

## Chat FMS Human Enhancement Workshop

Jan 28

### 4.09pm, Susan M. Gaines

Thinking about David Egger's *The Circle* in terms of the questions about corporate "benevolence" in these issues ...

### 4.11pm, Anna Auguscik

in lieu of a question... Martin, your presentation reminded me of these charts that I've seen recently, respectively concerning gender-specific and culturally specific aspects of sleeps:

<https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/time-spent-sleeping-per-day-men-vs-women>

<https://ourworldindata.org/time-use-living-conditions>

### 4.13pm, Jules Hogan

Thinking also of rising popularity of "pod apartments" in places like Hong Kong, rather than in a corporate context. Also relates to questions of wealth...

### 4.41pm, Stephan Ditze

A case of presaging CRISPR is definitely Trigell's *Genus* (2011) as he deals with germ-line engineering promoted by a company called Prometheus. With regard to *Gattaca*, I would rather say that classical eugenics, although consumer-based, is done by genetic screening and selection, with no genuine germ-line engineering involved.

### 4.42pm, Stephan Ditze

Comment on Susan's comment: Many biotechnology dystopias portray governments being reduced to inferior roles and companies assuming the status of parapolitical actors.

### 4.42pm, Anna Auguscik

Again, just a comment: currently re-reading my way through some of Michael Crichton's works for a course on science in popular fiction; *Jurassic Park* (1990) and sequels/adaptations comes to mind, i.e., pre-Dolly era; also, maybe, the second installment of Lucas' *Star Wars* trilogy

### 4.45pm, Michael Fuchs

@ Anna: You mean the second instalment in the Prequels—do not mix them up ;)

**4.45pm, Stephan Ditze**

Crichton's Next is highly relevant here as well.

**4.46pm, Anna Auguscik**

Yes – to both, Michael and Stephan :)

**5.13pm, Stephan Ditze**

Just a little note on the history of social inequality: Walter Scheidel's book The Great Leveler. Takes the history of inequality back to the fertile crescent 5,000 B.C.

**5.23pm, Katalina Kopka**

Rosi Braidotti's The Posthuman is also a really helpful text in this context; she offers critical posthumanism as a research field to work through the legacies of humanism. This is really diametrically opposed to the transhumanists' understanding of the posthuman

**5.24pm, Michael Fuchs**

I'd add Cary Wolfe's What is Posthumanism?—"basic" but really useful

**5.33pm, Beatrice**

...also "L'Ève future" (Villiers de l'Isle-Adam)

**5.35pm, Jules Hogan**

We return to the bios/mythois of Fanon! "When they start telling stories, you're lost"

**5.38pm, Peter Weingart**

self-restraint of scientists is limited: they declared Research should go on by all means. secondly, to Frame the Problem as ethical is far too narrow.

**5.43pm, Katalina Kopka**

Regarding our previous discussion: The Future of Humanity Institute in Oxford and the Future of Life Institute in Boston are instances of scientists considering the ethical impact of future technologies like AI and human enhancement

**5.46pm, Stephan Ditze**

Judith Heuman, Being Heumann

**5.48pm, Stephen Ditze**

<https://www.ottobockus.com/prosthetics/lower-limb-prosthetics/solution-overview/c-leg-above-knee-system/>

**5.50pm, Alena Cicholewski**

Random thought: do female veterans who have lost legs get functional or beautiful prostheses? Or both? Neither?

**5.51pm, Stephan Ditze**

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0073965> Series from the 70s that might also be relevant

**5.53pm, Michael Fuchs**

ad non-white: Janelle Monáe plays a social worker (?) with a leg prosthesis in Welcome to Marwen (2018)

**6.00pm, Katalina Kopka**

Here's a link for the 2016 Paralympics commercial clip: Glamorous amputees' / larger-than-life superhuman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzjuQoNM534>

**6.01pm, Anna Auguscik**

Not sure, you've mentioned that already, but JG Ballard's Crash comes to mind; esp. regarding fetishization

**6.03pm, Galena Hashhozheva**

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e4/Oskar\\_Schlemmer\\_T%C3%A4nzerin\\_%28Geste%29.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e4/Oskar_Schlemmer_T%C3%A4nzerin_%28Geste%29.jpg)

<https://www.centrepompidou-metz.fr/en/oskar-schlemmer-dancing-artist>