

*The Society 5.0 Initiative Presents*  
**5 YEARS BACK, 25 YEARS FORWARD**  
**60-Second Lectures at Cleveland State University**  
**-Call for Abstracts -**

What was life and the world like 5 years ago? What might it be like in 2047?

How would we define beauty, what would be considered reality, how might we approach problems?

If you were to look at yourself, society, technology, the environment, government, business, medicine, or even humanity at large, what was it like 5-years ago and what might it be like as we approach mid-century? Can you tell us about what you think will be the driving forces influencing life and world in 60 seconds? We are seeking to explore this topic from multiple perspectives, within and beyond the campus, in a series of bite-sized presentations to ignite transdisciplinary dialogue at CSU.

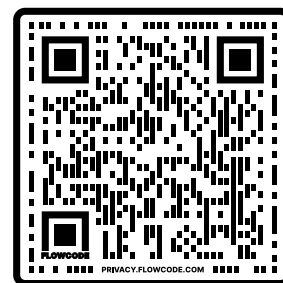
**What:** The CSU Stanford Innovation Fellows are excited to host the inaugural 60-Second Lecture series at CSU. This year's theme is: **5 Years Back, 25 Years Forward**.

**Who:** You! If you're receiving this call, you're qualified to submit an abstract. We're looking for faculty, students, and community stakeholders from all disciplines, universities, and walks of life who have something interesting to say about this year's theme.

**Where:** TBA (CSU Campus?)

**When:** Thursday, October 27 from 5pm to 6pm

**How:** Apply to be a lecturer by following the QR Code or visiting <https://forms.gle/kfzq899Pxdc3tGKu6>



**Details:** From the abstract submissions received, 6 lecturers will be selected by the selection committee. These speakers will have 60 seconds total to present their idea. The lecturers will then become panelists and the floor will open up for Q&A. All lecturers will receive an honorarium of \$200, thanks to a grant from New America and the Public Interest Technology University Network.

Lecturers are to present an idea on the theme "5 Years Back, 25 Years Forward" in 60 seconds, through your life experiences, disciplinary perspective, and imagination. The goal is to spark transdisciplinary conversation that may lead to research collaboration, idea advancement, community connection, curious engagement, or maybe just an itch in someone's brain. Your lecture should help people think in new ways or see something through a new perspective.

This event is a [Society 5.0](#) initiative and co-sponsored by the [Graduate & Professional Student Association](#) and the [CSU T.E.C.H Hub](#)'s Public Interest Technology University Network grant.

## Even More Details (for those who love details and have lots of questions):

**Q:** Wait, what's the idea of this event?

**A:** The premise is a lecture condensed into 60 seconds around the theme "5 Years Back, 25 Years Forward."

**Q:** What does "5 Years Back, 25 Years Forward" mean?

**A:** Well, it means what you interpret it to mean, through your own lens and experience.

**Q:** Ok, but what if I need a little more inspiration to get started?

**A:** What was life and the world like 5 years ago? What might it be like in 2047? A lot can happen in 25 years. In 1997 alone, the first cloned animal, Dolly the sheep, was created. Since then, CRISPR, the genome editing technology, has been used to create human organs, for treating diseases, and creating climate change resistant crops. 25-years ago, IBM's AI software, Deep Blue, defeated the world's chess champion. Madeline Albright became the first woman to serve as the US Secretary of State and 150 countries signed on to the climate change Kyoto Protocol. The Lion King Musical debuted on Broadway and the first book in the Harry Potter series was published while the Dow Jones closed above 7,000 for the first time and then prominently crashed. The Avian Flu was a thing as Tiger Woods became the youngest golfer to win a Masters. Over the past 25 years, we watched the world spiraling under political unrest and war and then in 2001, Apple introduced the iPod, the trade towers were attacked and just 6-years later, the iPhone changed the way we live. A little over a year ago, 2021, the US Capital was attacked, the world began to emerge from a pandemic, and Zoom changed how we meet, teach, and communicate. Yet, we are still here, stumbling awkwardly, into the future. If you were to look at yourself, society, technology, the environment, government, business, medicine, or even humanity at large, what was it like 5-years ago and what might it be like as we approach mid-century? Can you tell us about what you think will be the driving forces influencing life and the world in 60 seconds?

**Q:** How can I possibly condense a lecture into such a minute?

**A:** Don't get caught up on the word 'lecture'. You are to present a fascinating idea, through the lens of your discipline, on a topic relating to the theme. Your task is to spark transdisciplinary conversation that may lead to research collaboration, idea advancement, community connection, curious engagement, or maybe just an itch in someone's brain. Your lecture should help people think in new ways.

**Q:** Do you have any examples?

**A:** Take a look at these 60 second lecture examples from Loyola Marymount University by [Andrew Dilts](#) (theme "Stories of Our Time") or [Kate Pickert](#) (theme "What Holds Us Back?").

**Q:** Should I flex my disciplinary expertise?

**A:** Expertise is the death of a good 60-second lecture. This is an opportunity to express a new idea of interest to an academic (but general and interdisciplinary) audience. For example, we don't need to hear about the scientific technicalities of artificial intelligence. Take a step back and tell us all the *good* that artificial intelligence could do in the world. Take a further step back and tell us how humans are just 'artificial' intelligences optimized by evolution, running on chemicals instead of electricity.

**Q:** Is there a peer review process after we are selected to speak?

**A:** There is no peer review process for these lectures; just the raw vulnerability of being presented to the inquiry of hungry and curious minds.

**Q:** Can community members or people outside CSU submit an abstract?

**A:** Yes please! We would love to see submissions from community members, leaders, local residents, people with lived experience, anyone who has something to say about this theme. In addition to CSU faculty, we hope to see abstracts from students (both grad and undergrad) and folks at other universities, too.

**Q:** Where will the event be held?

**A:** The event will be held near CSU's campus. We will have virtual options for speakers and viewers, but would prefer that speakers be there in person when possible. We'll update the location as soon as it is confirmed.

*"Marco enters a city; he sees someone in a square living a life or an instant that could be his; he could now be in that man's place, if he had stopped in time, long ago; or if, long ago, at a crossroads, instead of taking one road he had taken the opposite one, and after long wandering he had come to be in the place of that man in the square. By now, from that real or hypothetical past of his, he is excluded; he cannot stop; he must go on to another city, where another of his pasts awaits him, or something perhaps that had been a possible future of his and is now someone else's present. Futures not achieved are only branches of the past: dead branches."*

*Italo Calvino, 'Invisible Cities'*