



SCIENCE SUMMIT AT THE 81ST
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

GLOBAL BRAIN ECONOMY SUMMIT

The Human Advantage
Leading the Brain-Positive AI Economy

AGENDA

**09/22/2026
NEW YORK**

Partners:



Steelcase CATALIGHT™

Bristol Myers Squibb® Google

Biogen **UTMB**
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL BRANCH

westhealth



Hosted by:



**Global Brain
Economy Initiative**

Brain
Capital
Alliance

**Davos
Alzheimer's
Collaborative**

The BrainHouse



Knowledge Partner:

**McKinsey
Health Institute**

Supporting Partners:

ONE MIND FINN
PARTNERS

GLOBAL BRAIN ECONOMY SUMMIT

The Human Advantage: Leading the Brain-Positive AI Economy

**Date:**

September 22, 2026

**Time:**

07:40 -18:00

**Location:**

New York, Steelcase, 4 Columbus Circle

07.15 - 07.40 Registration and Coffee

07.40 - 07.45 Welcome

Harris Eyre

Executive Director, Global Brain Economy Initiative;
Senior Fellow, Rice University and UTMB

Ron Martere

Vice-President, Steelcase

Paweł Świeboda

Founder & Director, NeuroCentury; Co-Founder, Brain Capital Alliance;
Senior Fellow, EPC & CFG

07.45 - 08.05 Morning Inspirational Talk: Building Global Brain Awareness

Goldie Hawn

Founder, MindUP - The Goldie Hawn Foundation

08.05 - 08.30 Opening Keynote

**The Rising Burden of Neurological Disorders in the Americas:
Why Brain Health Must Be a Public Policy Priority**

Jarbas Barbosa

Director, Pan American Health Organization

Chair:

George Vradenburg

Founding Chairman, Davos Alzheimer's Collaborative

COGNITION IN THE AGE OF AI

08.30 - 08.45 The Making of the Brain-AI Economy

Gary V. Litman

Senior Vice-President, Global Initiatives, US Chamber of Commerce

08.45 - 09.05 Cognitive Taxation and Livelihood Precarity:
An Agenda for the G20 Brain Economy

Dame Henrietta L. Moore

Founder and Director, UCL Institute for Global Prosperity; Chair of Culture,
Philosophy and Design, UCL

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09.05 - 09.50 Human at the Core: Building Healthy Teams in the Era of AI**Harris Eyre**

Executive Director, Global Brain Economy Initiative; Senior Fellow,
Rice University and UTMB

Megan Henshall

Head of Partnership Strategy & Engagement, Google; Google Experience Institute

Andrew Kim

Design Research Director, North America, Workspace Futures, Steelcase

Upali Nanda

Global Sector Director, Innovation Partner and Executive Vice-President, HKS

Krystal Sexton

Founder and CEO, Cognitive Capital Group

Natalie Richardson

Director, HabLab, Slalom

Chair: **Ryan Howard**
Experience Design and Technology Leader

09.50 - 10.05 Brain Forward Spaces: The Power of Connection and Community**Tracy Brower**

Vice President of Workplace Insights, Steelcase

10.05 - 10.25 Coffee break**BRAIN HEALTH IN THE AGE OF AI****10.25 - 10.40 The Economic Opportunity of Investing in Brain Capital****Erica Coe**

Global Executive Director, McKinsey Health Institute

10.40 - 11.25 Brain Health Is Health: Health Systems Transformation**John Findley**

CEO, American College of Lifestyle Medicine

Ann Greiner

President and CEO, Primary Care Collaborative

Tim Lash

President, West Health

Jochen Reiser

President & CEO, UTMB

Chair: **Kana Enomoto**
Director, Brain Health, McKinsey Health Institute

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11.25 - 12.05

Value-Based Healthcare: The Case for Bold Innovation**Susan Armiger**

President and CEO, Catalight

Samuel R. Browd

Professor of Neurological Surgery, University of Washington

Kathleen M. Pike

CEO, OneMind

Manisha Parulekar

Co-Director, Center for Memory Loss and Brain Health, Hackensack Meridian Health

Talia Varley

Managing Director, Global Corporate Advisory, Cleveland Clinic (Canada);
Board Member, Baycrest Global Solutions

Novel Neurosurgery Initiatives in Brain Protection

Gail Rosseau

Chair:

George Washington University; Chair, Board of Director, The G4 Alliance; President-Elect, International Society for Global Neurosurgery

Paweł Świeboda

Founder & Director, NeuroCentury; Co-Founder, Brain Capital Alliance;
Senior Fellow, EPC & CFG

12.05 - 12.15

Neurosurgical AI: Opportunities and Challenges**Daniel Donoho**

Assistant Professor, Children's National Hospital and George Washington University,
Founder – Surgical Data Science Collective

12.15 - 13.00

Pivoting Upstream: Making Prevention and Early Detection the Norm**Mitchell Elkind**

Chief Science Officer, Brain Health and Stroke, American Heart Association

Liping Liu

Director, Department of Neurology, Beijing Tiantan Hospital; China National Clinical
Research Center for Neurological Diseases

Natalia S. Rost

President, American Academy of Neurology

Allison Sekuler

President & Chief Scientist, Centre for Aging and Brain Health Innovation

Paola Zaratin

Scientific Research Director, Italian MS Society

Spotlight on Precision Nutrition

Sarah Hoit

Co-Founder, Vitality IP; Co-Founder & Chairman - Social Impact Partners

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13.00 - 13.15 Sing For Your Brain: Music & Mental Health in Action

Tamar Greene
Broadway's longest-running George Washington in Hamilton

13.15 - 14.15 Lunch

14.15 - 14.30 Brains Are Infrastructure: Inside the Nature Medicine Commission on Brain Health for Economic Resilience

Rym Ayadi
Founder and President, Euro – Mediterranean Economists Association;
Co-Founder, Brain Capital Alliance

Simon Fischer-Baum
Co-Director, Brain and Society Initiative, Rice Brain Institute

William Heisel
Executive Director, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation

AI-INDUCED EXPOSOME AND THE BRAIN

14.30 - 15.15 Neurospatial Design: A Science-Based Approach to How the Built Environment Can Contribute to the Brain Economy

Cory Brugger
Global Sector Director for Hub, HKS

Ishita Das
Director, Science Philanthropy Accelerator for Research and Collaboration, Milken Institute

Sergei Gepshtein
University of California, President of the Academy of Neuroscience for Architecture

Susan Magsamen
Executive Director, International Arts and Mind Lab, Johns Hopkins University

Abigail Scott Paul
Global Head of the Humanize Campaign, Heatherwick Studio

Maria Tunberg
Vice-President, Research and Business Development, RISE Research Institute of Sweden

Chair: **Upali Nanda**
Global Sector Director, Innovation Partner and Executive Vice-President, HKS

15.15 - 15.45 Coffee break

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15.45 - 16.25 Building Brain Positive Places

Kate Gordon

CEO, California Forward

David Gow

President and CEO, The Centre for Houston's Future

Helia Taheri

Research and Insights Lead, Arcadis

Ted Terry

DeKalb County Commissioner for Super District 6, Georgia; former Mayor of Clarkston, GA

Pierluigi Sacco

University of Chieti-Pescara, metaLAB @ Harvard

A documentary - Rewire: A Brain Health and Human Flourishing Story

Introduced by:

Krista Taylor, Global Innovation Lead, Accenture

Brad Rossacci, Creative Director, Accenture

IMPACT STRATEGIES

16.25 - 17.00 Brain Economy Beyond 2030: Resilience, Recovery and Human Flourishing

Burcin Ikiz

Founder & Chair, International Neuro Climate Working Group

Vildan Soguktas

Founder, Youth for Planetary Health

Nika Saeedi

Global Lead, MHPSS and Brain Economy, Crisis Bureau, UNDP

Dennis Pamlin

RISE Research Institute of Sweden

Chair:

Margaret Meagher

Chief Impact Officer, Crisis Text Line

17.00 - 18.00 Reception

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

