

# The Role of Universities in the Emerging ICT World

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**Chair:** Martin Vetterli, Swiss National Science Foundation



# Karl Aberer

## EPFL







**Ecole Polytechnique  
Fédérale de Lausanne  
EPFL**

## **Universities and the Digital Revolution**

**Karl Aberer  
Vice-President for Information Systems**

**Symposium on Emerging Trends in  
Electronics, Montreux, 2014**

# The Digital Revolution – Big Data

## Trends

- Big Data is pervading almost every field of science and engineering
- Innovation is happening at the boundary of disciplines
  - in particular at the boundary of IT and its applications
- Innovation in IT is driven by Big Data

	IT?	Big Data?	Interdisciplinary?
Genome Editing	yes	pot.*	Life science
Agile Robots	yes	pot.**	Robotics
Ultraprivate Smartphones	yes	yes	CS – Big Data related issue
Microscale 3-D Printing	yes	pot.***	Materials
Mobile Collaboration	yes	yes	CS – Big Data related issue
Smart Wind and Solar Power	yes	yes	Energy - CS
Oculus Rift	yes	pot.****	CS – Big Data related issue
Neuromorphic Chips	yes	yes	CS - Life science
Brain Mapping	yes	yes	Life science - CS
Agricultural Drones	yes	yes	Environment – Robotics - CS

2014 breakthrough innovations,  
MIT technology review – May-June 2014

\* Genomic data is the basis

\*\* Google bought the company

\*\*\* 3D model data

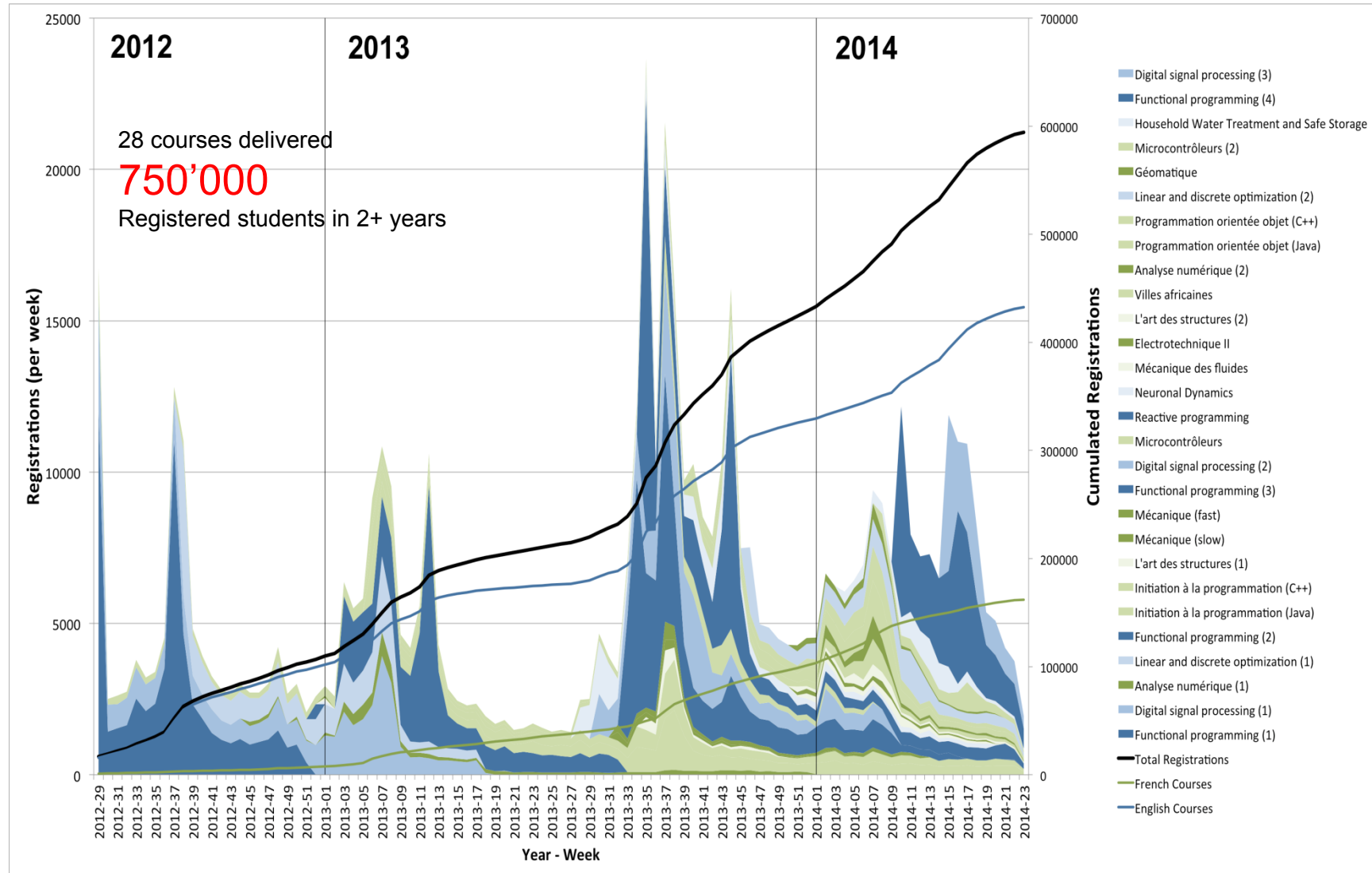
\*\*\*\* data visualization



Job Postings mentioning Big Data

Similar for data scientist, social media, MongoDB

# MOOCs at EPFL



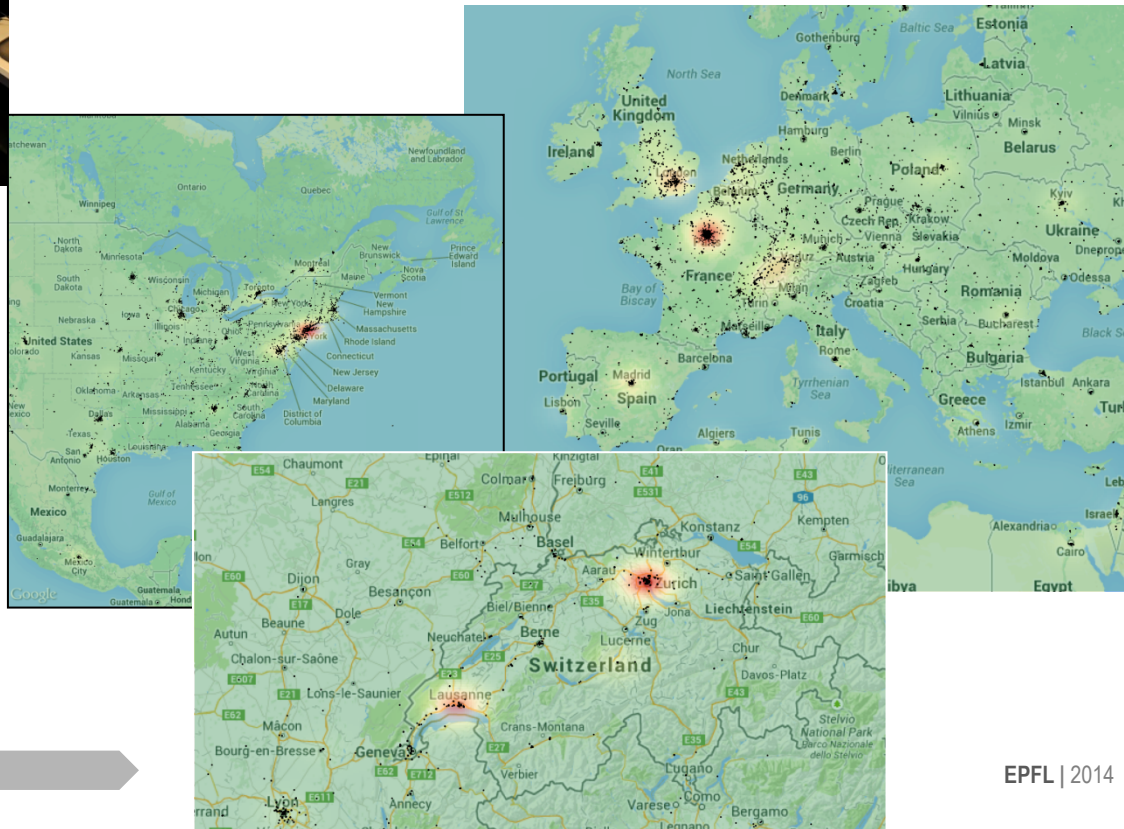


# Impact of MOOCs at EPFL

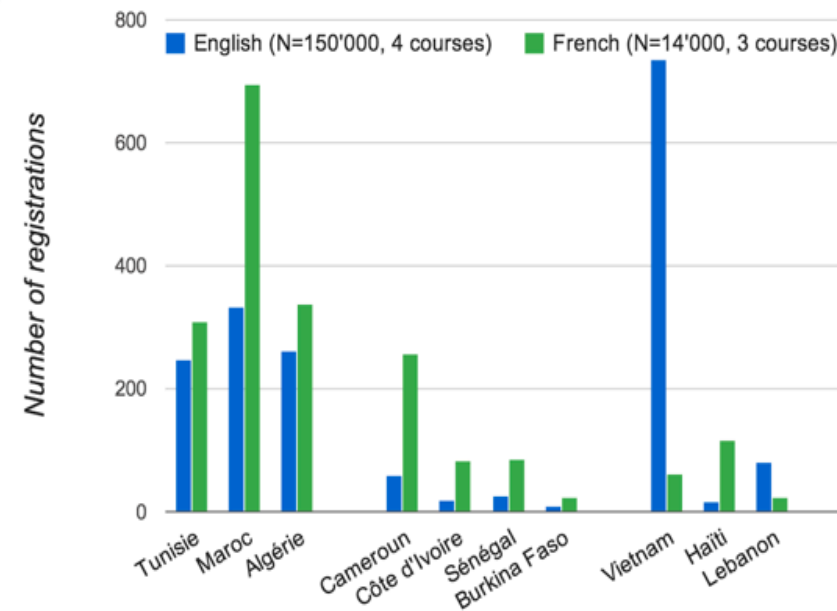
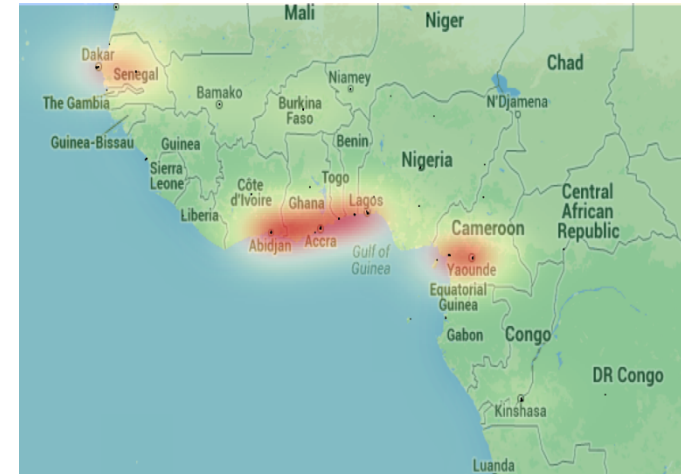


MOOCs Studio

- Global visibility
- Improving campus teaching
  - learning data
- Outreach
  - continuous education
  - developing countries



# MOCs for Africa



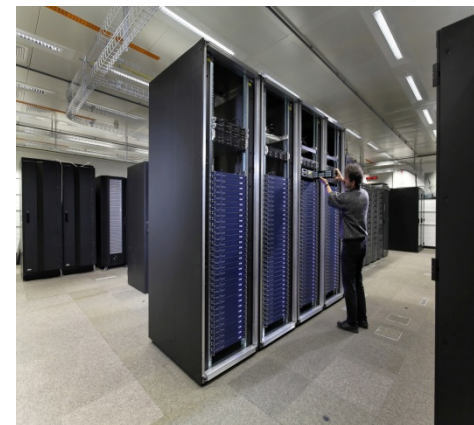
# Digital Humanities

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## Venice Time Machine



*Venice – State Archive : 73 km library!*



## Montreux Jazz Archive



# The Fifth Paradigm in Research

- Fourth paradigm: data-driven science

- Simulation-based research (e.g. Human Brain Project)
- Data-Driven research (e.g. Venice project)



- Fifth paradigm: networked science

- Collaborative research (new ways to do science)
- Crowd-sourced research (involving citizens)

## The polymath blog

November 13, 2011

**Lipton's Polymath Proposal: The Group Isomorphism Problem**

Filed under: [polymath proposals](#) — Gil Kalai @ 10:16 am

Tags: [Complexity theory](#), [Group theory](#), [Richard Lipton](#)



Dick Lipton proposes the group isomorphism problem as a new polymath project.

# Challenges

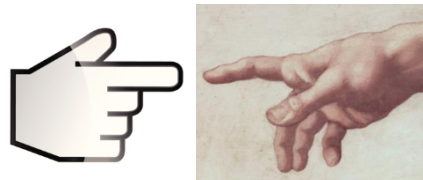
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## The digital revolution implies an educational challenge for Universities

- Rapidly increasing demand in Big Data Scientists and Digital Scientists
- Engineers and researchers have to become Big-Data savy and open to other fields

## Objectives

- Digital Science **Research** implies convergence among disciplines
- **Education** for future Digital Science needs of science, economy and society!
- **Innovation** in Digital Science to create new jobs and companies
- Promote **Convergence** of technological and humanistic thinking in novel ways



# Mega-Trend: Dissolution of existing structures!

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## Change in organization

- Closed organization → Open organization
- Hierarchical organization → Networked organization
- Raises questions of boundaries, identity, attribution

## Examples

- Education
  - Who are the students of a university? On campus only, all online?
  - Who grants degrees to students having courses from different universities/platforms?
  - Dissolving distinction between education and professional life
- Research
  - Who claims the result of collaborative research? Who played which role?
  - Where are the boundaries between disciplines after the bio-nano-info-cogno convergence?
  - How to share scientific data resources?



# Adrienne Corboud Fumagalli

## EPFL

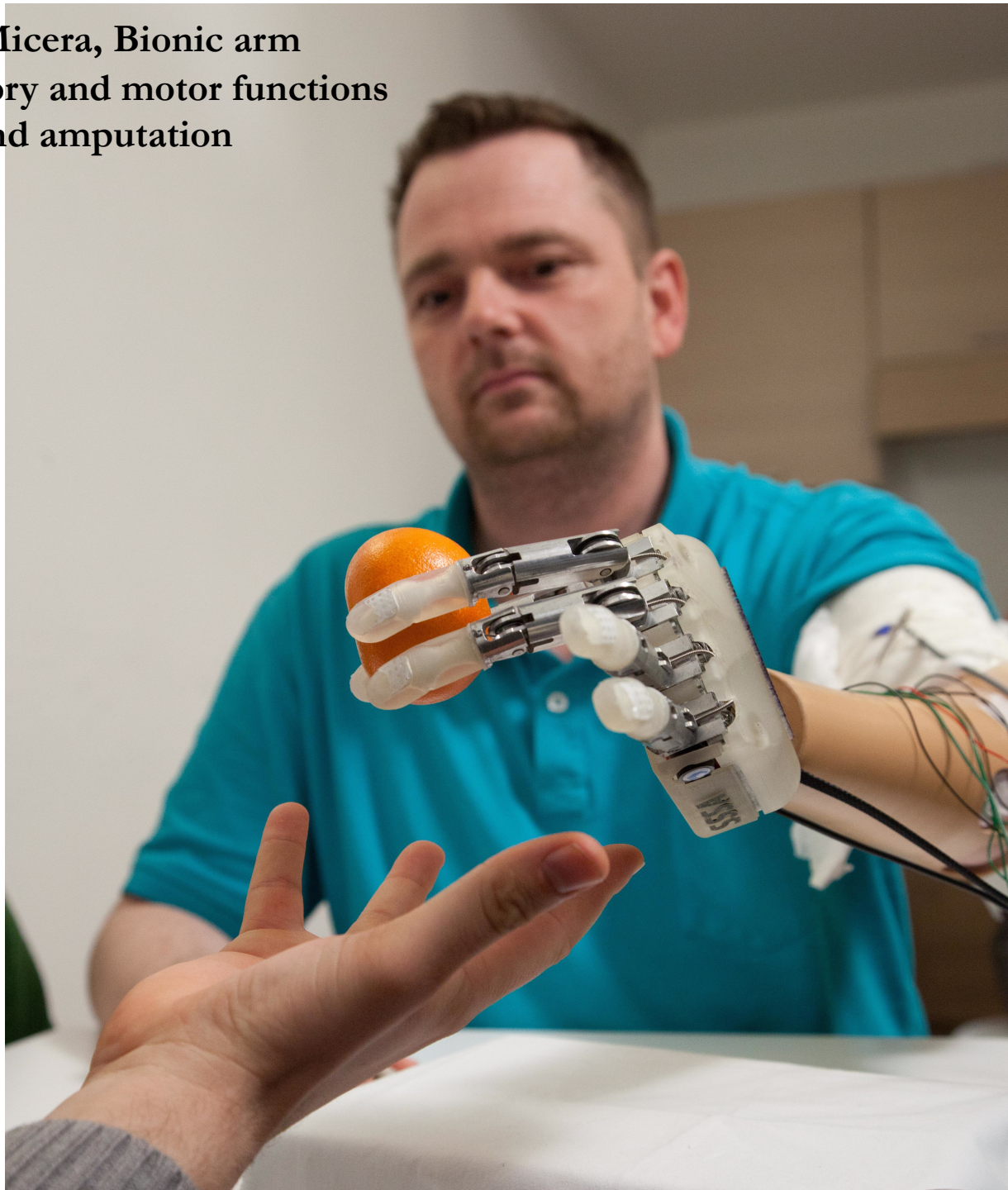




*Entourage d'Antoine Le Moiturier:  
saint Denis, 1460/1470*



**Prof Silvestro Micera, Bionic arm**  
**Restoring sensory and motor functions**  
**after arm or hand amputation**





# Georges Gielen

## KU Leuven



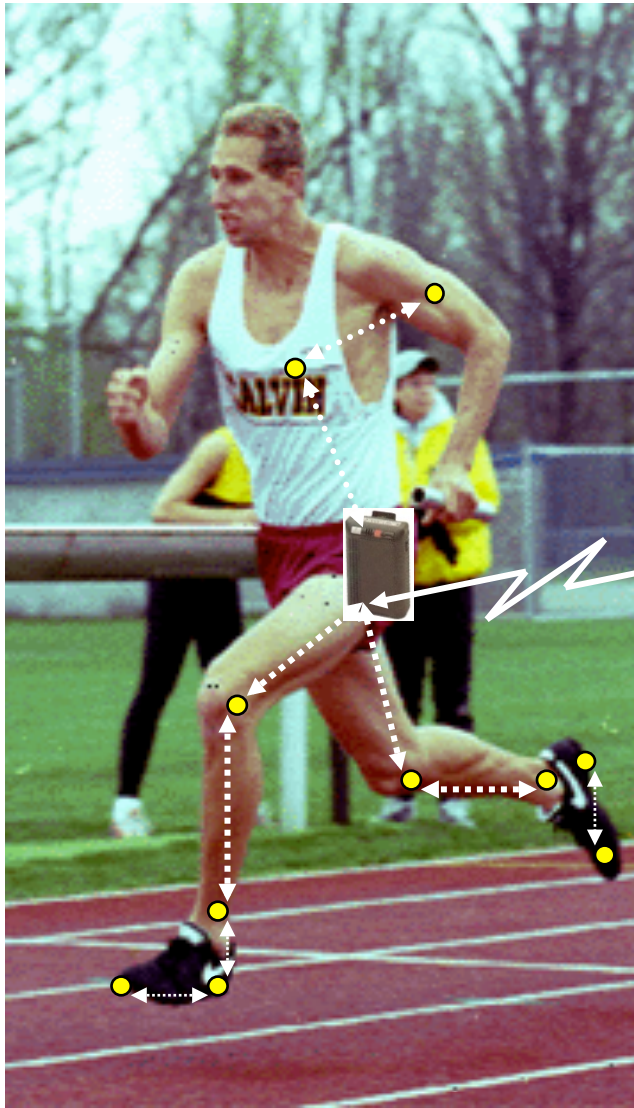


# The role of universities in the emerging ICT world

Prof. Georges Gielen  
Vice-rector Science & Engineering  
KU Leuven, Belgium



# Evolution in mankind

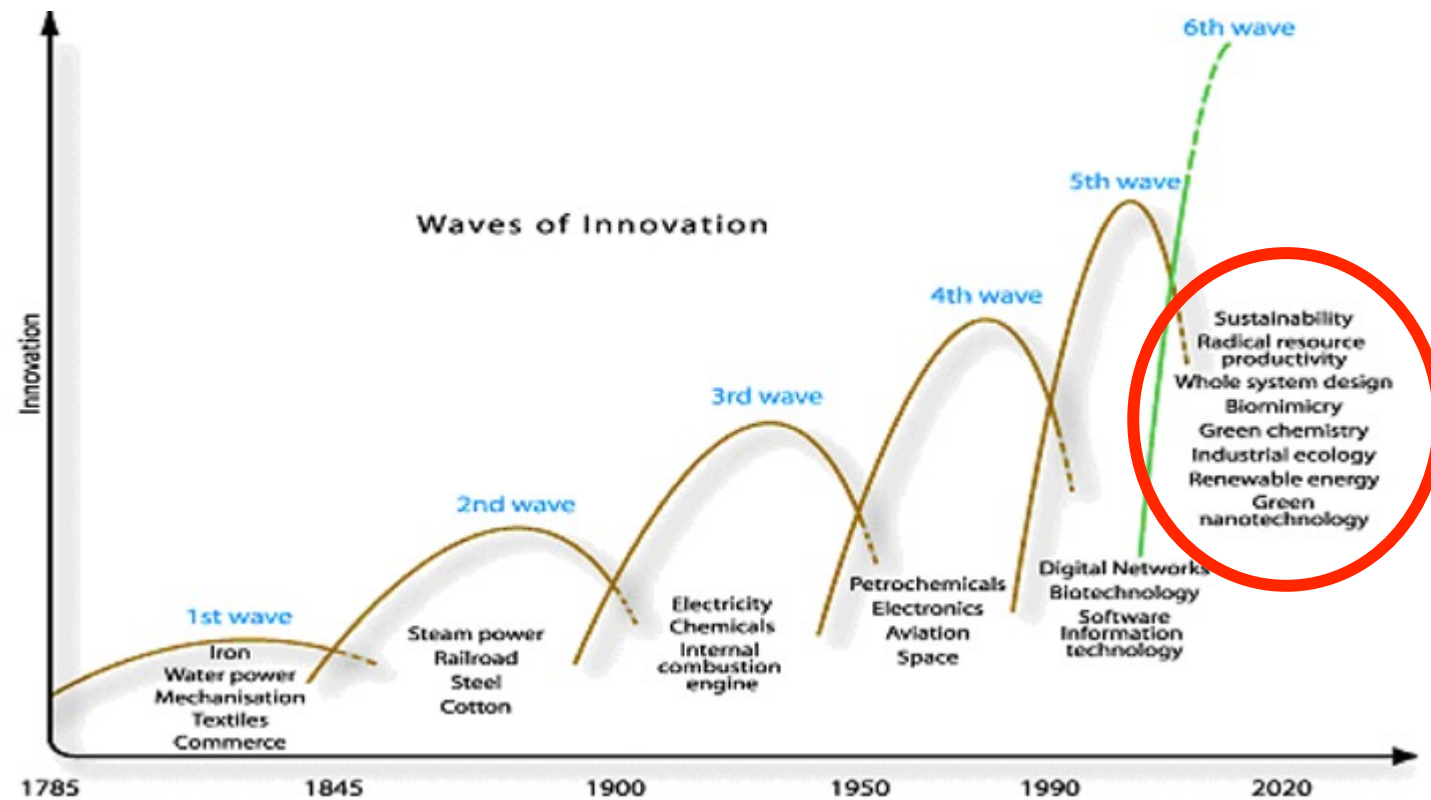




# Ubiquitous role of electronics



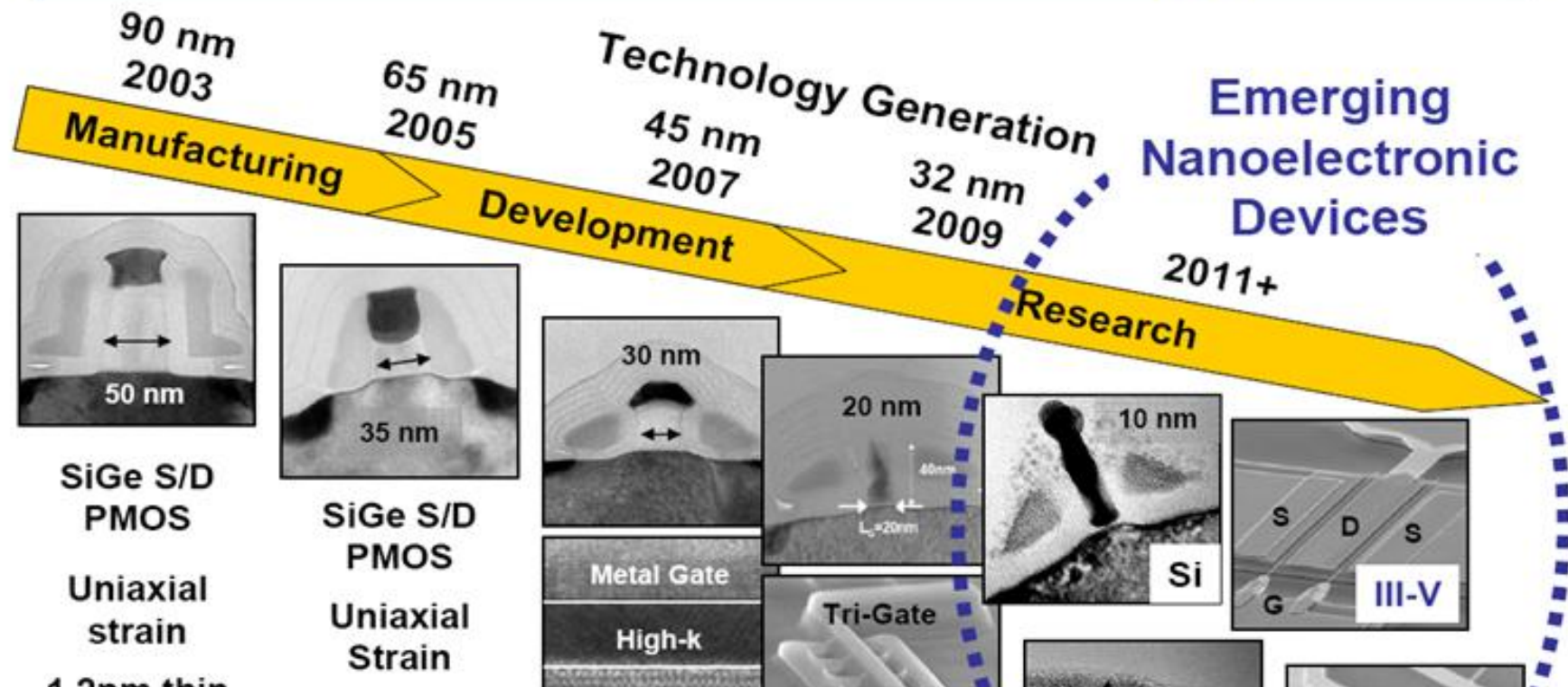
# Waves of innovation



[Kondratieff – Schumpeter – Smihula]



# Transistor Nanotechnology



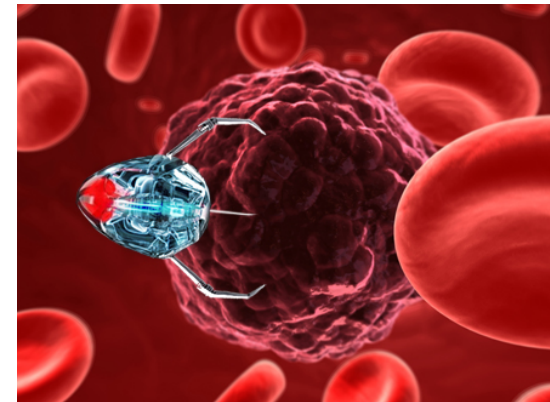
**which device(s) to use and study  
in 2020 – 2030 – 2040 ?**

*Note: Future options subject to change*

# Academic education

How to educate our youngsters for their future career ?

- stimulate their interest to address societal problems by means of technological innovation
- growing complexity of systems
  - learn system thinking
    - teach principles of “engineering design”
  - interdisciplinary :
    - connect electronics / ICT to the biological
- which technology to use ?
  - technologies continue to evolve and to emerge
  - need to learn basic principles
    - regardless of the SoA implementation device

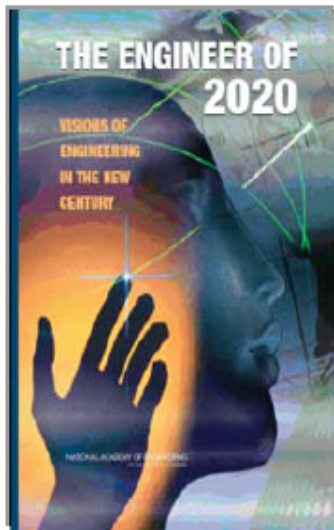


# Rapport 'The engineer 2020'

## A Vision of the Contexts for Engineering in 2020

### Emergence of new fields, tools, and contexts

Examples: bio-tech, digital systems; computer systems/tools; sustainable technology;  
**multidisciplinarity and interdisciplinarity**, social, political & economic, diversity;  
**global markets & contexts**; interaction of engineering and public policy



## Attributes of the Engineer of 2020

- Strong analytical skills
- Practical ingenuity
- Creativity
- Communication competencies (oral, written, and cultural)
- Business, management, and leadership skills
- High ethical standards and professionalism
- Agility, resilience, flexibility

[http://www.nap.edu/download.php?record\\_id=10999](http://www.nap.edu/download.php?record_id=10999)

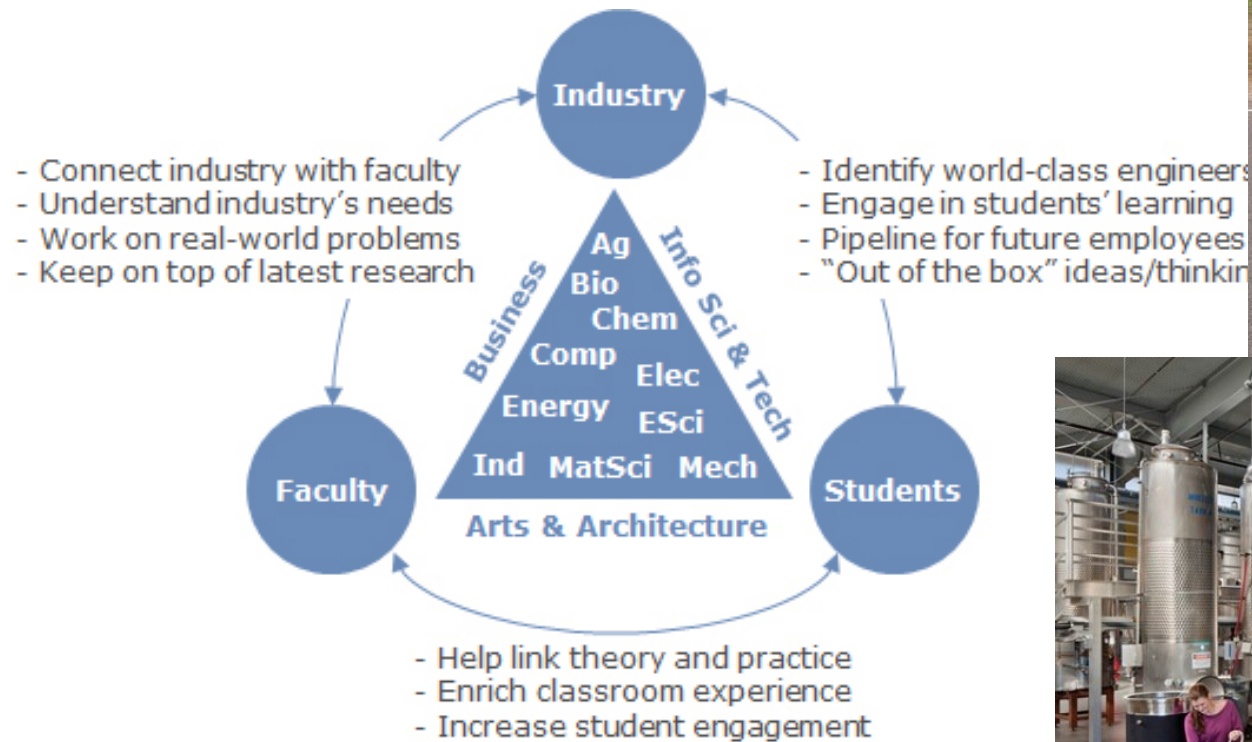
# Role of ICT in education

- exponential growth in science and publications
- change teaching paradigm
  - from teaching everything to teaching basic principles
  - each student specializes in limited field(s)
  - use “database” on the internet for finding all information
- use ICT for :
  - preparation courses
  - individualized learning
    - focusing on each student’s weaknesses
  - support continuous learning after graduation
- large emphasis on hands-on design projects
  - learning engineering principles hands-on



# The Learning Factory concept

- bring the real world into the classroom



[Penn State University]

**Marco Gilli**

Politecnico di Torino



Symposium on Emerging Trends in  
Electronics - Montreux  
1st December 2014

# The Role of Universities in the Emerging ICT World

**Marco Gilli**  
Rector of Politecnico di Torino - Italy



**POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO**



# The Evolution of the University Model



POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO



**Education oriented university**

**Research oriented university**

**Technology transfer/  
knowledge sharing**

**Entrepreneurial oriented  
university**

**21<sup>st</sup> Century university**  
all models combined



# A New Strategic Role for Technical Universities



POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO

**Human capital**



**Higher education**



**Significant contributions to  
attract strategic industrial  
investments and to address  
complex societal challenges,  
mainly a sustainable future  
for people living on our  
planet**



**Societal challenges**

**Energy, Water, Food, Population,  
Climate Changes, Health care**

# The Role of Universities in the Emerging ICT World



POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO

## Research and Technology Transfer

To promote a  
collaborative  
and  
interdisciplinary  
approach

To foster the creation of inter-department Labs/Centers, possibly in partnership with industry, where IT technology and methodologies are developed in multidisciplinary fields, like energy, transports, health care and others;

## Collaboration with Industry

Strategic  
partnership  
agreement  
with  
Executive  
Board  
Meeting

Common  
research  
infrastructures  
and joint  
laboratories  
with industries  
in the campus

Joint  
research  
projects  
(European  
National  
Regional  
level)

Extensive  
PhD  
programs  
and joint  
master  
programs

Job  
opportunities  
for talented  
students and  
researchers

## Education

A Bachelor/First level  
degree in IT subjects  
with a fundamental  
background in  
mathematics and  
basic sciences

Some Masters of  
Science/ Second level  
degrees, focused on IT  
application to  
interdisciplinary subjects,  
possibly co-designed by  
Academy and Industry

In particular the  
potentiality of  
MOOCs for regular  
and continuing  
education should be  
exploited

# Entrepreneurial Approach

To develop an **entrepreneurial approach** for both research and teaching, by promoting **incubators**, with a section devoted to interdisciplinary IT businesses, and **proper policies** for exploiting the most significant outcomes in IT research and applications.

## WHY PROMOTING INCUBATORS

To support the creation of knowledge-based start-ups with high-growth potential

**To provide consultancy services** along the process from Idea to Company

**To manage a high-profile marketplace** and network linking entrepreneurs, professionals, managers and investors

**To Offer high-quality logistics services** to host start-ups and foster motivation and collaboration.





# Steve Kang

## KAIST



# Role of Universities in the Emerging ICT World: **University Social Responsibility(USR)**



**Sung-Mo “Steve” Kang**  
**President**  
**KAIST (Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology)**

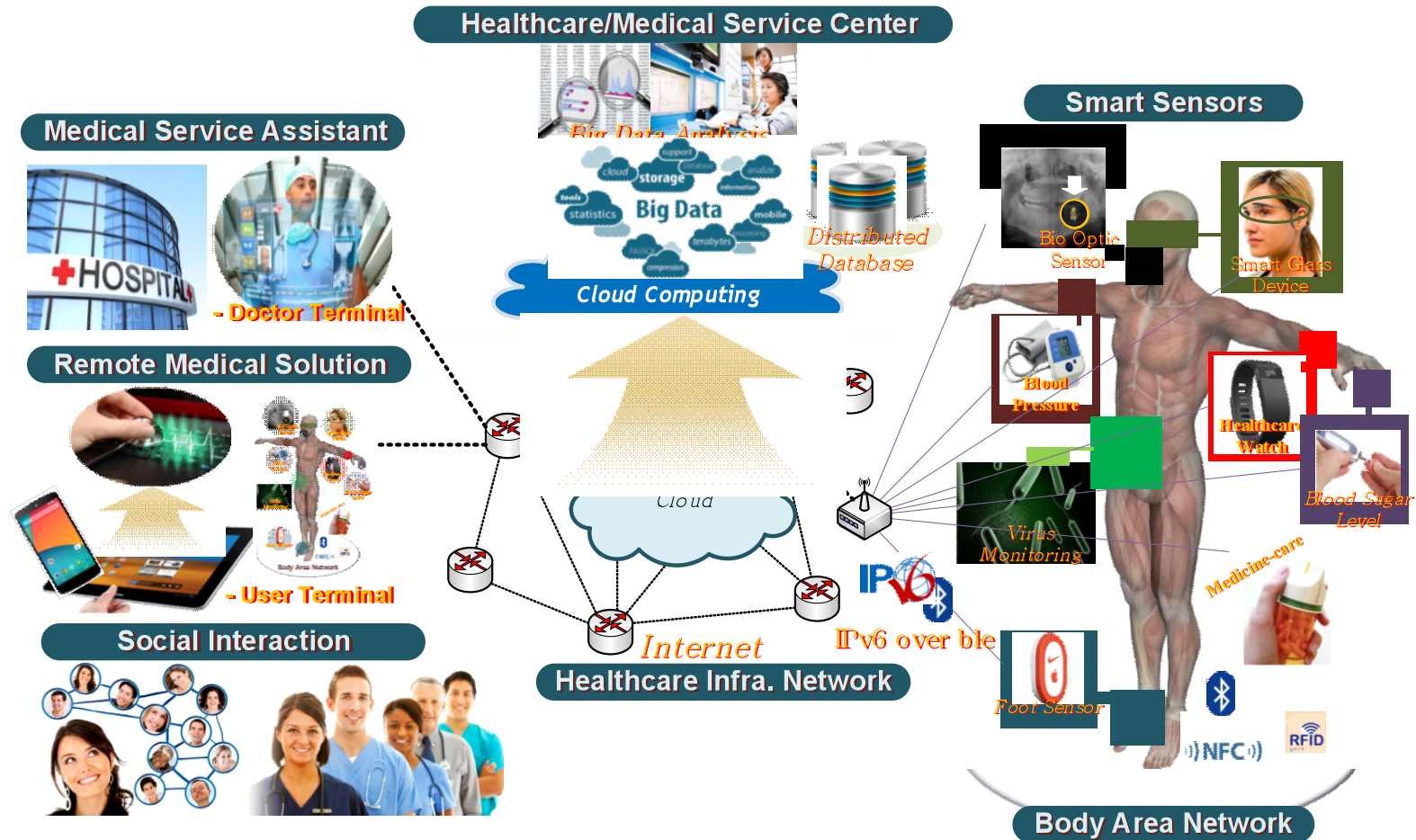
# HES with ICT (Healthcare, Education, Safety)





## Dr. M (Technologies Bridging the Gap between Hospitals & IT Industry)

- Mar. 2014 ~ Feb. 2015 (1.8M US\$ / 1 year)
- 28 faculty from College of Information Science and Technology of KAIST and MDs from Sun Medical Center





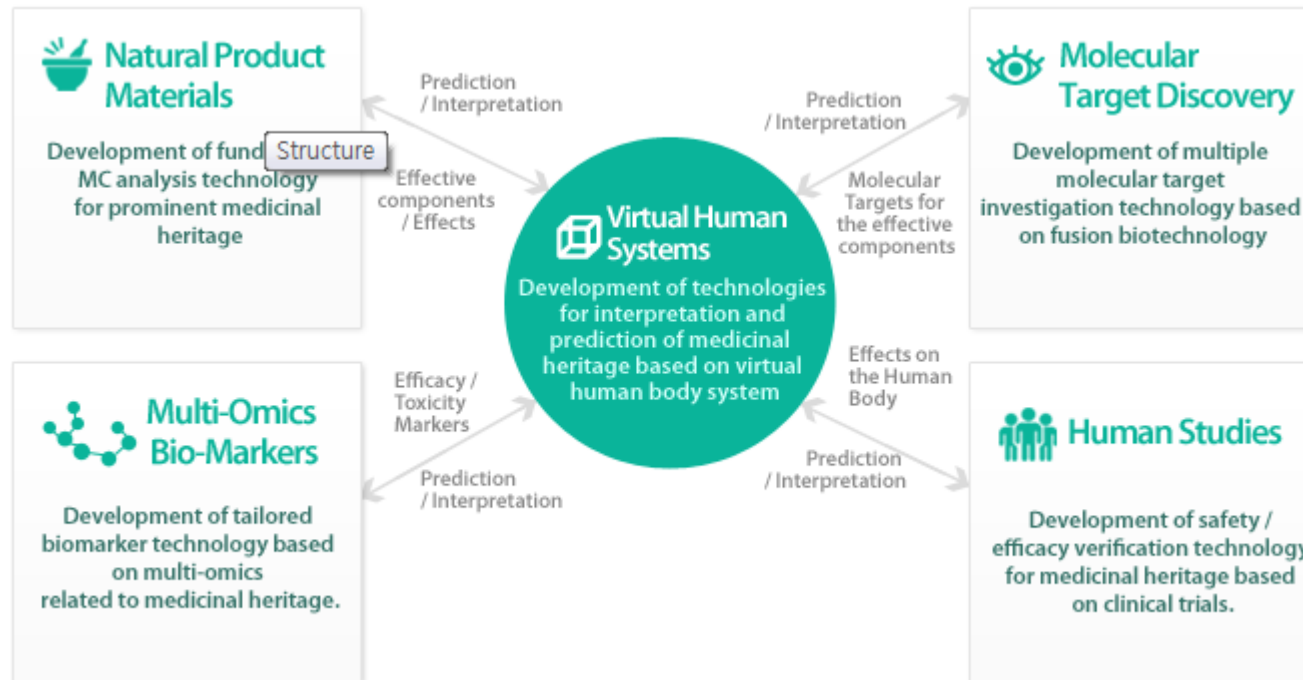
# Bio-Synergy Research Center

Sep. 1, 2012 ~ Aug. 31, 2022(10yrs)

150M US\$ Project



- To develop fusion source technology of IT and BT that can be utilized in investigating system-level MCMT(Multi-Component, Multi-Target) activation principles of natural materials empirically proven by traditional knowledge including the Dongeuibogam(1596~1610).



# Education 3.0 (KAIST Open Online Course, KOOC)

## Interactive Class

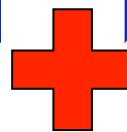


No Lecturing

Problem-Based, Collaborative, Active

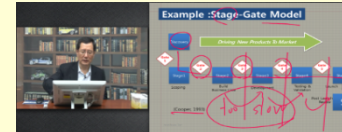
Team Learning + TA Support

Flipped

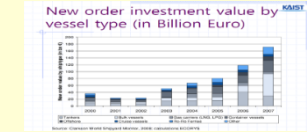


## Online Self-Learning

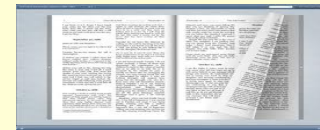
### Lecture Video



### Lecture Slides



### Textbook



### Quiz & HW



### Virtual Lab



Q&A, Information Sharing,  
Social Network Services



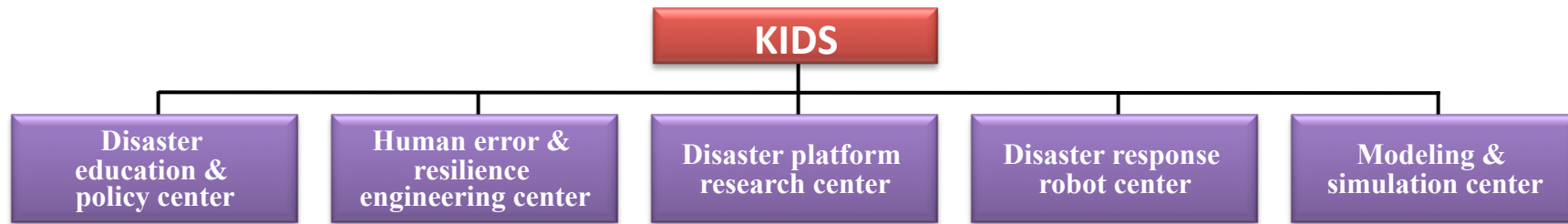
MOOC or e-Learning



# KIDS (KI for Disaster Studies)



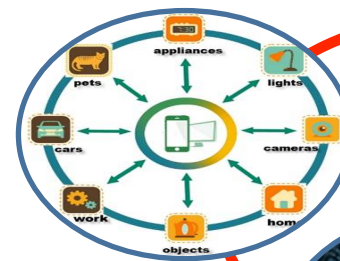
- Fusion research in the disaster sciences, with the goal reducing the hazard.
- About 70 faculty members, researchers and graduate students with specialties extending from natural science, engineering, and informatics, to social sciences.



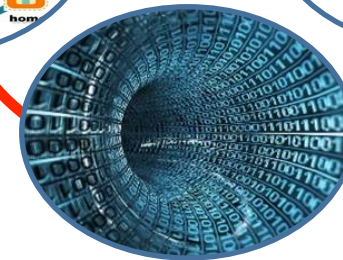
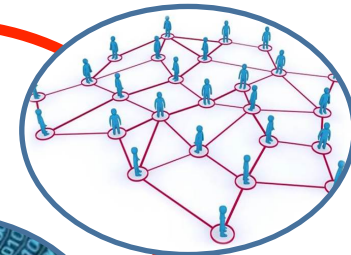
## Prediction, Detection & Containment



## IoT (Internet of Things)



## Social Computing Platform



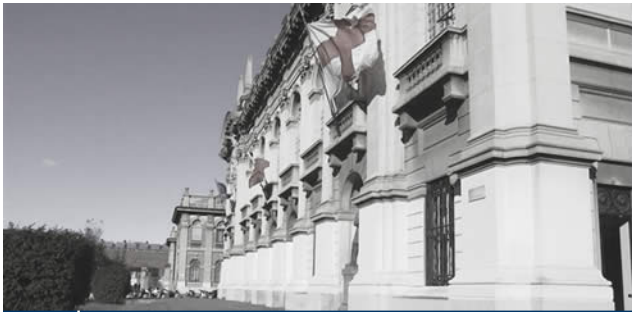
## Big Data Technology

# Donatella Sciuto

## Politecnico di Milano







POLITECNICO DI MILANO



# The role of universities in the emerging ICT world

Donatella Sciuto



# The challenge

1. The way we shape the future of our universities research and education will also shape the future of society
2. The trouble with our times is that the future is not what it used to be (Paul Valery)
3. In today's complex rapidly changing world the only certainty is that we are facing **uncertainty**



## The evolving mission of university

- **Technology, creativity and culture**
- **Provide opportunities of developing skills and competences complementary to the specific course curriculum**
  - **Transdisciplinarity**
  - **Entrepreneurship**
  - **Intercultural knowledge**
  - **Soft skills**
  - **Social responsibility**



## Action lines

- **ICT technologies provide new ways of teaching**
- **Students are digital native**

**BUT**

**Big ships turn slowly**

- **Increase the use of ICT based tools for blended learning**
- **Experiment with MOOCs to bridge the gaps**
- **Increase the opportunities to work on social challenges in interdisciplinary teams**





# MOOCs to bridge the gaps

## MOOCs TO BRIDGE THE GAPS ...

### ... BEFORE



from *High school*  
to *University*

Improve and consolidate  
your **high school skills**  
before you start your  
courses at [Politecnico di Milano](#).



### ... DURING



from *Bachelor of science*  
to *Master of science*

Align your **acquired skills**  
to the ones of [Politecnico di Milano](#) Master of Science  
if you come from another  
educational path.



### ... AFTER



from *University*  
to *job*

Strengthen and enhance  
your **soft skills** to smooth  
your step into the job  
scene.



- MOOCs for teachers: How to design blended learning courses
- MOOCs for all: Bet on math, Code for all



## Concluding remarks

- Universities need to continue imagine the future of education to empower students to make meaningful and lasting contributions to society
- ICT plays a role as key enabling technology today in education, research, service and entrepreneurship

**We cannot predict the future  
but we can help in shaping it**



dà il via a una serie d'iniziative per incentivare lo spirito imprenditoriale



Fondazione  
Politecnico  
di Milano

Milano	
	Comune di Milano

Nasce  
**PoliHub  
Startup  
District & Incubator**

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