



UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386

FUTURE LEADERS FORUM 15 AND 16 DECEMBER 2025

15 DECEMBER 2025

LOCATION: MATHEMATICON

09.00 Welcome

Karin Schumacher,
Heidelberg University

09.30 Intergroup inequalities in Sub-Saharan Africa

Lucas Leopold, KU Leuven, Centre for Research
on Peace and Development

10.05 Malaria and Vector-Borne Diseases

Ajib Diptyanusa, Universitas Indonesia, Parasitology

10.40 Break

11.00 Rivers and wetlands as socialecosystems

Camila Bañales-Seguel, Universidad Austral de
Valdivia, Centro de Humedales Río Cruces

11.35 Climate epidemiology and environmental justice

Lara Schwarz, University of California, Berkeley,
Environmental Health Sciences

12.10 Break

13.15 Marine microbial ecology

Maya Anjur-Dietrich, MIT, Civil and Environmental
Engineering

13.50 AI in medical ultrasound

Ali Abder-Rahman, Harvard Medical School /
Massachusetts General Hospital, Radiology

14.25 Break

14.45 Machine Learning Models for Neuroscience and Psychiatry

Manuel Brenner, Goethe University Frankfurt,
Ernst-Strüngmann Institut

15.20 Topology and neuromorphic computing

Clara Wanjura, Max Planck Institute for the
Science of Light, Erlangen, Physics

15.55 Break

16.15 Neural circuits regulating hunger and satiety

Elijah Lowenstein, Harvard Medical School
and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center,
Endocrinology

16.50 Break

17.00 Welcome & get-together

Frauke Melchior, Heidelberg University

21.00 End

16 DECEMBER 2025

LOCATION: INTERNATIONALES WISSEN-
SCHAFTSFORUM HEIDELBERG (IWH)

08.30 Welcome

08.45 Neurodiversity, Language, and AI

Summer West, Universität Kassel & City University
of New York, Staten Island, Anglistik Sprachwis-
senschaft (Kassel), Education (New York)

09.20 Family systems approaches to sustainable health behavior change

Shahmir Ali, National University of Singapore, Saw
Swee Hock School of Public Health

09.55 Break

10.15 Cultural Continuities and Technological Transitions: Rethinking Theatre to Film Adaptation in Nigeria

Oluwatoyin Olokodana-James, University of Lagos,
Theatre and Film Studies

10.50 ReArming Northern Europe: A Data-Driven or Affective Approach to Security

Gabriella Gricius, University of Konstanz,
Zukunftskolleg

11.25 Break

11.45 TValue-Based Oral Healthcare Practical Model, Rostock, Germany

Maisa Omara, Medical University of Rostock, Ger-
many, Prosthetic Dentistry and Materials Science

12.20 Polycentric agency and epistemic diversity in climate action

Andrés López Rivera, University of Hamburg

12.55 Lunch Break

13.30 Presentation Research Division

14.45 Break & get-together Presentation Services Heidelberg University

16.30 End

