

Press Release 9 January 2020 No. 01/2020

Kicking off 2020 with a programme of events on ‘The future of work and business’

Futurium is starting the new decade with a programme of events on the topic ‘The future of work and business’. The year 2019 was a positive success for us: since its opening on 5 September, the house of futures has attracted around 340,000 visitors.

The future of work and business

The average person in Germany has a working life of 38 years. There is hardly any other activity that takes up more space in our lives. However, what we call work is constantly changing. Today, many of the professions known to our grandparents and great-grandparents have ceased to exist. Each and every year, new economic sectors are being created, opening up new areas of potential for society. This is frightening for a lot of people. At the same time, this rapid change has also shown that the future is shapeable. At Futurium, we are dedicating the first quarter of 2020 to the future of work and business. How can work become fairer, more sustainable and more humane? And which principles should guide our ways of doing business?

Futurium is inviting its visitors to find out how we would like to work in the future – and to what purpose. To this end, it will be offering a varied programme of events in addition to the large exhibition and the Futurium Lab. One of the highlights will be the festival from 26 to 29 March devoted to the theme ‘Work in progress...’.

Visitor numbers in 2019

The house of futures would like to encourage its visitors to deal with the question: “How do we want to live?” What is on offer at Futurium is generating a tremendous response: since its opening on 5 September 2019, Futurium has already attracted around 340,000 visitors.

Dr Stefan Brandt, the Director of Futurium, says: “After the wonderful start, which wildly exceeded our expectations across the board – and not only in terms of visitor numbers – we are now turning our attention to creating new content. In each quarter of 2020, we will be focussing on a different future-related topic, with the latter being addressed in each of the three pillars of our approach, namely in our exhibition, Lab and events programme. We’re going to start with the future of work – a topic of special relevance in times of the digital revolution. At the same time, we’ll be devoting the entire year to the further serious challenges to our future: that means we’ll be dealing with the fight against the climate crisis as well as the shift in resources towards a bio-economy characterised by reuse and recycling.”

In detail: Events Programme Q1/2020

9 January 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Future Tools

Workshop with 3D printer, laser cutter and the like. Participants can join at any time. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

16 January 2020, 17:00

Launch Event of the Year of Science 2020 – Bioeconomy

Sustainable economic management can only succeed if renewable raw materials replace fossil fuels. The Year of Science 2020 is dedicated to finding answers to the questions of how in the future we can produce, process and use bio-based raw materials and products differently, and more sustainably, while ensuring that they remain available in sufficient quantities. At workshops in the morning, schoolchildren will help prepare the content of the Year of Science's launch event in the evening, with their initial findings being directly incorporated into the latter. In the evening, we at Futurium, together with representatives from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the German scientific community's initiative 'Wissenschaft im Dialog' (Science in Dialogue), would like to exchange ideas with you. Federal Minister of Education and Research Anja Karliczek will officially launch the Year of Science 2020. In a panel discussion, Professor Dr Daniela Thrän will be providing new thoughts, suggestions and ideas, while other experts will be contributing to the discourse on research and development in the field of bioeconomy. Will bioeconomy become a key to meeting major challenges?

Venue: Forum / free admission / registration should have been received by 8 January 2020 / German

16 January 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Hands-on Bioeconomy Workshop

Open Workshop in the Futurium Lab. Workshop with pen, scissors and paper. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

23 January 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Workwear of the Future

Workshop with needle and thread. Registration required. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

23 January 2020, 18:00

Behind the Scenes: How can I exhibit something that doesn't yet exist?

Guided tour of the exhibition led by curators

Can the future be presented in an exhibition? After all, we can't see it. For example, even the three-day weather forecast is often unreliable – despite all those complicated forecast diagrams. The future is omnipresent and yet for all its significance remains vague. In a guided tour of the exhibition, the curators will provide insights into their work and allow you glimpses behind the scenes of Futurium. They will discuss with the participants not only the challenges that an exhibition of the future entails, but also how these can be successfully overcome.

Venue: exhibition / tickets at futurium.de / admission: regular € 5, reduced € 2.50 / German

30 January 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Future Skills from Design Thinking to Future Foresight

Workshop with pen, scissors and paper. Registration required. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

30 January 2020, 20:00

Superheroes – The Pub Quiz at Futurium

What skills will we need in the future? This will be the question under discussion when Futurium starts quizzing again in January. In 2100, will it just be a question of our dictating a few wishes to our digital assistants, while sitting in our armchairs and watching an armada of robots and machines going about the business of implementing them? Or will we be equipped with various superpowers, like Marvel's The Avengers, able at last to build houses quickly and easily, learn eight languages during our lunch breaks or fry scrambled eggs without having to ask our mums for the recipe? One thing's for sure, though: just like in any standard group of superheroes, you'll be best positioned for success if you can combine all of these important skills. That's why we advise you to join together with your most extraordinary friends and acquaintances to discuss with us all the facts and stories about the skills that will still be needed in the 21st century.

Venue: Restaurant at Futurium / registration at futurium.de / admission free of charge / no registration required / German

6 February 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Future Tools

Workshop with 3D printer, laser cutter and the like. Participants can join at any time. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

13 February 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Future Skills from Design Thinking to Future Foresight

Workshop with pen, scissors and paper. Registration required. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

14 February, 20:00

Ranga Yogeshwar & Dirk Helbing – With music by Till Brönner – The Predictable Society

Never before has so much data been collected about us as today. Each of our Internet searches is recorded. Data brokers – that is, people who do nothing else but trade with collected data – already exist. What happens with this data? Who benefits from it? Will it make our society more predictable? Science journalist and physicist Ranga Yogeshwar will be talking to physicist Dirk Helbing. He is Professor of Computational Social Science at ETH Zurich and has a special interest in the modelling and simulation of complex socio-economic systems and scenarios. Jazz trumpeter and composer Till Brönner will be adding his own emphasis to the occasion, namely, music as an unpredictable alternative to technology and data.

The guests for the evening: Ranga Yogeshwar (science journalist and physicist), Dirk Helbing (physicist and Professor of Computational Social Science at ETH Zurich), Till Brönner (jazz trumpeter, composer and photographer).
Venue: Forum / tickets at futurium.de / admission: regular € 10, reduced € 5 / English and German with simultaneous translation

20 February 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Workwear of the Future

Workshop with 3D printer, laser cutter and the like. Registration required. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

20 February 2020, 19:00

Doable! Creating future through protest(ing) – How activists develop future scenarios

Climate strike, '#unteilbar', 'A100 Stoppen', G20, farmers' demonstrations, Mary 2.0 – people protest for a variety of reasons and with different methods. Through protest, everyone can find their voice – alone or together in a group. For this reason, protest seems quite simply to be one of the key instruments in any democracy. But how exactly does protest work? Does protest shape the future? When is protest effective and when not? What might protest look like in the future? The events series 'Doable!' demonstrates ways in which we can shape the future, both individually and together.

Venue: Forum / free admission / German

27 February 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Jobs of the Future

Workshop 'Virtual Reality & Co'. Participants can join at any time. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

27 February 2020, 19:00

New working worlds, new opportunities – What do I do if I no longer do what I used to do?

Lamplighter, cartwright or poster painter – many professions no longer exist today. Instead, we now have mechatronic technicians, media designers, happiness officers or clickworkers. Work and professional fields have changed over time – and are continuing to change at an ever faster pace. Developments such as automation, digitalisation and demographic change have increased the number of people and working environments undergoing transformation more than ever before. To those affected, such changes in the workplace are often painful. However, along with their many challenges, they also bring with them many opportunities. How is the labour market changing? Where are we headed? How can we keep ourselves fit for the future in the workplace? How can we qualify and educate ourselves further? And how can our choice of career help bring us to the future we would really like to have? Together we will look into these and many other questions concerning the future world of work.
Venue: Forum / registration at futurium.de / free admission / German

5 March 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Future Tools

Workshop with 3D printer, laser cutter and the like. Participants can join at any time. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

6 March 2020, 20:00

'vollehalle' climate show & Igor Levit – The pianist and the climate show give people the courage to deal with change

Everything is changing, and we are facing major questions: what world do we want to live in? Are we actually going to change something or will it be more a case of our being changed ourselves? The climate crisis is one of the greatest challenges humankind has ever faced – and it's closely interwoven with other problems of our time. This complex will be explored by the 'vollehalle' climate show together with pianist Igor Levit. The show by Maren Kling, Michael Bukowski, Martin Oetting and Kai Schächtele will present fantastic stories of people who have set out on new paths and countered their frustration about the crisis with their desire to break new ground. Igor Levit, an eloquent European committed to fighting hatred and promoting humanistic ideas, will provide musical accompaniment for the evening with his passionate piano performance.

Venue: Forum / tickets at futurium.de / admission: € 5 (children under 3 years free of charge) / German

12 March 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Future Skills from Design Thinking to Future Foresight

Workshop with pen, scissors and paper. Registration required. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

19 March 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Jobs of the Future

Workshop 'Virtual Reality & Co'. Registration required; basic knowledge of Blender is desirable. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

19 March 2020, 19:00

Healthy through artificial intelligence – Patients, doctors and IT developers discuss questions of trust

Across the globe, large amounts of information on medical symptoms and disease progression are collected and evaluated with the help of algorithms. In this way, artificial intelligence can support doctors and patients in making their decisions. But how much automation do we want, and which kind? Who uses our data? And who can protect it?

Venue: Forum / free admission / German

The event is organised in cooperation with the Berlin University Alliance, an association of Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin and Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin.

26 March 2020, 17:00

Open Lab Night: Workwear of the Future

Workshop with microelectronics and soldering irons. Free admission. Registration required. Every Thursday evening, we invite scientists, artists and designers to join us in developing new ideas for the future – and to do so in the most concrete way possible. Together we will be building prototypes, trying out new machines, soldering circuits, and hacking into just about everything. Previous knowledge is not required, only lots of curiosity and a hunger for new ideas. From January to March, the workshops will be dedicated to the future of work and business.

26–29 March 2020

Work in progress... A festival on the future of work and business

For four days, everything at Futurium will revolve around the questions of how we want to work and do business in the future. Scientific events, lab workshops, social simulations and the pub quiz will all be dedicated to questions such as: what should the work spaces and office cultures of the future look like? Which priorities does the economy need to set in the future? Are there any reasons for you to worry about your own job? And how about a bit of appreciation for our tireless productivity? Further information will be available from mid-February.

28 March 2020, 20:00

Home Office within the Office – The Pub Quiz at Futurium

Off we go to the workplace of the future: from the robot in the office next door to human-free meetings and the home office within the office, and on to the advantages and disadvantages of the three-hour week and the hippest professions in the twenty-second century. But don't worry: even if you've never dealt with these topics before, still print out your emails, spend entire days in regular meetings, and cc all your colleagues – from managing directors to cleaning staff – without exception, you'll still be in with a chance of winning this round of our pub quiz.

Venue: Restaurant at Futurium / free admission / no registration required / German

The events programme online:

<https://futurium.de/de/veranstaltungen>

Image material for download:

http://bit.ly/futurium_newsroom

Press contact at Futurium:

Monique Luckas
Head of Communications

Futurium gGmbH
Alexanderufer 2, D 10117 Berlin

T + 49 (0) 30 40 818 97 70
F + 49 (0) 30 40 818 97 99

public.relations@futurium.de
www.futurium.de

About Futurium

Futurium is a house of futures. Everything here revolves around the question: how do we want to live? In the exhibition, visitors can discover many possible futures; in the Forum, they can take part in open discussions; and, in the Futurium Lab, they can try out their own ideas. One thing we know for sure today: in the future, we will have major challenges to overcome. How can we get climate change under control? Which technologies do we want to use in the future? Does technology serve us – or do we serve technology? How do we want to live together as a society? Are there any alternatives to 'higher, further, faster'? The future also rises from our decisions and actions in the present. For this reason, Futurium wants to inspire all of its visitors to engage themselves with the future and to play a part in shaping it.