Fireside Chat on Global Strategy for AI and Data

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Fireside Chat on Global Strategy for AI and Data
Alex Pentland
Toshiba Professor of Media Arts and Sciences, MIT Media Lab

Alex "Sandy" Pentland directs MIT's Connection Science initiative and the MIT Media Lab Entrepreneurship Program and is a founding member of advisory boards for the World Economic Forum, AT&T, Telefonica, United Nations, and Nissan. He previously helped create and direct MIT's Media Laboratory, the Media Lab Asia laboratories at the Indian Institutes of Technology, and Strong Hospital's Center for Future Health.

Forbes magazine declared Pentland "one of the seven most powerful data scientists in the world," along with the founders of Google and the CTO of the United States. Pentland is among the most-cited computational scientists in the world, and a pioneer in big data analytics, computational social science, organizational engineering, and wearable computing. His research has been featured in Nature, Science, the World Economic Forum, and Harvard Business Review, as well as being the focus of TV features including "Nova" and "Scientific American Frontiers." His most recent books are Social Physics, and Trust :: Data.

Interesting experiences include winning the DARPA 40th Anniversary of the Internet Grand Challenge, dining with British Royalty and the President of India, staging fashion shows in Paris, Tokyo, and New York, and developing a method for counting beavers from space.

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David Shrier
Lecturer, MIT Media Laboratory

David Shrier, a Lecturer with the MIT Media Lab, is a globally recognized thought leader in financial innovation. He advises Fortune 1000 companies, private equity-backed platforms, and governments on the strategies and tactics that are shaping the new financial ecosystem. His current advisory portfolio ranges from fintech unicorn Kyriba to the governments of the US, UK, and EU. David created the first graduate fintech class in North America at MIT in 2015 together with Prof. Alex "Sandy" Pentland, subsequently moving it online to over 150 countries and engaging a global network of more than 15,000 innovators. He has helped found or lead four AI-driven spinouts from MIT research. David's published works include Basic Blockchain (Little Brown, 2020) and Trusted Data (MIT Press, 2019). His next two books are Augmenting Your Career, about AI and the future of work (Little Brown, 2021) and Global Fintech (MIT Press, 2022). In addition to his MIT appointment, he is also an Associate Fellow with Said Business School, University of Oxford.

Douglas Kim
Connection Science Fellow