



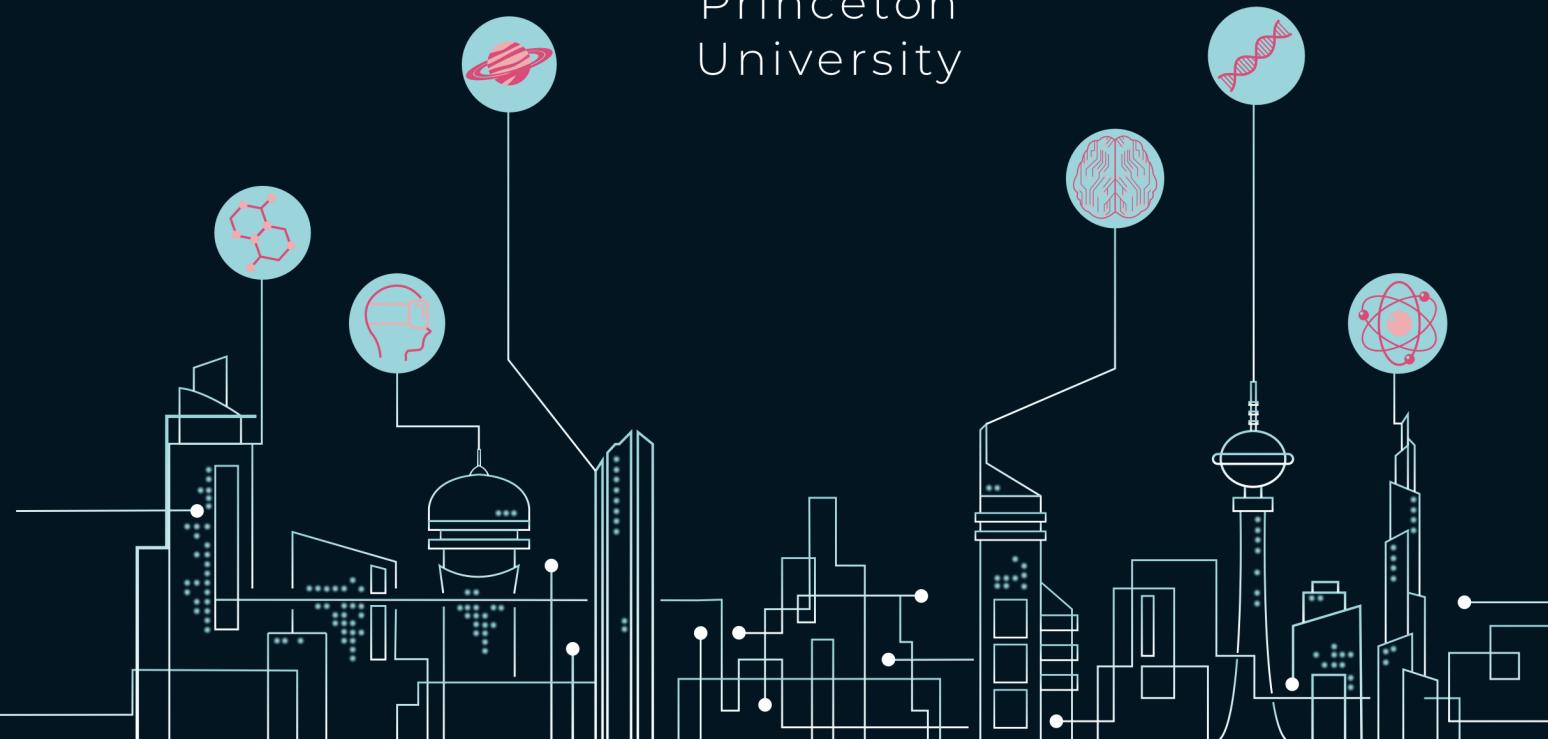
ENVISION | 2019  
CONFERENCE | Prospectus

# THE FUTURE

OF US

Nov 22 - 24, 2019

Princeton  
University



# WHAT IS ENVISION?

The future of humanity will be shaped by major technical advancements over the next several decades. Breakthrough discoveries in artificial intelligence, human enhancement, nanorobotics, synthetic biology and other emerging technologies will bring unprecedented change. The full range of possible outcomes for our future is wider than it has ever been.

Founded by students of Princeton University, Envision brings together future and current innovators, engineers, scientists, business leaders, intellectuals and policy makers to explore the implications of new technological trends. Our conference promotes the prudent use and development of technology, and aims to pioneer a brighter future through the education of influential leaders.

## THE CONFERENCE

The theme of this year's conference is "**The Future of Us.**" The conference will push participants to consider how new technologies will change how we live, our social groupings, our social, political, and economic systems, our psychology, and more fundamentally, **what it means to be human**. This theme emanates from our deeply held belief that careful consideration of these questions is central to maximizing the benefits of innovation.

The conference will advance its theme by:

- 1. Drawing insights from wide-ranging perspectives.** The conference will include speakers from several disciplines, from technological researchers, to industry leaders, to philosophers. In addition to keynote addresses, speakers will lead smaller groups of participants in interactive workshops to spur participants' independent thinking about the implications and potential uses of new technologies.
- 2. Fostering collaboration among the world's future leaders.** Participants will have the opportunity to meet driven students from around the country and abroad and form small teams to propose a product, research plan or policy that implements or improves a new technology with the mentorship of speakers.

## AT A GLANCE

- Nov 22 - 24, 2019
- 150 competitively selected students and recent graduates
- Hosted by Princeton University.
- Events include talks, panels, workshops, and breakout sessions
- Career fair with industry leaders open to all participants and the entire Princeton student body

# AT THE INTERSECTION OF HUMANITY AND TECHNOLOGY

The Envision Conference is the only student-run conference focusing on the intersection between humanity and technology. We believe that to ensure that our future is bright, one needs to consider in depth the human implications (both good and bad) of technological developments. That's why we focus on four core technological trends and five key implications of these trends.

## TECHNOLOGIES



Artificial Intelligence,  
Robotics & Computation



Synthetic Biology



Enhanced Interfaces



Nanoscale Technologies

## IMPLICATIONS



Material Advancement



Social, Political &  
Economic Change



Catastrophic &  
Existential Risk



Space Development  
& Exploration



Human Enhancement

# AUDIENCE

We receive a large number of applications, and our selection process is carefully and comprehensively designed to accept those who demonstrate qualities that indicate their potential to significantly impact the future of humanity and ensure a diversity of perspectives. The conference is made up of mainly undergraduates, with **30%** of participants at the graduate and early career level.

## PARTICIPANT ATTRIBUTES

Our selected participants demonstrate the following attributes:

- World-class proficiency in a particular domain
- Successful execution of an innovative independent project
- Open-mindedness and intellectual curiosity
- Passion for and interest in breakthrough technologies
- Commitment to pioneering a brighter future for humanity

Envision is committed to **need-blind admissions**, and provides financial aid for transportation.

Last year's participants included funded entrepreneurs, hackathon and science competition winners, student researchers, published PhD candidates, and student group founders. The most represented schools were **Princeton, MIT, Columbia, Harvard, the University of Chicago, and Imperial College London**.

In addition to meeting conference participants, speakers and corporate partners will be able to meet the **entire Princeton student body** through the Career Fair. Some of the panels and workshops will be open to all Princeton students. All talks will also be livestreamed.



# PREVIOUS CONFERENCES

---

161 participants    37 institutions    30 speakers    2018

**97.7%** of participants said they were **highly likely to recommend the Envision Conference to a friend or colleague**

## Speakers included:

**Peter Singer** | Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics, Princeton University  
**Anders Sandberg** | Senior Research Fellow, Oxford Future of Humanity Institute  
**Natalie Kofler** | Founding Director of Editing Nature, Yale University  
**Vincent Conitzer** | Prof of Computer Sci, Economics, and Philosophy, Duke University  
**Gregory Stock** | Founder, Signum Biosciences  
**Davar Ardalani** | Founder, IVOW  
**Phil Torres** | Author & Affiliate Scholar, Institute for Ethics and Emerging Technologies  
And more! See full list on [envisionfuture.org](http://envisionfuture.org)

---

211 participants    67 institutions    16 speakers    2017

**80.4%** of participants said the conference was **very successful in exposing them to a network of young leaders who are passionate about technology.**

146 participants    39 institutions    16 speakers    2016

## Past partners include:

- Microsoft
- Kernel
- Future of Humanity Institute
- EMD Group
- SAS
- United Technologies Research Center
- Global IDs
- MindParabole

# TESTIMONIALS

*"I really enjoyed my time at the Envision Conference. They managed to bring top speakers in many fascinating areas of science and I learned a lot. Students attending the event are also exceptionally bright and open to learning new ideas. Highly recommended!"*

**Roman Yampolskiy** | Director at Cyber Security Laboratory, University of Louisville

---

*"A wonderful gathering of future-oriented thinkers, with high-level talks by AI trendsetters, best-selling authors with futuristic ideas, business leaders and more."*

**Susan Schneider** | Associate Professor in the Cognitive Science Program at University of Connecticut

---

*"Top Notch. Very bright, informed, and engaged group. Had a lot of enjoyable conversations, and the students did a good job of smoothly orchestrating the event."*

**Gregory Stock** | Founder of Signum Biosciences

More information can be found in the 2016, 2017, and 2018 conference reports or online at [envisionfuture.org](http://envisionfuture.org)

Hope you can join us!



**ENVISION**  
**CONFERENCE**