



**SCIENCE SUMMIT AT THE 81ST
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

GLOBAL BRAIN ECONOMY SUMMIT

The Human Advantage
Leading the Brain-Positive AI Economy

**09/22/2026
STEELCASE
NEW YORK**

Hosted by:



**Global Brain
Economy Initiative**



**Brain
Capital
Alliance**



Knowledge Partner:

**McKinsey
Health Institute**

GLOBAL BRAIN ECONOMY SUMMIT

The Human Advantage: Leading the Brain-Positive AI Economy



Date:

September 22, 2026



Time:

07:30 -19:30



Location:

New York, Steelcase, 4 Columbus Circle

07.30 - 08.10 Registration and coffee

08.10 - 08.15 Welcome and Introduction

08.15 - 08.30 The Making of the Brain-AI Economy

08.30 - 09.15 Team Intelligence & Cognitive Wellbeing in the Era of AI

09.15 - 09.30 Critical Connections: The Power of Community in Work and Life

09.30 - 10.15 Brain Economy and Health Systems Transformation

10.15 - 10.45 Coffee break

10.45 - 11.15 Value-Based Healthcare: The Case for Bold Innovation

11.15 - 12.00 Pivoting Upstream: Making Prevention and Early Diagnosis the Norm

12.00 - 12.15 Neurosurgical AI: Opportunities and Challenges

12.15 - 12.45 Brains Are Infrastructure: Inside the Nature Medicine Commission on Brain Health for Economic Resilience

12.45 - 13.00 Brain Health and the Affordability Agenda

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch

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14.00 - 14.45 Towards 360° Brain Positivity and Launch of the Brain Positive Cities Guide

14.45 - 15.00 Launch of the Neuro Climate Science Report

15.00 - 15.45 Neurospatial Design: A Science-Based Approach to How the Built Environment Can Build the Brain Economy

15.45 - 16.00 Coffee break

16.00 - 16.45 Foundations That Matter: Future of Neuroscience Funding and Brain Lens Investing

16.45 - 17.30 Transformational Role of Brain Capital in Crisis Countries

17.30 - 17.45 Towards the post-2030 Framework:
Brain Economy as an Enabler of Human Flourishing

18.00 - 19.30 Reception hosted by FINN Partners

GLOBAL BRAIN ECONOMY SUMMIT

The Human Advantage: Leading the Brain-Positive AI Economy

Confirmed Speakers include:

- Susan Armiger** President and CEO, Catalight
- Rym Ayadi** Founder and President of the Euro – Mediterranean Economists Association
- Samuel R. Browd** Professor of Neurological Surgery, University of Washington
- Tracy Brower** Vice-President of Workplace Insights, Steelcase
- Alice Luo Clayton** CEO, McKnight Brain Research Foundation
- Daniel Donoho** Children's National Hospital and George Washington University, Founder – Surgical Data Science Collective
- Mitchell Elkind** Chief Science Officer, Brain Health and Stroke, American Heart Association
- Kana Enomoto** Director, Brain Health, McKinsey Health Institute
- Harris Eyre** Executive Director, Global Brain Economy Initiative
- Simon Fischer-Baum** Program Director, National Science Foundation; Rice University
- David Gow** President and CEO, The Centre for Houston's Future
- William Heisel** Executive Director, IHME
- Megan Henshall** Head of Partnership Strategy & Engagement, Google; Google Experience Institute
- Burcin Ikiz** Founder & Chair, International Neuro Climate Working Group
- Gary V. Litman** Senior Vice-President, Global Initiatives, US Chamber of Commerce
- Ron Martere** Vice-President, Steelcase
- Upali Nanda** Partner and Executive Vice-President, HKS; Building Brains Coalition
- Dennis Pamlin** RISE Research Institute of Sweden
- Natalia S. Rost** President, American Academy of Neurology
- Nika Saeedi** Global Lead, MHPSS and Brain Economy, Crisis Bureau, UNDP
- Devdutta Sangvai** Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- Paweł Świeboda** Founder and Director, NeuroCentury
- Helia Taheri** Research and Insights Lead, Arcadis
- Talia Varley** Growth Partner, Intrepid Growth Partners; Board Member, Baycrest Global Solutions
- George Vradenburg** Founding Chairman, Davos Alzheimer's Collaborative
- Paola Zaratini** Scientific Research Director, Italian MS Society



Global Brain Economy Summit 2026 is part of the UN Science Summit