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**From:** John Brockman <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 4, 2012 9:09 PM  
**To:** Jeffrey Epstein  
**Subject:** Re: Wurman's conference

JE,

Thanks, but...

1. I appreciate your thoughtfulness, but, between us and confidentially, nothing I've heard about the conference seems to be a reason I would want to be there. (Other than your attending). There's no business for me - most of the people are Richard's old friends (and I mean OLD) - they don't have books in them; and it's not about cutting edge ideas. This would mean engaging with younger people and also science, which is not his forte. Not to mention where are the women? And I get tired when I hear that he wants everybody to have mini meetings with each other. This sounds like work to me. Finally, after seeing what's happened to ED since he sold it, his best shot is to go quietly away.

2. In any event, there's an exhibition of Benoit's fractal images opening in NY in the same time period and I promised his wife I would be there and organize a group of Edgies to also come and help celebrate his life. (I really do miss him).

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Some nice news ...

WASHINGTON POST  
September 4, 2012

Campaign puts Obama in touch with life outside the bubble

...On Air Force One, which features the best office in the world at 40,000 feet, aides say, he is most often in the conference room, door open, ESPN's SportsCenter on the television. Many advisers who may not get past the Oval Office gatekeepers are welcome to drop in on what insiders say is usually a fairly casual atmosphere.

But there is always reading material — the iPad, magazines, a book — in front of him on the conference table.

Aides say the most recent book he has read and recommended as pertinent to the current political and economic climate is "Thinking, Fast and Slow," by the Nobel economics laureate Daniel Kahneman. According to descriptions of the book, published last year, Kahneman, who works at the nexus of psychology and economics, examines influences on thought and judgment. ...

<http://wapo.st/UpkkqM>

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Did you see your pal Andrew on the News last night climbing down the London skyscraper? Crazy! They make the Royals work hard over there.

Just back from a month's vacation - lots of great projects cooking.

I'm working up a new publishing initiative, going deep into "Big Data". Here's the first bunch. Many more to come. It would make an interesting conference subject: <http://edge.org/event/special/-computational-social-science>. Frank Chirrmacher (Germany's Culture Czar and Publisher of FAZ) writes: "your 'big data' debate is essential, but some of these people will pay quite a prize for what they are saying...its Orwell of course, but Orwell made sexy by Stewart Brand and counter-culture and wired by Google and its cult-like economy"

Cheers,

JB

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John Brockman

Mobile [REDACTED]

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President [REDACTED]

Edge Foundation, Inc.

tel: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] fax: [REDACTED]

New York, NY 10022  
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Visit EDGE "The World's Smartest Website" (The Guardian <http://bit.ly/I569CX>) at: <http://www.edge.org>

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