

Deep Conversations at Ci2012

**Wednesday 28 November
Sofitel Melbourne On Collins**

The Deep Conversations at Ci2012 will be an opportunity to share in-depth viewpoints with world class Thought Leaders about some of the key issues and wicked problems facing the future of civilization today. The sessions will be facilitated by leading moderators.

Deep Conversations can be booked as part of a package, or independently for a stand-alone ticket price of \$100 (early bird) or \$120 inclusive of lunch or supper.

12.15-2.15pm Lunchtime Deep Conversation

Getting Unstuck: Using innovation to create change in large organizations and government

A Deep Conversation with Geoff Mulgan (UK), Thomas Frey (USA), Scott Anthony (Singapore), Adam Kahane (Canada) and the audience

Moderator: ABC’s Beverley O’Connor

Gigantic organizations occupy vast chunks of our society and economy: in government, in all walks of corporate life, and in areas vital to our wellbeing, such as health and education. Are they destined to be forces for the status quo, slowing down the rate of progress? Does their sheer size and historical legacy mean they are stuck in bureaucracy and loathe to change? Why do they seem to dawdle when so much is changing so fast around them?

What does it take to get “elephants to dance”, in IBM ex-CEO’s Lou Gerstner’s language? How can vast organizations innovate? What does it take for leaders and employees in government and major corporations to encourage change and forward progress?

If we’re going to solve wicked problems, on a national or global scale, we cannot rely only on the great entrepreneur, the garage start up, the viral social marketing campaign, the legions of small and medium-sized companies. The resources available to governments and major corporations must be well harnessed. And

their leadership is needed both to respond to change and to create it.

Yet the mechanisms and talents of our political institutions and the governance of our great corporations have been sorely tested in the economic malaise following the global financial crisis. Do we need a rethink?

7.00 – 9.30pm Deep Conversation with Supper

Now to Next: How will Science and Technology help solve our wicked problems?

A Deep Conversation with Baroness Susan Greenfield (UK), Michael T Jones (USA), Professor Nadia Rosenthal (UK), Dr Iain McGilchrist (UK), Jason Drew (South Africa) and the audience

Moderator: ABC’s Robyn Williams

The pace of change is relentless. Science and technology has allowed us to create previously unimaginable change over the last 20 years. Mary Meeker of venture capital fund Kleiner Perkins calls it “the re-imagination of almost everything.” And the pace is accelerating.

What are the “next big things?” What new vistas are science and technology opening up? And what opportunities will they create to solve today’s wicked problems?

Of course, science and technology are the enablers of massive transformation. But it’s the human connection that allows great progress. Think of the revolutions in the application of design quality and the search for sheer beauty that have characterised many of the best developments of recent years. How will our pioneers continue to develop the most human elements of technological change?

Also, many of our developments seem like standalone achievements today. Individually marvelous, but often failing to connect or fit together. Leaving their users lost in the complexity of a technological “zoo” and a tsunami of information overload. How will design thinking evolve to consolidate and demystify these individual innovations? Will the “whole” be greater than the sum of the parts?

Finally, science and technology advancement typically spawns a new set of



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problems. Opportunities for misuse abound. Unintended consequences are rife. New moral dilemmas are created. How will society cope with the ethical and safety issues that may arise out of anticipated rapid change?