Norbert Wiener in the 21st Century

A celebration of his life and work on the 120th anniversary of his birth, 50 years after death.

Boston 24-26 June 2014

Conference dates and location confirmed
Lock in Boston, Tuesday-Thursday 24-26 June 2014 in your calendars! Details are now confirmed, with costs, key dates and schedule available shortly.

Volunteering opportunities
- Conference Technical Program Committee
- Norbert Wiener IEEE Milestone Committee
- Conference Publicity Committee: to oversee conference media activities
- Conference country coordinators: To focus on conference participation from outside the US
- Conference Subject Stream coordinators
- Conference Media Committee: gathering and creating media items related to Norbert Wiener for the conference
- Conference Research student seminar committee
- Conference Web site committee

To volunteer or for more information on these, write to: g.adamson@ieee.org.

Conference format
Currently planned elements of the conference include:
- A “Personal recollections” evening
- An IEEE Milestone award and tour to locations where Wiener worked
- Research student seminar
- Keynote speakers on panels providing multi-disciplinary perspectives reminiscent of the Macy conferences key to Wiener’s approach
- Invited guest speakers
- Open call peer-reviewed sessions (while attempting to minimise the number of simultaneous streams)
- Panels

We are still able to incorporate additional ideas, particularly if your organization would like to hold an activity as part of the conference or alongside it.

Who was Dr Norbert Wiener?
During his life Dr Norbert Wiener influenced mathematics, philosophy, science, technology, ethics, biology, prosthetics, education, manufacturing and other fields. Cyberspace is named after his multidisciplinary approach, "cybernetics". He was an early practitioner of diversity and social inclusion, and an advocate of social responsibility in the development of technology. This conference will look at his ideas and the influence they have today.

It is part of a renewed interest in Dr Wiener’s work, an interest that is being reflected in research, writing and practice, and in both old and new media.

Learn more and get involved: In the coming months we are preparing academic, professional and organizational committees for the conference, alongside project teams in particular areas to ensure the conference reflects the range of activities and influences of Dr Wiener.

Conference supporters include
- Dr Amar Bose, CEO, Bose, former student and colleague of Dr Wiener
- Dr Vint Cerf, VP and Chief Internet Evangelist, Google
- Dr Robert Vallée, chair World Organization of Systems and Cybernetics
- Dr Mary Catherine Bateson, writer and cultural anthropologist
- Vernor Vinge, mathematician and multi-award winning science fiction writer
- Dr Richard Stallman, President, Free Software Foundation
- Dr Rafael Capurro, chair, International Centre for Information Ethics
- Flo Conway and Jim Siegelman, authors, Dark Hero of the Information Age: In Search of Norbert Wiener, the Father of Cybernetics

This is one of a series of conference newsletters. To be added to the mailing list e-mail information@21stcenturywiener.org.

http://www.21stcenturywiener.org

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