

# Dr. David Bray

**Executive Director, People-Centered Internet  
Visiting Executive In-Residence, Harvard and  
Singularity University**

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**Focus: Impact of Technological Disruptions on  
Societies, Economies, and Foreign Relations**



Dr. David A. Bray was named one of the top "24 Americans Who Are Changing the World" under 40 by Business Insider in 2016. He was also named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum for 2016-2021. He has been serving as a Visiting Executive In-Residence at Harvard University since 2015. Since 2017, he serves as [Executive Director for the People-Centered Internet coalition](#) co-founded by Vint Cerf, focused on providing support and expertise for [community-focused projects that measurably improve people's lives using the internet](#). He also provides strategy and advises start-ups espousing human-centric principles to technology-enabled decision making in complex environments.

David enjoys creative problem solving. He began working for the U.S. government at [age 15 on computer simulations](#) at a high-energy physics facility investigating quarks and neutrinos. In later roles, he designed new telemedicine interfaces and space-based forest fire forecasting prototypes for the Department of Defense. From 1998-2000 he volunteered as a part-time crew lead with Habitat for Humanity International in the Philippines, Honduras, Romania, and Nepal while also working as a project manager with Yahoo! and a Microsoft partner firm.

Dr. Bray then joined as [IT Chief for the Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program](#) at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, leading the program's technology response to during [9/11, anthrax in 2001](#), Severe Acute Respiratory System in 2003, and other international [public health emergencies](#). He later completed a PhD from Emory University's [Goizueta Business School and two post-doctoral associateships](#) at MIT and Harvard in 2008.

David likes to be a digital diplomat and a "human flak jacket" for [teams of change agents](#) working in turbulent environments. He volunteered in 2009 to deploy to Afghanistan to help "think differently" on military and [humanitarian issues](#) and in 2010 became a Senior National Intelligence Service Executive advocating for increased information interoperability, [cybersecurity](#), and protection of [civil liberties](#). In 2012, he became the Executive Director for the bipartisan National Commission for Review of Research and Development Programs of the United States Intelligence Community, later receiving the National Intelligence Exceptional Achievement Medal.

David received both the Arthur S. Flemming Award and Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership in 2013. He also was chosen to be an [Eisenhower Fellow](#) to meet with leaders in [Taiwan and Australia on multisector cyber strategies](#) for the "Internet of Everything" in 2015.

David passions include "near impossible missions" involving [humans and technology](#) in challenging circumstances. This included serving as the non-partisan Chief Information Officer for the Federal Communications Commission from 2013 to 2017. Through the efforts of a team of positive change agents, [he led the transformation](#) of the FCC's legacy IT with more than 207 different systems to award-winning tech. This included rolling-out new cloud-based IT that achieved [results in 1/2 the time at 1/6 the cost](#). He was selected to be one of [the "Fedscoop 50" for Leadership](#) in 2014, 2015, and 2016 and the recipient of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronic Association's [Outstanding Achievement Award for Civilian Government in 2015](#). Dr. Bray also received the global CIO 100 Award twice, which usually is awarded to private sector Fortune 500 companies, both in 2015 and 2017, for his [transformational leadership](#) in change-adverse settings.

He accepted a role of Co-Chair for an IEEE Committee focused on [Artificial Intelligence, automated systems](#), and [innovative policies](#) globally for 2016-2017. He also has been named a Marshall Memorial Fellow for 2017-2018 and will travel to Europe to discuss Trans-Atlantic [issues of common concern](#) including [exponential technologies](#) and the [global future ahead](#).

## Expertise

- Disruption & Impact
- Leadership & Change Agents
- Artificial Intelligence & Internet of Everything
- Global Trends & Social Impacts
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Organizational Transformations
- Exponential Technologies & Geopolitics
- Natural Disasters & Crisis Response
- Bioterrorism & Outbreak Response
- Cybersecurity & Privacy Engineering
- Non-Partisan Public Policy
- Humanitarian Endeavors
- Space & Satellites
- Networks & Computing
- Big Data & Algorithms
- Strategic Foresight & Forecasting