt Futures

Connectivity and Access

The Connectivity and Access program aims to promote shared prosperity by making high-speed internet universally accessible and affordable, and to use that increased accessibility to grow access to public benefits.



2021 Program Highlights

50

states and 16 territories served through the first-ever tech platform for government broadband leaders

470+

broadband planning tools delivered to state governments

3 pilots

launched nationwide to deliver talent into state and local broadband offices

"The Tribal Broadband Bootcamp and The Tribal Resource Center, separately, but serving some of the same goals in Indian Country, of advancing the knowledge of those Native American communities wishing to pursue solutions to their communications needs, are greatly benefited by support from foundations such as Schmidt Futures."

Matthew Rantanen cyber-warrior for tribal broadband, works with SCTCA, NCAI, and Arcadian Infracom to change the broadband landscape for Indian Country

MOBILIZING TALENT TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

Reimagine New York Commission

The Reimagine New York Commission, chaired by Eric Schmidt, has made recommendations, now in implementation, to build back a better and more resilient New York with greater opportunity for all. The commission issued 21 recommendations in early 2021 aimed at building a more resilient and equitable New York by reducing the digital divide, improving access to telehealth, and creating more and better employment in an increasingly digital economy. As a result, New York passed a first-in-the-nation law to secure universally affordable and accessible broadband for all. The Commission's final report, Action Plan for a Reimagined New York, was released on March 31, 2021. Schmidt Futures supported the Commission's work and is now helping to mobilize the philanthropic effort to implement key recommendations.

2021 Program Highlights

$1B

allocated from state funds to help small businesses, restaurants, and the arts and entertainment industries recover from the pandemic

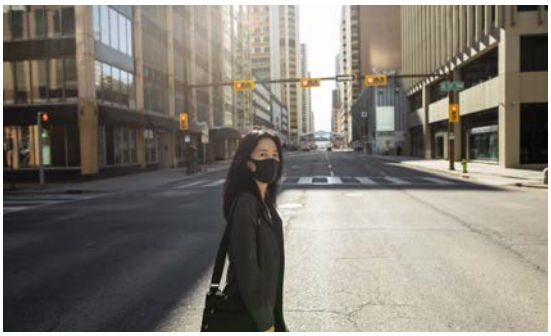
50K

students provided free internet access through NY Emergency Fund, supported by Schmidt Futures

100K

New Yorkers reached through Reimagine Mental Health campaign

Project Profile



ConnectALL Initiative

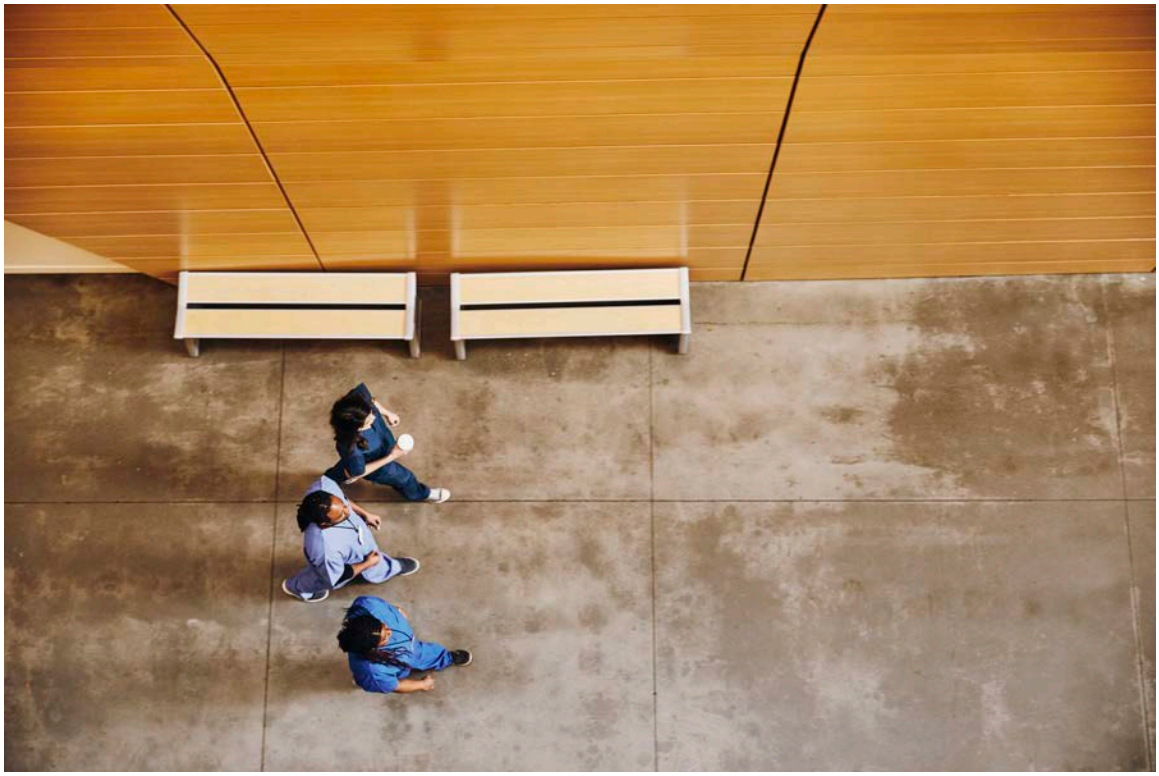
The ConnectALL Initiative, which aims to bring affordable broadband to millions of New Yorkers, represents the largest infusion of funding in New York's 21st century infrastructure. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed how inaccessible and unreliable broadband connection was for many New Yorkers, who suddenly were forced to live their lives through the internet.

It is essential that all New Yorkers have equitable access to the internet, as marginalized communities are most affected by this lack of broadband access. The $1 billion ConnectALL initiative will deliver affordable broadband to millions of New Yorkers and help transform the state's digital infrastructure.

Reimagine New York Commission

"The pandemic has shown us how access to reliable broadband is an essential lifeline to keep New Yorkers connected to loved ones and professional opportunities, Governor Hochul said. Internet connectivity for all New Yorkers, including low-income families, helps New Yorkers start a business, find a job, access healthcare, and communicate with loved ones. It is imperative we ensure there is high-speed, reliable broadband for all New Yorkers."

Kathy Hochul Governor of New York



MOBILIZING TALENT TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

Alliance for the American Dream

Anchored by four public research universities, the Alliance for the American Dream is a network of communities that provide access to capital and access to market for new ideas to support distressed communities locally. In two rounds of competition, the Alliance challenged citizens in four communities (Arizona, Ohio, Utah, and Wisconsin) to propose the most innovative policy ideas to increase the net income of 10,000 local families by 10% in three years.

Project Profile

Project Benjamin

Arizona's State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Kathy Hoffman, awarded the Project Benjamin team $1.5M of ESSER II funds over two years to scale the Ask Benji chatbot to all ~70,000 high school seniors in AZ (40,000 additional students, beyond the 30,000+ reached during the Cycle I Alliance for the American Dream grant period). They are also using the funding to add new service features, including career interest exploration, college application assistance, and to provide support for community activities that promote post-secondary enrollment.

"Today, too many middle-class families find themselves at risk of falling into poverty, while too few see a path to build a brighter future for their children. America needs a strong middle class. Our future depends on it."

Eric Schmidt

Impact Fact

For the class of 2020, high school seniors who received messages and nudges from Ask Benji completed FAFSA at a rate of 60%, fourteen percentage points higher than the state average.

MOBILIZING TALENT TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

Families and Workers Fund

The Families and Workers Fund is a five-year collaborative effort bringing together more than 20 philanthropies who are dedicated to building a more equitable economy that uplifts all. Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic has created a once-in-a-generation opening to improve the lives of workers and their families, FWF deploys funding and builds partnerships to help repair and reimagine the systems that fuel economic security, opportunity, and mobility. The Fund seeks to advance jobs that sustain and uplift people and also support the development of a more inclusive, effective public benefits system, with a focus on unemployment insurance. FWF is co-chaired by Darren Walker, President, Ford Foundation and Eric Braverman, CEO, Schmidt Futures.

2021 Program Highlights

215K

workers and families provided emergency cash relief during pandemic

26

grassroots nonprofits or networks supported to create or strengthen emergency cash transfer systems

$2B

federal funding in public benefits guided via critical insights

Project Profile

Recover Up

After helping to provide emergency economic relief to 215,000 of the most vulnerable families during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Families and Workers Fund is now focused on critical long term economic impact goals. The Recover Up initiative aims to deliver job pathways that enable economic security and mobility for struggling workers. By leveraging new federal and employer funding, this program has the potential to propel economic impact at unprecedented scale.

> *"When the pandemic struck, the Families and Workers Fund mobilized a network of partners, bet early and quickly on an approach to assist both people and small businesses in need, and worked to fill gaps in the benefit systems provided by government and business."*
>
> ***Eric Braverman*** CEO, Schmidt Futures

MOBILIZING TALENT TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

Afghan Future Fund

The Afghan Future Fund is a partnership between Schmidt Futures and the Yalda Hakim Foundation to support talented Afghan civil society leaders, women's advocates, women university students, and others whom the Fund evacuated from Kabul through multiple airlifts. The Fund is providing for the care of these refugees while working to resettle them permanently. Beyond these basic needs, AFF is unique in its focus on developing the high-potential human capital of Afghans: enabling their long-term education and cultivating professional opportunities to put their skills and talents to work. The Fund is a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors.

2021 Program Highlights

1,000+

at-risk Afghans evacuated in 2021

109

secured enrollments for American University of Afghanistan students at American University of Iraq, where they continue their studies

1,500

organize the coordination and delivery of medical care, primary education, and other essential support services for over 1,500 Afghan refugees and growing temporarily relocated to Albania

People Profile

Nekhat Sadeq

Nekhat Sadeq is a survivor of the ongoing tragedy in Afghanistan. She is a senior at American University of Afghanistan (AUAF) who was evacuated in the fall of 2021 by the Afghan Future Fund (AFF), a joint project of Schmidt Futures and the Yalda Hakim Foundation that evacuated hundreds of at-risk Afghans after the fall of the Afghan government. Along with more than 100 AUAF students, Nekhat is continuing her studies at American University of Iraq-Sulaimani. Nekhat and is a leader in a cohort of students that exemplifies the talent and potential of a young generation of Afghans.

She is a senior studying politics, as well as a writer, a researcher, a passionate debater, a dreamer, and more. With a vision for empowering women from a very young age, Nekhat takes pride in being part of a demographic that stands for resilience. She hopes, through her passion, resilience, and work, to be a part of building a brighter future for the Afghan people.

Afghan Future Fund

> *"Extraordinary challenges can lead to extraordinary partnerships, and the work that Schmidt Futures and the Yalda Hakim Foundation accomplished together in 2021 was nothing short of miraculous. Bringing multiple types of talent, capital, and expertise together through the Afghan Future Fund — almost overnight — allowed us to evacuate and support thousands of at-risk Afghans after the fall of Kabul. At a time when too many people give in to pessimism and think they can't make the world a better place, this work makes me hopeful about the future."*
>
> ***Yalda Hakim*** BBC Presenter & International Correspondent

Mobilizing talent to solve problems

We bring together the brightest minds and leaders across fields to address hard problems in science and society. Our Talent Partners, some of whom are featured below, work with Schmidt Futures to support our talent and prove out our big ideas.

Featured Talent Partners

Yalda Hakim

An award-winning foreign correspondent, BBC Presenter, and founder of the Yalda Hakim Foundation which supports the education, human capital development, and professional advancement of exceptionally talented young women from Afghanistan. Yalda is a supporter of Rise, connecting applicants from around the world, as well as our key partner for the Afghan Future Fund.

David W.C. MacMillan

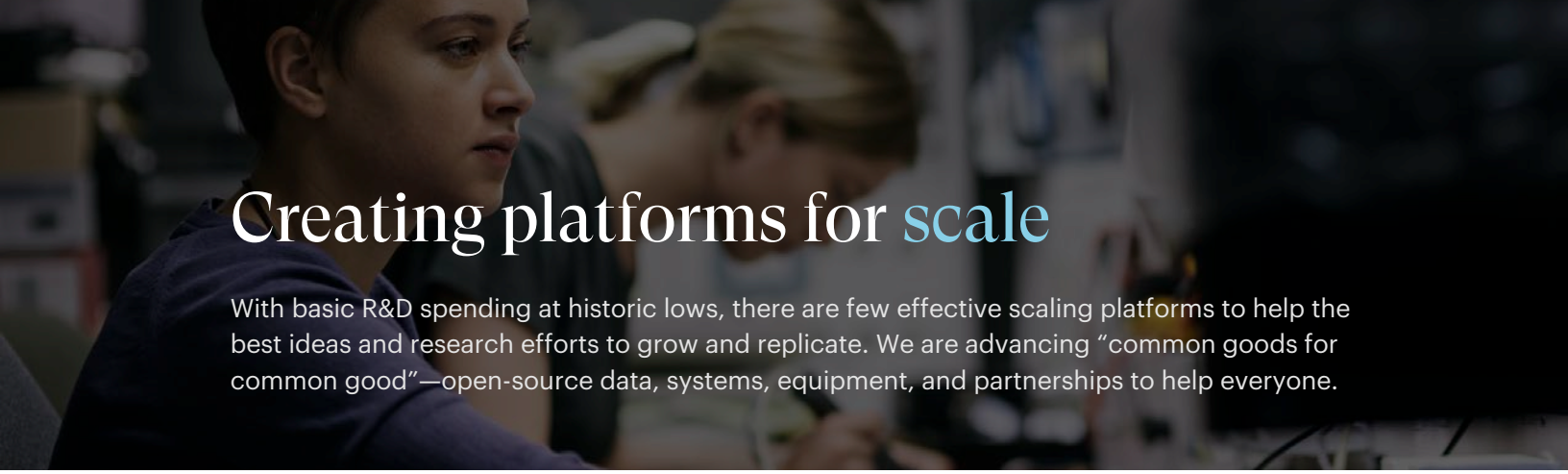
A chemist and pioneer in catalysis, David MacMillan was awarded the 2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Schmidt Futures supports his work through the DataX program, which explores questions at the frontiers of human knowledge.

Julia Lane

Professor at New York University, Julia Lane was named an NYU Provostial Fellow for Innovation Analytics. Schmidt Futures supports her work and the nonprofit organization she co-founded, the Coleridge Initiative, which aims to utilize data to transform the way governments access and use data.

Joshua Angrist

An MIT economist who is also co-founder of the education startup Avela, Joshua Angrist won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences. Schmidt Futures is funding Avela, which seeks to improve the education of 600 million students worldwide.



Creating platforms for scale

With basic R&D spending at historic lows, there are few effective scaling platforms to help the best ideas and research efforts to grow and replicate. We are advancing "common goods for common good"—open-source data, systems, equipment, and partnerships to help everyone.

Featured Program

Convergent Research

Convergent Research is an incubator within the Schmidt Futures Network that aims to help fill a structural gap in today's R&D system by enabling research that requires unusual levels of scale and coordination yet is not rapidly monetizable by industry.

(see page 39)

> *"The concept of Focused Research Organizations is already encouraging scientists and engineers to swing for the fences – to identify really important scientific and societal challenges that could be addressed with cohesive teams pursuing a clear and compelling goal."*
>
> ***Tom Kalil*** Chief Innovation Officer, Schmidt Futures

CREATING PLATFORMS FOR SCALE

Convergent Research

Convergent Research is an incubator within the Schmidt Futures Network that aims to help fill a structural gap in today's R&D system by enabling research that requires unusual levels of scale and coordination yet is not rapidly monetizable by industry. Convergent Research applies scientific roadmapping to systematically identify high-leverage research opportunities in this category, ultimately defining and launching these projects as Focused Research Organizations (FROs).

People Profile

Adam Marblestone

Adam is the CEO of Convergent Research. He is working with a large and growing network of collaborators and advisors to develop strategic roadmaps for future FROs. Previously, he was a Schmidt Futures Innovation Fellow, a Fellow with the Federation of American Scientists (FAS), a research scientist at Google DeepMind, Chief Strategy Officer of the brain-computer interface company Kernel, a research scientist at MIT, a PhD student in biophysics with George Church and colleagues at Harvard, and a theoretical physics student at Yale.

He has also previously helped to start companies like BioBright, and advised foundations such as the Open Philanthropy Project. His work has been recognized with a Technology Review 35 Innovators Under 35 Award (2018), a Fannie and John Hertz Foundation Fellowship (2010) and a Goldwater Scholarship (2008).

These 'focused research organizations' are taking on gaps in scientific discovery

Read more

Source: Fast Company
Publication date: Oct 12, 2021

Convergent Research

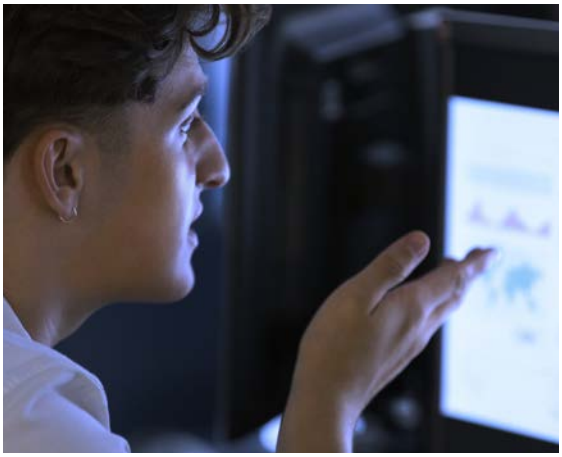
Project Profile

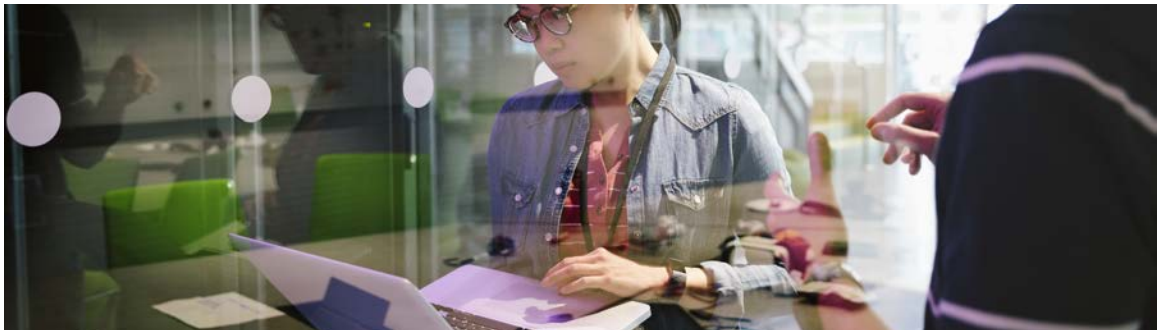
E11 Bio

E11 Bio will transform neuroscience by making brain mapping an open and accessible tool in every neuroscientist's toolbox. Drawing inspiration from the revolution in genomics, we envision an open and extensible technology platform for single-cell brain circuit mapping, one as accessible to every neuroscientist tomorrow as DNA sequencing is to biologists today. This radical transformation will lead to new treatments for brain disorders, new experimental paradigms, and new applications in brain-inspired computing, and in the long run, it will be foundational for brain mapping at the hundred-billion neuron scale (i.e. E11 scale) of human beings.

Cultivarium

Cultivarium seeks to radically open research into new organisms, focusing initially on free living single-cell microbes and cells in culture – including fungi, microbes from extreme environments, and plants, by developing platform technologies to allow researchers to culture organisms in the lab and to make them genetically tractable. The key to accelerating progress is to make it faster and cheaper (as well as safe and secure) to do so. Importantly, we believe that a team-based engineering approach can provide new platform technologies and methods that reduce the time, cost and risk associated with engineering any new single-celled organism.

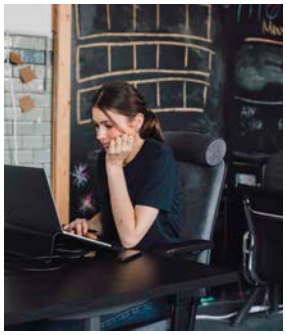




On the horizon

We are always looking for new ways to apply talent to solve the world's hard problems. We bring together great minds to power our work in science and society and sourcing new ideas, concepts, and initiatives to bring solutions to life.

Featured Programs



The Quad Fellowship

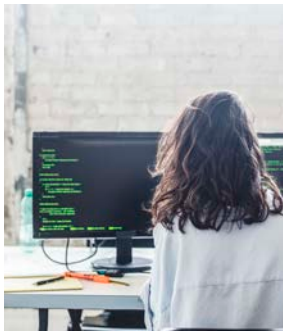
The Quad Fellowship provides scholarships and builds networks for the next generation of scientists and technologists from Australia, India, Japan, and the United States.

(see page 42)

Virtual Institute for Scientific Software

VISS is a distributed software engineering center at several research universities that are working to accelerate the pace of scientific discovery.

(see page 43)



AI2050

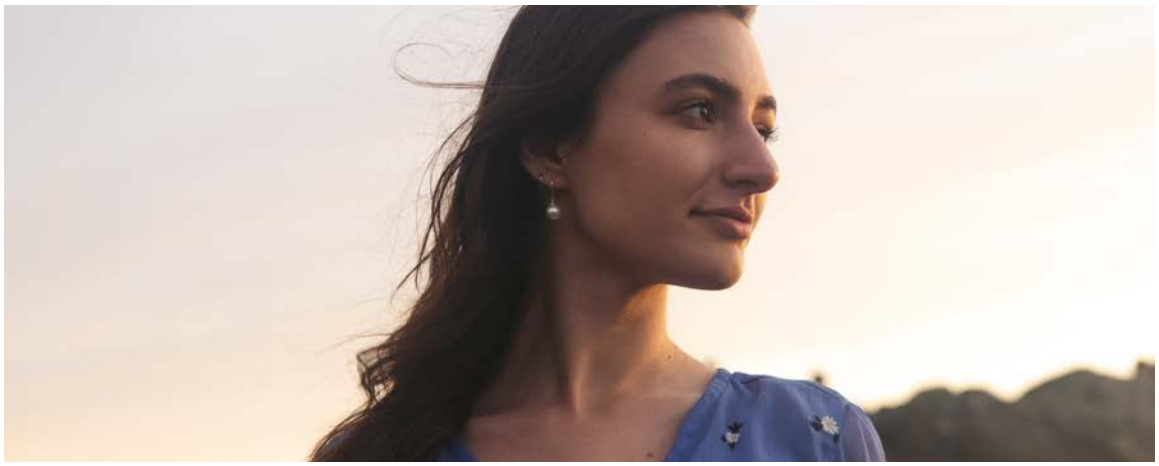
AI2050 aims to support the most exceptional people and teams working on key opportunities and hard problems to make AI a force for societal good by 2050. Awards will primarily enable and encourage bold and ambitious work that is typically hard to fund.

(see page 44)

The Science of Talent Initiative

The Science of Talent Initiative will extend the Virtual Institute (VI) model to support novel, interdisciplinary, social science research into the selection, assessment, and development of talent and genius across multiple forms.

(see page 46)



ON THE HORIZON

The Quad Fellowship

The Quad Fellowship brings together exceptional American, Japanese, Australian, and Indian masters and doctoral students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to study in the United States. The fellowship was announced by U.S. President Biden during the 2021 Quad Leaders' Summit and is operated by Schmidt Futures in consultation with a non-governmental task force.

People Profile

Paul Daugherty

Group Chief Executive, Technology & Chief Technology Officer at Accenture serves on the Quad Fellowship's International Advisory Board. At Accenture, Daugherty leads all aspects of the technology business including strategy, driving innovation through R&D in Accenture Labs, and leveraging emerging technologies to bring the newest innovations to clients globally.

The Quad Fellowship's International Advisory Board is comprised of prominent figures from academia, government, business, and civil society, nominated by Quad countries and the Fellowship's corporate partners. As a part of this body of renowned and respected individuals, Paul will help advise on ways to elevate the brightest minds in STEM to promote the ideals of Quad countries through the advancement of scientific and technological endeavors for the collective good.

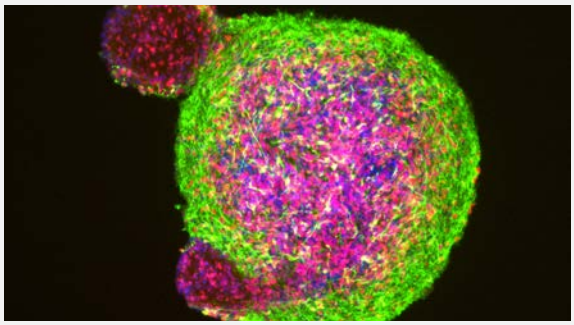
> *"We're also launching a new Quad fellowship for students from each of our Quad countries to pursue advanced degrees in leading STEM programs here in the United States. It represents an investment in the leaders, innovators, and pioneers of tomorrow."*
>
> ***U.S. President Joe Biden*** September 2021

ON THE HORIZON

Virtual Institute for Scientific Software

The Virtual Institute for Scientific Software (VISS) seeks to accelerate the pace of scientific discovery through the support and development of better quality, more sustainable scientific software. Starting with a network of four inaugural centers based at the University of Cambridge, Georgia Institute of Technology, Johns Hopkins University, and the University of Washington, VISS will address the growing demand for high quality professional software engineers who can build dynamic, scalable, open software to facilitate accelerated scientific discovery across fields. The objective of these scientific software centers is to not only improve the quality of research and accelerate advancements, but to also support longer-term platforms and systems that encourage best practice in open science. This will be achieved by providing scientific researchers with access to full-time professional engineers and state-of-the-art technology and techniques such as high-end computing, massive databases, and machine learning.

> *"With this truly visionary new institute, Cambridge will blend its world-leading climate science, software engineering and computer science expertise. This interdisciplinary powerhouse will enable the development of next-generation climate models. We are delighted to be partnering with Schmidt Futures and engaging with the international research community to inform the response to our most urgent global challenge."*
>
> ***Professor Stephen J Toope*** Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge



Former Google CEO invests in computing help for university scientists

Read more

Source: Science
Publication date: Jan 18, 2022

ON THE HORIZON

AI2050

A philanthropic initiative, AI2050 will support exceptional people working on key opportunities and hard problems that are critical to get right for society to benefit from AI.

Eric and Wendy Schmidt are committed to funding $125 million over the next five years, and AI2050 will make awards to support work conducted by researchers from across the globe and at various stages in their careers. These awards will primarily aim to enable and encourage these AI2050 Fellows to undertake bold and ambitious work, often multi-disciplinary, that is typically hard to fund but critical to get right for society to benefit from AI.

Conceived and co-chaired by Eric Schmidt and James Manyika, the initiative stems in part from issues raised in the bestselling book, *The Age of AI: And our Human Future*, co-authored by Eric Schmidt, Henry Kissinger, and Dan Huttenlocher. It has also been inspired by the societal opportunities and issues discussed in the forthcoming April issue of the *Daedalus* journal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences on AI and Society, edited by James Manyika.

"Our motivating question for AI2050 has been this: It's 2050. AI has turned out to be hugely beneficial to society. What happened? What are the most important problems we solved and the opportunities and possibilities we realized to ensure this outcome?"

James Manyika Co-Chair AI2050

AI2050

People Profile

James Manyika, co-chair of AI2050

James Manyika

James Manyika is Senior Vice President of Technology and Society at Google, Chairman and Director Emeritus of McKinsey Global Institute (MGI), and previously a member of McKinsey's Board of Directors. James has advised the chief executives and founders of many of the world's leading technology companies. At MGI, James has led research on technology and its impact on the economy, as well as on productivity and globalization. James has been a Schmidt Futures advisor since 2019.

James was appointed by President Obama to serve as vice chair of the Global Development Council at the White House, by US Commerce Secretaries to the Commerce Department's Digital Economy Board and the National Innovation Advisory Board. He serves on the boards of Council on Foreign Relations, MacArthur Foundation, Hewlett Foundation, and the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. A Rhodes Scholar, James received his DPhil. MSc. MA. from Oxford in AI and Robotics, Mathematics, and Computer Science, and his BSc in electrical engineering from the University of Zimbabwe as an Anglo-American Scholar. He has been elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, a Distinguished Fellow of Stanford's AI Institute and a Fellow of DeepMind.

Mira Murati

Mira Murati is the SVP of Research & Product at OpenAI. Her work focuses on advancing the capabilities of AI systems, making them helpful, safer and aligning them with human intentions and values.

Kobi Gal

Kobi Gal, on the faculties of Ben-Gurion University and the University of Edinburgh, conducts research on human-computer collaboration and decision-making, and AI for education and citizen science.

ON THE HORIZON

Science of Talent Initiative

The Science of Talent Initiative will extend the Virtual Institute (VI) model to the science of identifying and supporting talent by fostering collaborative research across domains. The Initiative will focus in particular on the social sciences in order to develop breakthroughs on the science of selecting and developing extraordinary talent in multiple forms. The initiative's first effort is the Virtual Center for Advanced Potential, to support novel, interdisciplinary research on how to best identify, nurture, and develop talent and genius in all its forms, and match it to opportunity to serve others.

People Profile

Eddie Mandhry

The Science of Talent Initiative will be led by Eddie Mandhry, Senior Fellow at Schmidt Futures. Eddie was most recently Director for Africa and the Middle East at Yale where he led the university president's Africa Initiative, and advanced Yale's bi-directional research partnerships across Africa and the Middle East. He is passionate about working at the intersection of people, ideas, and institutions pursuing innovative solutions to urgent global challenges through research and training spanning the sciences, humanities, and arts. Prior to joining Yale, Eddie was the Associate Director of NYU Africa House, and the NYU Abu Dhabi Center for Technology & Economic Development supporting collaborative global research networks focused on economic theory, global labor markets, migration, and the impact of technology on development.

Eddie is a Carnegie New Leader and has served on the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs. He holds a MSc in International Relations from the London School of Economics, and a BA in Political Science/African Studies from Hampshire College. He is a life member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

> *"We believe that all of our talent work will be advanced through research-grounded innovations in the identification and support of exceptionally talented people; the study of the science of talent will drive programmatic strategies across the Schmidt Futures Talent Engine efforts for years to come."*
>
> ***Cassie Crockett*** Vice President, Talent Engine, Schmidt Futures

Our founders

Schmidt Futures bets early on exceptional people making the world better

Founded by Eric and Wendy Schmidt, Schmidt Futures is a philanthropic initiative that brings talented people together in networks to prove out their ideas and solve hard problems in science and society.

Eric and Wendy Schmidt founded Schmidt Futures in 2017

Eric Schmidt

Eric Schmidt is an accomplished technologist, entrepreneur, and philanthropist. As Google's Chief Executive Officer, he pioneered Google's transformation from a Silicon Valley startup to a global leader in technology. He served as Google's Chief Executive Officer and Chairman from 2001-2011, Executive Chairman from 2011-2018, and most recently as Technical Advisor from 2018-2020. Under his leadership Google dramatically scaled its infrastructure and diversified its product offerings while maintaining a strong culture of innovation. Prior to his career at Google, Eric held leadership roles at Novell and Sun Microsystems, Inc.

Eric has received numerous accolades and supports a variety of esteemed organizations. He was a member of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and served as the founding Chairman of the Department of Defense's Innovation Board for four years in which he was awarded the Medal for Distinguished Public Service by Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter. He currently serves on the boards of The Broad Institute, The Mayo Clinic, on the Advisory Board at UC Berkeley, and is a member of the Cornell Tech Board of Overseers. He served as the Chairman of the US National Security Commission for Artificial Intelligence for three years and launched the Special Competitive Studies Project (SCSP) in 2021, where he is currently the Chairman.

Inspired to continue to give back, he co-founded Schmidt Futures in 2017, which bets early on exceptional people making the world better, applying science and technology thoughtfully and bringing people together across fields.

Visit ericschmidt.com to learn more

Wendy Schmidt

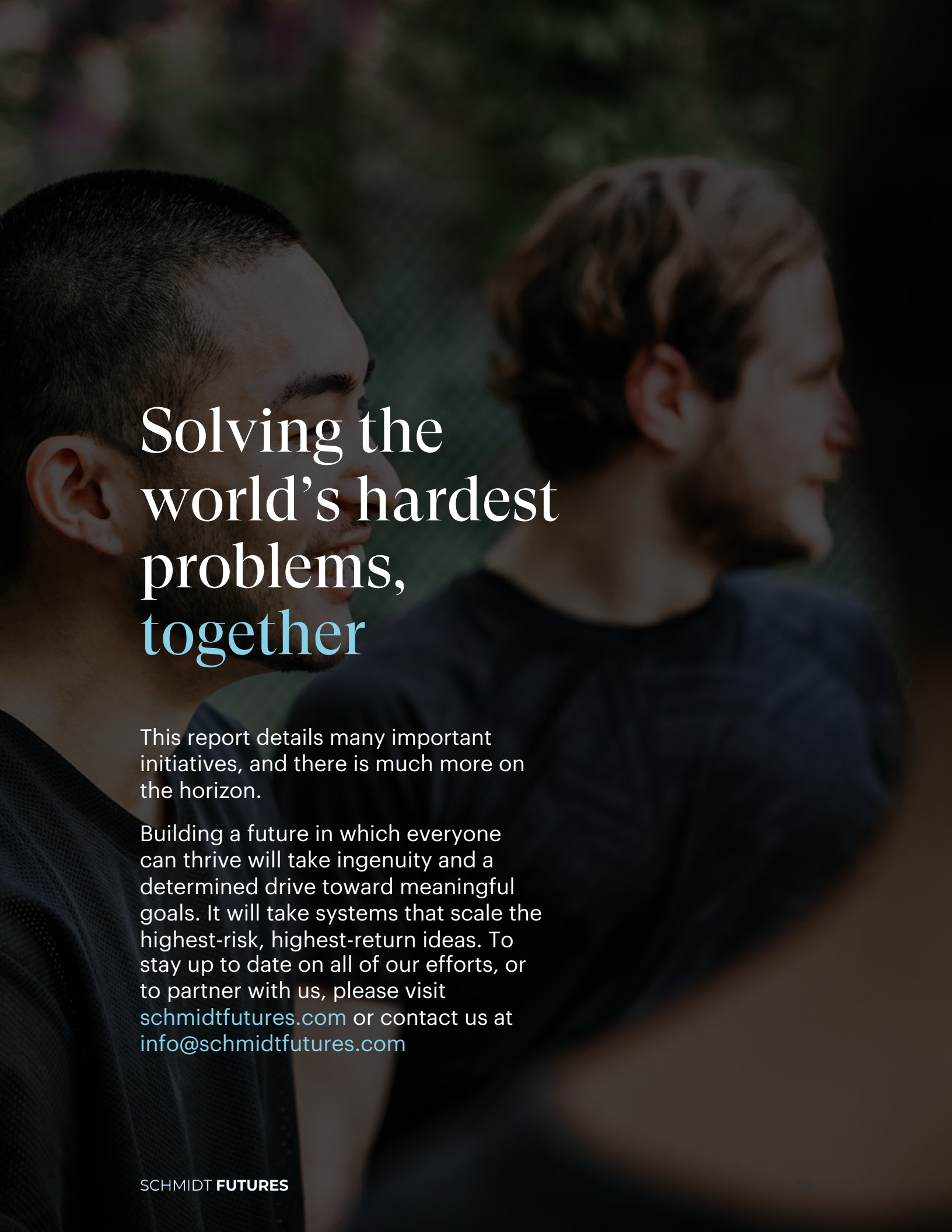
Wendy Schmidt is a philanthropist and investor who has spent the past 14 years creating innovative non-profit organizations to address challenges facing communities around the world, working for clean, renewable energy, healthy food systems, healthy oceans, and the protection of human rights. The critical interconnections between human activity, the land we live on, and the ocean we depend upon are the central drivers of Wendy's philanthropic work.

Wendy is president of The Schmidt Family Foundation, which she co-founded with her husband Eric in 2006. She leads the foundation's two grant-making and investment programs—The 11th Hour Project, which works to create a just world where all people have access to renewable energy, clean air and water, and healthy food, and Schmidt Marine Technology Partners, which invests in the development of promising technologies that solve complex ocean health issues and have strong commercialization potential.

Wendy and Eric also co-founded Schmidt Ocean Institute in 2009 to advance oceanographic research through the development of innovative technologies, open sharing of information and broad communication about ocean health.

In the fall of 2019, Wendy and Eric announced a $1 billion philanthropic commitment for their organizations and initiatives to identify and support talent across disciplines and around the world to serve others and work to solve the world's most pressing problems.

Visit wendyschmidt.org to learn more



Solving the world's hardest problems, together

This report details many important initiatives, and there is much more on the horizon.

Building a future in which everyone can thrive will take ingenuity and a determined drive toward meaningful goals. It will take systems that scale the highest-risk, highest-return ideas. To stay up to date on all of our efforts, or to partner with us, please visit schmidtfutures.com or contact us at info@schmidtfutures.com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Thank you.