

IST Lecture

Helga Nowotny

Vienna Science and Technology Fund (WWTF)



A Humble view from inside evolution: imagining our digital future

Humans are the only species on Earth with the ability to see evolution from inside. This is largely due to the outcome of our ongoing cultural evolution – mainly science, technology, innovation and art. A humble view means that we should reflect on what we are doing in and with evolution. This allows us, or perhaps obliges us, to imagine and speculate about the future. While the convergence between computing power, algorithms, massive data and commercial rewards proceeds rapidly, the impact on society is far from clear. It will be immense and remains unpredictable. This leads to a proliferation of imaginaries of the digital future. Beyond the polarizing projections of what it will mean to be human and to live in a digital age, I will present an artist's conception and how to navigate between hubris and humbleness.

Helga Nowotny is Professor emerita of ETH Zurich and Former President of the European Research Council, ERC. Currently she is Chair of the ERA Council Forum Austria and Visiting Professor at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Her active engagement in scientific boards includes the Walling Falls Foundation (member of the board); Lindau Nobel Laureate meetings (Vice-President); Complexity Science Hub Vienna (Chair); and others. She has received numerous awards from scientific academies and universities in Europe and abroad, most recently an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Oxford and the Leibniz-Medal from the BBAW in Berlin. Her latest book publications are „The Cunning of Uncertainty“ (2015) and „An Orderly Mess“ (2017).



2019-03-06

Wednesday | March 6, 2019 | 05:00 pm - 06:00 pm
Raiffeisen Lecture Hall, IST Austria, Klosterneuburg

Please register for the lecture and shuttle by February 25:
<http://ist.ac.at/science-and-society>

Free shuttle buses are provided to / from campus: **IST shuttle #142:** 4:03 pm from U4 Heiligenstadt/public bus stop (return from IST Austria campus at 6:40 and 7:10 pm) – please show this flyer to the driver as ticket! **Special IST Lecture shuttle:** 4 pm from the Schwedenplatz/night bus stop (return from IST Austria campus at 7 pm) – register online!

This invitation is valid as a ticket for the IST Shuttle (#142) from and to Heiligenstadt Station. Please find a schedule of the IST Shuttle on our webpage (note that the IST Shuttle times are marked in dark green): **https://ist.ac.at/fileadmin/user_upload/pdfs/IST_shuttle_bus.pdf**
The IST Shuttle bus is marked IST Shuttle (#142) and has the Institute Logo printed on the side.

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