

Understanding and Scoping Future Research on Disruptive Innovation: A Workshop May 20, 2026

National Academies of Sciences Building, Washington, DC
Lecture Room and Online

8:30-9:00AM Breakfast

9:00-9:30AM Welcome and Overview of Day One

Speakers:

- **Marcia McNutt**, President – *National Academy of Sciences* (recorded remarks)
- **Kaigham Gabriel**, Chief Executive Officer – *BioForge***

9:30-11:00AM If You Saw a Disruptive Innovation Walking Down the Street, Would You Recognize It?

Moderator: **Jenn Gustetic**, Director, Metascience and R&D Policy – *Institute for Progress*

Speakers:

- **Amy Duwel**, Chief Scientist – *STR*
- **Kumar Garg**, President – *Renaissance Philanthropy*
- **Tasuku Kitada**, President, Head of R&D, and Co-Founder – *Strand Therapeutics*
- **Jack Long**, AI Adoption – *OpenAI*

11:00-11:15AM Break

11:15-12:45PM How is Disruptive Innovation Measured and Assessed, and How Should It Be Measured and Assessed? Are Metrics and Indicators Doomed to Be Rear-View Mirror Measures?

Moderator: **Tim Simcoe**, David J. McGrath Professor of Strategy and Innovation – *Boston University*

Speakers:

- **Erin Leahey**, Professor and Director of Sociology – *University of Arizona*
- **Munjung Kim**, PhD Candidate at the School of Data Science – *University of Virginia*
- **Kristine Willis**, President and Founder – *Woodley Park Institute*
- **Yian Yin**, Assistant Professor of Information Science – *Cornell University*

12:45-1:30PM Lunch

1:30-3:00PM Breakout Sessions (IN PERSON ONLY)

Topics:

- Metrics and Indicators of Disruptive Innovations
- Key Elements and Enabling Factors for Disruptive Innovations
- Trajectories of Disruptive Innovations

3:00-3:15PM Break

3:15-4:00PM What Insights Were Revealed During the Breakout Sessions?

Moderator: **Sarah Rovito**, Senior Program Officer – *National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine*

Speakers:

- **Cassidy Sugimoto**, Tom and Marie Patton Professor and School Chair, Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School of Public Policy – *Georgia Institute of Technology*
- **Dean Chang**, Chief Innovation Officer – *University of Maryland*
- **Mike Alvarez Cohen**, Director of Innovation Ecosystem Development – *University of California, Berkeley*

4:00-5:00PM What Are Broader Reactions and Next Steps?

Moderator: **Bernard Meyerson**, Chief Innovation Officer Emeritus – *International Business Machines Corporation*

Speakers:

- **Safi Bahcall**, Private Investor – *Folkman Ventures*
- **Thomas Weiser**, Clinical Professor, Surgery – *Stanford University School of Medicine*

5:00-5:30PM Closing Remarks

Speaker:

- **Kaigham Gabriel**, Chief Executive Officer – *BioForge***

*All times U.S. Eastern

**Chair of the Understanding and Scoping Future Research on Disruptive Innovation Planning Committee