
From: John Brockman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2011 2:57 AM
To: jeffrey epstein
Subject: Re: The Edge Annual Question 2012 - Invitation (Confidential)

Keep it coming. JB

On Dec 14, 2011, at 3:47 PM, jeffrey epstein wrote:

> Mathematics ideals are universal truths , biology is intrinsically
> =ased in deception . Predators in search of free energy , would be
> able =o decipher and consume , if it weren't couched in a multi
> layered =ncrypted form . Even self deception acts as a defensive
> strategy. More =ater
>

> Sorry for all the typos .Sent from my iPhone

>

> On Dec 14, 2011, at 3:05 PM, John Brockman <[REDACTED]> wrote:

>

>> To: Paul Allen, Jeff Bezos, Sergey Brin, Hubert Burda, Steve Case.
>> =ohn Doerr, Jeffrey Epstein, Tony Fadell, Bill Gates, Danny Hillis,
>> Maja =offman, Bill Joy, Salar Kamangar, Dean Kamen, Vinod Khosla,
>> Marissa =ayer, Kary Mullis Elon Musk, Nathan Myhrvold, Pierre
>> Omidyar, Larry =age, Sean Parker, Jean Pigozzi, Nick Pritzker,
>> Miuccia Prada, Eric =chmidt, Jacqui Safra, Ricardo Salinas Pilego,
>> Charles Simonyi, Jeff =koll, Craig Venter, Jimmy Wales, Evan
>> Williams, Mark Zuckerberg

>>

>> Re: The EDGE Annual Question 2012 - Invitation to participate

>>

>> In the summer of 2009, in a talk at the Bristol (UK) Festival of =deas, Freeman Dyson articulated a vision for the future. He referenced =The Age Of Wonder", by Richard Holmes, in which the first Romantic Age =escribed by Holmes was centered on chemistry and poetry, while Dyson =ointed out that this new age is dominated by computational biology. Its =eaders, he noted, include "biology wizards" Kary Mullis, Craig Venter, =edical engineer Dean Kamen; and "computer wizards" Larry Page and =ergey Brin, and Charles Simonyi. He pointed out that the nexus for this =ntellectual activity — the Lunar Society for the 21st century — is =entered around the activities of EDGE.

>>

>> Dyson continued to articulate his vision for a new age of biology in = related review inNew York Review of Books in which he wrote: "...a new =eneration of artists, writing genomes as fluently as Blake and Byron =rote verses, might create an abundance of new flowers and fruit and =rees and birds to enrich the ecology of our planet. Most of these =rtists would be amateurs, but they would be in close touch with =cience, like the poets of the earlier Age of Wonder. The new Age of =onder might bring together wealthy entrepreneurs like Venter and Kamen =.. and a worldwide community of gardeners and farmers and breeders, =orking together to make the planet beautiful as well as fertile, =ospitable to hummingbirds as well as to humans."

>>

>> So, along these lines, who can best articulate the important issues
>> =uestions we face today than the very people who are, through their
>> =deas and entrepreneurial zeal, changing the very nature of reality

>> =tself. Here's the 2012 Annual Question. Before sending it out widely
>> to =he list, it's useful to seed the project with a dozen or so
>> interesting =esponses to provide examples and set a high bar. Even
>> better, to =nspire. How about it?? Hope to hear from you. JB
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>> THE WORLD QUESTION CENTER
>>
>> 2012: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE DEEP, ELEGANT, OR BEAUTIFUL =XPLANATION?
>>
>> =tp://edge.org/annual-question/what-is-your-favorite-deep-elegant-or
>> -beau=iful-explanation&view=draft
>>
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>>
>> PRESS EMBARGO UNTIL PUBLICATION (12am EST, Sunday, January 15th). DO
>> =OT CITE OR CIRCULATE
>>
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>> "We'd certainly be better off if everyone sampled the fabulous EDGE =ymposium, which, like the best in science, is
modest and daring all at =nce."
>>
>> — David Brooks, THE NEW YORK TIMES
>> -----
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>> Scientists' greatest pleasure comes from theories that derive the =olution to some deep puzzle from a small set of
simple principles in a =surprising way. These explanations are called "beautiful" or "elegant". =istorical examples are
Kepler's explanation of complex planetary =otions as simple ellipses, Bohr's explanation of the periodic table of =he
elements in terms of electron shells, and Watson and Crick's double =elix. Einstein famously said that he did not need
experimental =onfirmation of his general theory of relativity because it "was so =eautiful it had to be true."
>>
>> The EDGE Question 2012
>>
>> WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE DEEP, ELEGANT, OR BEAUTIFUL =XPLANATION?
>>
>> Since this question is about explanation, answers may embrace =cientific thinking in the broadest sense: as the most
reliable way of =aining knowledge about anything, including other fields of inquiry such =s philosophy, mathematics,
economics, history, political theory, =iterary theory, or the human spirit. The only requirement is that some =imple and
non-obvious idea explain some diverse and complicated set of =henomena.
>>
>> [Thanks to Steven Pinker for suggesting this year's EDGE Question and
>> =o Stewart Brand, Kevin Kelly, and George Dyson for their ongoing
>> advice =nd support.]
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>> "Open-minded, free ranging, intellectually playful ... an unadorned =leasure in curiosity, a collective expression of wonder at the living =nd inanimate world ... an ongoing and thrilling colloquium."
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>> —Ian McEwan in THE TELEGRAPH
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>> SUBMITTING ESSAYS: Email as text or attached Word file to me = 
>>
>> DUE DATE: 5pm, Thursday, January 12th
>>
>> PUBLICATION DATE: 12am EST, Sunday, January 15th
>>
>> URL: Essays will be posted at this draft URL (not visible to search =ngines). Please keep confidential.
>>
>> PRESS EMBARGO: Until publication. Do not cite or circulate.
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>>
>> EDITORIAL MARCHING ORDERS
>>
>> Of course, your own explanations are deep, elegant, and beautiful. =ut give it a rest for this exercise and please avoid citing your own =theory, idea, explanation. Also, think of examples that are not =ompletely obvious—we don't want a hundred people nominating natural =election, or relativity, or Turing machines.
>>
>> Say something new, true, and interesting based on your own =xperience, in 1,000 words or less.
>>
>> Go deeper than the news. Tell us something we don't know. This is not = purely scientific question: this is question about our culture and =urselves. The ideas we present on EDGE can offer a new set of metaphors =o describe ourselves, our minds, the way we think, the world, and all =f the things we know in it.
>>
>> As usual, no politics ("Democrat" "Republican") or politicians ="Obama" "Romney" "Clinton" "Gingrich", etc.). No editorials, Op-eds, =opinion pieces, flippancy. No ad hominem comments. No self-promotion: no =referencing your books, papers, courses. No "selling from the stage", =ushing your well-known agenda. No footnotes, credits, or hyperlinks in =he text: stay on the page. No anecdotes about spouses, significant =thers, kids, family pets. Write a stand-alone piece: don't respond to =he pieces of other contributors already posted.
>>
>> This is the annual opportunity for the EDGE community to give =omething back, to provide an important public service, to make a =statement by presenting uncompromisingly sophisticated science-minded =hinking to a wide global audience. Be imaginative, exciting, =omelling, inspiring. Tell a great story. Make an argument that makes a =ifference. Amaze and delight. Surprise us!
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>> TO THE EDGE PRESS LIST
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>> Last year's EDGE Question ("What Scientific Concept Would Improve
>> everybody's Cognitive Toolkit?" - <http://goo.gl/bEzNP> - generated 165
>> essays (115,000 words) and received global press attention -
>> <http://goo.gl/Ygxs7>
>>
>> For some background on how the EDGE Annual Questions comes together,
>> check out "A Big Question", an article I wrote for the Nieman Foundation in 2010 - <http://goo.gl/udnZg> We expect at least as many contributions this year. Please feel free to use up to 1,500 words of text (gratis) without further permission, provided that:
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>> (a) EDGE and its URL (www.edge.org) are mentioned in the first
>> paragraph of your print and online piece; and
>>
>> (b) a hyperlink to the EDGE home page (<http://www.edge.org>) is provided in the first paragraph of your online edition.
>>
>> Edge Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit private operating foundation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
>>
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>> Happy New Year!
>>
>> John Brockman
>> Editor & Publisher
>> [REDACTED]
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>> It's ever more delectable that EDGE—the network of prominent scientists and intellectuals—has worked against the reciprocal ignorance of literary cultures and sciences of each other. Successfully. If you take the algorithms developed by Larry Page and Sergey Brin, which measure the value of links, EDGE'S website ranks seven on a global scale of ten. THE NEW YORK TIMES ranks nine, eBay at eight.
>>
>> — SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG
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<?xml version=.0" encoding=TF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN" "http://www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd">
<plist version=.0">
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 <key>conversation-id</key>
 <integer>206152</integer>
 <key>date-last-viewed</key>
 <integer>0</integer>
 <key>date-received</key>

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<integer>1323917838</integer>
<key>flags</key>
<integer>8590195713</integer>
<key>gmail-label-ids</key>
<array>
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</array>
<key>remote-id</key>
<string>195913</string>
</dict>
</plist>
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