Lindau, 12 October 2021

Press Release

Winning Projects of the Lindau Online Sciathon 2021 Announced

- Results of intense 48 hours work in project groups
- One winning team in each of the four categories
- All projects on sciathon.org

The Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings today announced the winners of the Online Sciathon 2021 in these four categories:

Emerging Threats and New Tools in Global Health: **Group Maier** plans to digitalise a dataset of COVID19-reports to develop a website to help document the consequences of the corona crisis

Energy and Climate: **Group Thomas** aims to implement a global online platform that offers an exhaustive list of solutions for sustainability

Unknown Frontiers in Physics: **Group Fehn** created a card game to fascinate people for astrophysics

How can Open Science Improve the Public’s Trust in Science? The goal of **Group Chen** is to enable the constructive use of science for responsible public science communication.

Four topic categories built the framework for the project ideas. A highly qualified jury conducted an evaluation process and decided about the winners based on criteria such as creativity of the idea, feasibility as well as quality and relevance of the project. Virologist **Stefan H. E. Kaufmann** acted as scientific chairperson for ‘Emerging Health Threats and New Tools’, **Heiner Linke**, member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Science, was running ‘Energy and Climate’, the topic ‘Unknown Frontiers in Physics’ had Burkhard Fricke (former Vice-President of the Council) as chair, and former ERC president **Helga Nowotny** was responsible for ‘Open Science’.

All winners look forward to 1,000 euros as prize money which they ideally use to further develop their project.
The second Lindau Online Sciathon

From 10 – 12 September 2021 more than 20 groups of Lindau Alumni and young economists selected for next year’s 7th Lindau Meeting on Economic Sciences gathered digitally to work on their projects. All groups were led by those Lindau Alumni who had pitched the respective project idea for the competition.

Successful Projects From 2020

The lasting impact of the Sciathon concept developed in 2020 by the Council can be seen as some of the project groups which were ranked first place last year are still developing their ideas: Michael Mărgineanu and his team will launch the Lindau Mentoring Hub in November. Nicholas Clifton and his group created the browser extension AuthentiSci. This plug-in allows scientists to score the validity of scientific information in media articles, a helpful tool for everybody to verify online content. And the group of Ángela I. Barreda Gómez created ‘The Fables of LauraBee’ to communicate the urgency of climate change to children. The video produced during the Sciathon 2020 is currently being printed, to be distributed during the UN Climate Change Conference COP26 this autumn as a book.

The Council for the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings thus looks forward to also following and possibly supporting the further development of the 2021 projects.

For questions and contact to project groups from 2021 and 2020 the communications team is at your disposal:

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About the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings

Since their foundation in 1951, the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings have developed into a unique international scientific forum. The annual Meetings provide an opportunity for an exchange between different generations, cultures and disciplines. The theme of the Lindau Meetings alternates between Physics, Chemistry or Physiology and Medicine – the three Nobel Prize scientific disciplines. Every five years an interdisciplinary Meeting takes place, while the Lindau Meeting on Economic Sciences is held every three years. Through the medium of various declarations (2020 for Open Science, 2015 on Climate Change, 1955 against the Use of Nuclear Weapons,) the scientists have repeatedly joined in the public debate with political appeals.

It was the Lindau physicians Franz Karl Hein and Gustav Wilhelm Parade who approached Count Lennart Bernadotte af Wisborg with the idea of a conference of Nobel Laureates and proceeded to jointly implement this with him – since 1953 with the participation of young scientists. Some 35,000 students, PhD candidates and post-docs have since taken part. Their experience of the Meeting may be literally once-in-a-lifetime, but they remain permanent members of the Lindau Alumni Network and ambassadors for scientific dialogue.

All year long the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings continue to pursue their “Mission Education” aimed at emphasising the importance of science and advocating science and research. This is also the purpose of the Lindau Online Mediatheque as a learning platform with teaching materials for schools.

Further Information

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