



**Technology Revolution: The Future of Now**  
**Wednesday at 8 AM Pacific/11 AM Eastern**  
**October 21st 2020: The Future of Futurists, Futurology and**  
**Crystal Ball Technology**

The buzz: Futurists are people who attempt to predict the future – authors, consultants, thinkers, organizational leaders and others who engage in interdisciplinary and systems thinking to advise private and public organizations on diverse global trends, possible scenarios, emerging market opportunities and risk management. Futurists are motivated by change. Not content merely to describe or forecast, they desire an active role in world transformation. Futurology is concerned with 'three P's and a W', i.e., 'possible, probable, and preferable' futures, plus 'wildcards', which are low-pr

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**Featured Guests**



**Mike Bechtel**

Mike Bechtel is a Managing Director & Chief Futurist at Deloitte Consulting LLP where he and his team sense and make sense of novel and experimental technologies. He also helps direct Deloitte's engagement with the start-up and venture investment community. Mike serves as Professor of Corporate Innovation at the University of Notre Dame and has served on a number of start-up, university, and not-for-profit boards. Before joining Deloitte, Mike co-founded and served as Managing Director of Ringleader Ventures, an early-stage venture capital firm, and served as CTO at the Ounce of Prevention Fund. He began his career in 1998 with Accenture Labs. A frequent speaker, Mike regularly gives talks t

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**Tom Raftery**

Inspirational international keynote speaker Tom Raftery is a Global Vice President for SAP, a guest lecturer at the Instituto Internacional San Telmo, and a board advisor for a number of start-ups. Before joining SAP, Tom worked as an independent industry analyst focusing on the Internet of Things, Energy and Sustainability, and also as a Futurist for Gerd Leonhardt's Futures Agency. Tom has a very strong background in technology, sustainability, and social media having worked in the industry since 1991. He is the co-founder of an Irish software development company, a social media consultancy, and is co-founder of hyper energy-efficient data center Cork Internet eXchange. Tom also worked as

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**Frank Diana**

Frank Diana is a Managing Partner and Futurist at Tata Consultancy Services, as well as a thought leader and frequent speaker. He has served in various C-Level roles throughout his career and has over 35 years of leadership experience. Currently at TCS, he is focused on a future shaped by changes in the societal, geopolitical, and economic landscape, and the associated implications for business. He blends a futurist perspective with a pragmatic, actionable approach gained through years of dealing with the practical realities of business. He scans multiple horizons with a strong ability to connect dots and identify future scenarios quickly and broadly.

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**Alexandra Whittington**

Alexandra Whittington is an educator, writer, and researcher who has earned recognition as one of the world's 50 Leading Female Futurists (Forbes). She has taught as an adjunct lecturer at the University of Houston since 2009, where her students describe her as "passionate" about the future. Her courses explore the impact of technology on society and the future of human ecosystems. She has published dozens of articles exploring the future, often from a feminist perspective. Alex has coauthored/coedited several books including A Very Human Future (2018) and Aftershocks and Opportunities: Scenarios for a Post-Pandemic Future (2020). Alex is adept at giving diverse audiences a relatable overvie

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