THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE *Awards* | 200 1824-2024   T College of Engineering TEMPLE UNIVERSITY®   IEEE Philadelphia Section
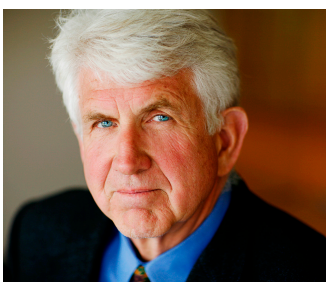
Benjamin Franklin Medal Laureate Lecture

Connectivity is a thing, is THE thing

Robert M. Metcalfe, Ph.D.

Recipient of the 2024 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Electrical Engineering

Robert Metcalfe is an Internet pioneer, starting at MIT in 1969. He continued switching Internet packets at Harvard University, Xerox Palo Alto Research Center (PARC), Stanford University, and 3Com Corporation, which he founded in 1979. He coinvented the Ethernet at Xerox Parc in 1973. He took 3Com public in 1984. He has been defending Metcalfe's Law since the 1980s. Bob received the ACM Turing Award in 2023 for the invention, standardization, and commercialization of Ethernet. He is the recipient of the 2024 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Electrical Engineering. This award recognizes his "pioneering role in the design, development, and commercialization of Ethernet, an interface for networking and file sharing between computers."

Abstract: Hear many stories from ARPANET, ALOHAnet, Ethernet, and Internet. After 50+ years since the first internet packets were switched, the most important new fact about the human condition is that we are now all suddenly connected. This suddenness has caused pathologies - hacking, advertising, spam, polarization, fake news, censorship - but on the other hand, extreme poverty has suddenly declined for the first time, thanks to the World Wide Web? Connectivity has evolved with various transitions and reversals, of which we can expect many more. Some of our Artificial Intelligences (AIs), still short of Artificial General Intelligence (AGI), are approaching 100 trillion connection parameters.

APRIL 17, 2024
10:00 – 11:30 AM
Mitten Hall, Great Court
Temple University
1913 N. Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19122

SPEAKER:	Robert Metcalfe, Ph.D.
PRICE:	Free and open to the public
REGISTER:	https://events.temple.edu/benjamin-franklin-medal-laureate-lecture
CONTACT:	phone 215-204-3380
	email fauzia.ahmad@temple.edu

200th Anniversary Sponsors

Hess Foundation

PNC

U·ST

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

proudly presents
THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE AWARDS

For two centuries, The Franklin Institute has honored pioneering achievements in science, engineering, and industry. As the oldest comprehensive science awards program in the United States, The Franklin Institute Awards celebrates Benjamin Franklin's legacy by honoring the Franklins of today. Through their remarkable contributions, our laureates inspire the Franklins of tomorrow.