

Melba Kurman

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Highlights

- Co-author of three trade books that have (collectively) sold more than 300,000 copies worldwide; all three have been translated into eight languages
- Frequently invited speaker on technology trends for high-profile industry events
- Author of more than 15 articles that have been published in mainstream media and in scholarly publications
- Singularity University faculty

Books

- Upcoming book, ***Driverless at Last*** (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2020)
- Hod Lipson and Melba Kurman, ***Driverless: Intelligent Cars and the Road Ahead*** (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2015)
- Hod Lipson and Melba Kurman, ***Fabricated: The New World of 3D Printing*** (New York: Wiley, 2013)
- Melba Kurman, ***Tech Transfer 2.0: How universities can unlock their patent portfolios and create more tech startups*** (Ithaca, NY: Triple Helix Press, 2013)
- ***Factory@Home, the emerging economy of personal manufacturing***, by Hod Lipson and Melba Kurman. Commissioned report by The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, (Washington, DC: 2010)

Invited Talks

- Invited Speaker, “How Driverless Cars and Artificial Intelligence Will Save Our Cities,” Abundance 360 Summit, Los Angeles, California, October, 2019.

- Faculty Speaker, Singularity University, “Exponential Cities, AI and the New Urban Data Fog,” Singularity University Private Event, Mountain View, CA, October, 2019.
- Keynote Speaker, “Why Autonomous Vehicles Will Cause the Car Industry to Grow and Prosper,” Shift Automotive 2019, Berlin, Germany, September 2019.
- Keynote Speaker, “Smart Cities: From Place to Platform,” Jacksonville Innovation Summit, Jacksonville, Florida, October, 2018.
- Faculty Speaker, Singularity University, “Driverless Cars and Smart Cities,” SU Executive Program, Mountain View, CA, June, 2018.
- Faculty Speaker, Singularity University, “Driverless: why the vehicle will be the next platform battle,” SU Executive Program, Mountain View, CA, January, 2018.
- Closing keynote, International Trademark Association (INTA), “3D Printing: The Next 25 Years—Why There Won’t Be a Napster Moment for Most Companies,” INTA Conference, New York City, March, 2015.
- Invited speaker, NIST, “Introduction to 3D Printing,” NIST Monthly Innovation Series, Gaithersburg, MD, March, 2014
- IEEE webinar, "3D Printing: a Disruptive Technology," February, 2014
- Invited speaker, Braskem U.S. Annual Retreat, “3D Printing, Materials, and the Future,” Pittsburgh, PA, January 2014
- Invited speaker, Cornell University Alumni Event, "Seeing the Future: 3D Printing and Life as We Know It," Cornell Club, New York, NY, December, 2013
- Invited speaker, “3D Printing in an IP Intensive World,” American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA), December, 2013
- Invited speaker, Cornell University Alumni Event, “Seeing the Future: 3D Printing and Cornell Club, New York, NY, December, 2013
- Invited speaker, Taking Shape: Additive Manufacturing Summit, hosted by Bemidji State University, “Ten Principles of 3D printing: the promise and peril of a machine that can make (almost) anything,” Minneapolis, MN, November, 2013
- Invited speaker, 3D Printing and Intellectual Property Conference, Center for Law in the Information Society of Leiden University (the Netherlands), “When Complexity Gets Cheap,” November, 2013
- Invited keynote speaker, INDA, Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry Annual Conference, Denver, CO, October, 2013

- Invited panel participant, “3-D Printing: Economic Development, Regulatory and other Public Policy Issues,” New York State Assembly, New York, New York, September, 2013.
- Invited speaker, “3D-Printing: The Good, the Bad, and the Science,” AAAS Luncheon, Washington, DC, September 2013.
- Invited speaker, “The Ten Principles of 3D Printing,” Inside 3D Printing Conference, San Jose, California, September 2013.
- Invited speaker, “3D Printing: a new industrial revolution?” Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi’an, China, July 2013
- Invited speaker, Forum on Additive Manufacturing, Beijing, China, June 2013
- Invited speaker, “Zero: How 3D printing shrinks key cost barriers to nearly nothing.” Cornell Engineering Alumni Annual Meeting. Washington, D.C. May, 2013.
- Invited speaker, U.S. Council on Competitiveness Regional meeting, “The next industrial revolution? Maybe,” April, 2013, Oak Ridge Tennessee.
- Invited speaker, “Next Generation Market Makers: Startups and 3D printing.” Inside 3D Printing conference. Javits Center, New York, April 2013.
- TedX Vermont, 2012. Invited speaker. “3D printing and Ultra-large Systems of Manufacturing”
- Invited guest lecturer, Cornell University, “3D Printing and the product development process, Fall 2012
- Invited keynote speaker at the university technologies track at the Discovery 12 conference in Toronto, Canada’s largest innovation showcase and conference, June, 2012
- Session moderator and keynote speaker, Discovery 12 Conference, “Rapid prototyping: how increasing the productivity of your company decreases the time to market,” Toronto, June, 2012
- Invited breakout session leader and Steering Committee member, International Commercialization Forum 2012, hosted by Ontario Centres of Excellence in Toronto, Canada, March, 2012
- Invited participant, "Technology Commercialization Seminar," University of Utah TechVentures, March, 2012
- Invited plenary speaker, "University technology commercialization: what lies ahead." ICAP Patent Brokerage Summit on Patent Monetization, San Francisco, November 16 & and 17, 2011

- Invited speaker, “Open Source Hardware Legal Frameworks” at the Open Hardware Summit annual meeting, New York, NY, September 2011
- Invited guest lecturer, “The long tail effect of 3D printers on product design and marketing,” Cornell CATALYST summer engineering camp, August, 2011
- Invited panelist, “3D printing comes to the nation’s capital,” Public Knowledge Organization, April, 2011
- Invited speaker on *IP Marketing* webinar series, “Internal Metrics and Benchmarking: New Era Measurement of TTO Performance and Impact,” March, 2011
- Invited lecturer, “From Idea to IPO” course at the New York Academy of Sciences, December, 2010
- Invited speaker, “Best Practices in Technology Transfer Marketing,” National Council of Entrepreneurial Tech Transfer (NCTEC2.org), a prestigious webinar series that reaches over 150 participant organizations, May 2009
- Invited panel leader, “Best Practices in Technology Transfer,” University Startups Conference 09, D.C. December 2009

Articles (Scholarly and popular media)

- “Big Brother Nation: The Case for Ubiquitous, Open-Sourced Surveillance in Smart Cities” **SingularityHub**. 2019.
- “Why the Rise of Self-Driving Vehicles Will Actually Increase Car Ownership.” **SingularityHub**. 2018.
- “The Coming Creativity Explosion Belongs to the Machines.” SingularityHub. 2017.
- “Intelligent Cars.” **TechnicaCuriosa**. March, 2017.
- “Driverless in Eurasia: How Autonomous Vehicles Could Reshape the Region.” **Reconnecting Asia “Big Questions” Series**. February, 2017.
- “Why you shouldn’t worry about 3D-printed piracy.” **Popular Mechanics**. May, 2014.
- “Carrots, Not Sticks: Rethinking Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights for 3D-Printed Manufacturing.” **Journal of 3D Printing and Additive Manufacturing**. Volume 1, March, 2014.
- “3D printed manufacturing: diversifying the economy,” **Forbes Middle East**. Issue 17, September 2013.

- “Where are the Autopilot Lanes for Driverless Cars?” **LiveScience online**, November, 2013.
- “Why Patents won’t kill 3D printing Innovation,” **LiveScience online**, July, 2013.
- “Is Eco-Friendly 3D Printing a Myth?” **LiveScience online**, July 2013
- “How 3D Printing Will Transform Chinese Manufacturing.” **LiveScience online**, July, 2013.
- “The next front in the gun control debate -- how to handle 3D printed guns.” **Fox News** online, February 13, 2012
- Kurman, Melba. "An index-based measure of university technology transfer," (2011). **International Journal of Innovation Science**. (3): 167-176.
- Kurman, Melba. "Why Faculty Tenure Matters to the University Innovation Ecosystem," (December, 2011). **NCURA Magazine** (63): 20-21.
- “The Benefits of Partnering with Universities in the Era of Open Innovation,” published online on May 12, 2011 on **Innovation Management** magazine

Interviews & Other Professional Activity

- Panelist, *Politico Live*, “New Age of Innovation,” Washington D.C., April, 2018.
- Discussion with Gayle Allen, *Curious Minds* Podcast. “How Driverless Technology is a Better Driver than Humans.” January, 2017.
- Interview with Joy Cardin, *Wisconsin Public Radio*. “Driverless Cars and Us.” November, 2016.
- Interview with Bob McDonald of Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) Radio, *Quirks and Quarks*. “Driverless Cars and Our Future.” November, 2016.
- Interview with Russ Mitchell of the *Los Angeles Times*, “How will we know driverless cars are safe?” October, 2016.
- Interview on WGBH and WCAI, public radio in Boston and on Cape Cod, *Living Lab*, December, 2013.
- Interview on Radio Times with Marty Moss Coane here at WHYI FM (NPR Philadelphia.), December, 2013.
- Interview on 3D printing with *ABC News*, “New 3-D Printer Makes Ladies Panties by the Millions,” November 12, 2013.

- Interview on additive manufacturing in *Aspire Magazine* (for Etihad Airways), "New Dimensions", October, 2013.
- Interview on 3D printing trends in *Delta Sky Magazine*, "3D Printing", August, 2013 issue.
- Interview on 3D printing and manufacturing in *China Entrepreneur Magazine*, July 5, 2013.
- Interview on 3D printing and the supply chain in *Beijing News*, July 3, 2013.
- Interview on 3D printing and the future of manufacturing for CCTV (China's national television network) interview, China, June 2013
- Comments on 3D printing technology featured in *Wired UK* "Open source cola and the 'Napster moment' for the food business," April 15, 2013
- Interview, "3D Printing: the promise and peril of a machine that can make (almost) anything." *BigThink Webinar Series*, March, 2013
- Comments on Intel's open source initiative featured, *Campus Technology Magazine*, "Industry-funded software research goes open source," February, 2012
- Interview on technology transfer strategy, *Tech Transfer Tactics* magazine, "U of Ulster's evaluation license allows a trial period to "test drive" technologies," January, 2012
- Feature interview, *Newlogic, Inc.* blog, "Patent reform's effect on the university tech transfer office and R&D organization," January, 2012
- Comments featured, *Tech Transfer Tactics* magazine, "TTO patent strategies run the gamut, from 'singles' to swinging for the fences," October, 2011
- Interview on 3D printing, *NPR Marketplace*, "Why shop the racks when you can just hit print?" Summer, 2011
- Interview, *CNN Money*, "3D Printers launch small businesses," June, 2011
- Interview on technology commercialization trends, *Tech Transfer Tactics* magazine, "Consider offshoring to improve staff efficiency, expand your business reach," March, 2011
- Feature article and interview on technology transfer strategy, *Tech Transfer Tactics* magazine, "Health index' could help TTOs measure their impact," January, 2011

- Founding member of the International Commercialization Alliance, a new organization dedicating to developing better strategies to improve the way organizations manage innovative technologies
- Editorial board, *3D Printing and Additive Manufacturing Journal*

WORK EXPERIENCE (Summarized)

Author and public speaker

2010 – Present

- Create engaging and thought-provoking written content about emerging technologies
- Conduct rigorous analysis and weave that information into informative, entertaining written and spoken narratives
- Inspire and educate executives about artificial intelligence, driverless cars and smart cities at high-profile trade shows and corporate events

Manager of Marketing & Outreach, Cornell University

2006-2010

- Built (from scratch) a comprehensive multi-modal marketing platform for Cornell’s hub of innovative technology and startups, the Cornell Center for Technology Enterprise and Commercialization (CCTEC)

Product Manager, Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, WA

1999-2006

- Served in several increasingly impactful roles within the Windows Server Product Group and the Developer Evangelism teams
- Created crisp and rigorous market and competitor “tear downs” and presented them regularly to Microsoft executives
- Analyzed open source and software market trends in server platforms and developer tools
- Wrote briefs and “deep dive” whitepapers to arm Microsoft’s Field Sales teams about Microsoft’s leading competitors and open source software “product” alternatives

Systems Specialist & Internet Guru, University of Delaware Library, Newark, DE

1994-1998

- Built web sites and taught for-credit university courses on a wide variety of information technology and Internet tools and trends

Peace Corps Volunteer, Liberia, West Africa

1989-1990

- Before being evacuated in the Civil War of 1990, I lived in the tiny village of Voinjama and served as an on-ground ambassador for the U.S. Peace Corps
- Worked with Liberian farmers to help them build and maintain their own freshwater fisheries

EDUCATION

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

- Bachelor of Science, Communication Arts

University of Illinois I-School, Urbana-Champaign

- Master's, Information Science, 3.9 GPA

Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

- MBA coursework in Marketing, Accounting, Management and Entrepreneurship; 3.8 GPA