Artificial Intelligence for Information Accessibility (AI4IA)
Conference Report 2023

In observance of the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) - September 28, 2023

unesco
Information for All Programme

Disclaimer: The views summarised in this Conference Report are meant to reflect those of the presenters and should not be attributed to UNESCO, the UNESCO IFAP Working Group on Information Accessibility (WGIA), or members of the WGIA.

Executive Summary

The Artificial Intelligence for Information Accessibility (AI4IA) Conference is held annually on September 28th in observance of the International Day for Universal Access to Information. At this fourth staging of the conference, we explored three major themes: *'AI: The Choice of An Existential Threat or Tool for Scaling Over Human Limitations?'*; *"The New Rules of AI"*; and *'Securing Open, Inclusive Knowledge Societies'*. 75+ presenters contributed their perspectives on at least one of the thematic areas.

"Humanity's future hinges on whether AI is deployed as a tool to help us overcome persistent challenges or as a means by which humanity destroys itself."
The thematic section *'AI: The Choice of An Existential Threat or Tool for Scaling Over Human Limitations?'* featured twenty-four (24) presentations with thought-provoking discussions, groundbreaking insights, and innovative ideas on a range of topics. These included, 'AI & war, peace and safety', 'AI & the environment', 'Longtermism', 'AI & neurotech', 'Transhumanism', 'AI & health', 'AI & education', 'AI & Agricultural Technology', and 'AI & climate technology'. The speakers were from diverse backgrounds in countries such as Brazil, Canada, India, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Singapore, South Africa, and the USA.

"Recent years have seen AI technology progress at breakneck speed, and anthropomorphized machines are increasingly performing many tasks. What are the implications for society? How do we ensure responsible innovation and stewardship of advanced technologies, and what are the legal and ethical considerations in their development, deployment, and use?"

These questions were explored by eleven (11) presentations under the theme *"The New Rules of AI"*. Presenters covered a wide range of topics such as AI regulations, AI law, AI governance, Digital Rights and Multilateral Normative Instruments.

"AI has proven to have complex, unpredictable, and far-reaching impacts on communities and societies. For example, Generative AI makes it easy to churn out lifelike images and videos, complicating the problem of disinformation and misinformation. On the flip side, there is an opportunity to manage AI and advanced technologies to enhance the scope and quality of community engagement, enrich our shared information environment, preserve cultural diversity, and deliver benefits in an equitable manner for everyone."

Through a comparative lens, twenty-two (22) experts and stakeholders from various regions explored the theme of securing open, inclusive knowledge societies through topics such as 'AI in Africa', 'Ethical AI challenges', 'AI for accessibility and social equity', 'AI in education', 'AI in newsrooms', 'AI in the arts', and 'data governance'.

Introduction

The UNESCO Information For All Programme (IFAP) Working Group on Information Accessibility (WGIA) hosted its fourth online, one-day conference on 28 September 2023. The event was organized in collaboration with the College of Social Sciences and Humanities at the University of Alberta, Canada; the Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (Amii); the Centre for New Economic Diplomacy (CNED) at ORF, India; and the Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica, all under the auspices of the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean and the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa.

AI can be very beneficial to society, but if abused, it can cause harm. It is therefore necessary to understand how AI can be made inclusive, enabling the widest cross-section of society to benefit. This event provided a platform for open discourse involving participants from academia, civil society, the private sector, and government. Participants explored a range of issues including: AI and Participatory Democracy; AI and War; AI and the Environment; The Convergence of AI and Neuro-technology; AI and Law; Implications of Large Language Models; Gendered Perspectives on AI; Culture, Indigenous Societies, and Data Sovereignty; Data Scraping and Exploitation; Digital Rights of Children; the Use of AI to Overcome Disabilities and Deliver Access; AI and Longtermism; AI and Health; the Intersection of AI, Art, and Human Creativity; and the Governance of AI, including Tensions Around the Concepts of Freedom of Expression and Information Accessibility.

In recognition of the central theme guiding the event—accessibility—conference organizers, partners, and volunteers ensured that all pre-recorded presentations were closed-captioned. The Gather.Town platform was used to expose more persons to an alternative virtual conference experience other than the usual Zoom or MS Teams interfaces. Volunteers were present on the platform to assist persons with special needs, including those who were not tech savvy.

AI4IA Conference 2023 - Live Opening Session via ZOOM and YouTube

A Message UNESCO IFAP Working Group on Information Accessibility (WGIA)

Greetings from Cordel Green	

Cordel Green, Executive Director of the Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica and Chair of the IFAP Working Group on Information Accessibility, welcomed participants. He provided the context for hosting the fourth Artificial Intelligence for Information Accessibility (AI4IA) Conference. It was noted that the event continued to follow the on-demand format, which allowed for wider reach and greater inclusivity.

UNESCO Cluster Office for Southern Africa

Ms. Nisha, Officer in charge	

In her remarks, Ms Nisha focused on digital transformation and innovation, emphasizing the need for a safe and open online space that enables access to basic services and promotes human rights and public participation. She observed that the critical role of the online space in supporting democracy, media, and civil society was threatened by censorship, surveillance, and the undermining of various human rights online.

It was therefore important for Southern African governments and their state bodies to unite and collaborate genuinely. Such collaboration is vital if we sincerely desire public involvement in shaping development and having a meaningful voice in social, political, economic, regional, and international affairs. To address these issues, a joint plan of action for 2022–2025 between UNESCO and the Southern African Development Community was proposed, focusing on capacity building in emerging technologies for the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The partnership aims to develop talent for Africa's growing population and advancements in AI systems.

Other notable initiatives spearheaded by UNESCO include a forum on the ethical use of AI in Namibia, the development of an AI-powered lesson plan generator for teachers, and policy reviews in Lesotho and Zimbabwe. However, there is a need for a shared vision among stakeholders to create an environment conducive to the research, development, and deployment of AI solutions. Given the challenge of limited access to technology in Africa, it is important to bridge the digital divide and ensure universal access to information while pursuing an inclusive and empowered society.

UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean

Dr Anna Paolini, Director	

Anna Paolini welcomed all those present at the AI4IA Conference, including international experts, panellists, and colleagues. She noted the profound impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on digital transformation, particularly the accelerated adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) in daily life. However, while there are myriad opportunities that AI presents, including job creation, the empowerment of content creators, and the development of innovative services, it is of critical importance that ethical challenges are also addressed. These challenges, such as bias, data privacy concerns, and the potential loss of human agency, need careful consideration to ensure the protection of fundamental human rights. UNESCO continues to play a pivotal role in fostering awareness and building capacity for artificial intelligence (AI) in an inclusive and equitable manner. Notably, UNESCO has engaged in collaborative efforts with two Eastern Caribbean member states to implement the recommendation on the ethics of AI, which aims to maximize its benefits while minimizing risks. Furthermore, UNESCO is actively supporting the government of Antigua and Barbuda in developing their national digital transformation framework. It is important to collaborate with member states and like-minded partners to promote technologies that uphold human rights and dignity.

UNESCO Communication and Information Sector and Information For All Programme

Dr. Marielza Oliviera, Director for Digital Inclusion Policies and Transformation and the Secretary of the Intergovernmental Information for All Program (IFAP)	

Ms Oliviera noted that the AI4IA Conference, and AI in general, could be transformative in building inclusive knowledge societies. Open data, responsible and ethical frameworks for AI development and use, as well as collective discourse and collaboration, are important for understanding and ensuring that the benefits of AI reach everyone. She highlighted the diversity and inclusiveness of the conference through participation of speakers with disabilities, passionate young individuals, and dynamic women leaders.

Ms Oliviera drew attention to the IFAP Strategic Plan 2023-2029 which aims to strengthen universal accessibility to information and protect human rights in the context of AI and sustainable development. This is exemplified by a recent project which involves a community radio station (Bank 88.7 FM) in Jamaica and their work in ensuring the accessibility of the radio station's archives. UNESCO appreciates every opportunity to contribute to global dialogues on crucial subjects and calls upon all stakeholders to actively participate in and contribute to IFAP, envisioning a world where AI advances technologically and becomes a tool for the advancement of humanity.

Keynote Address

Dr Dana Morris-Dixon, Minister Without Portfolio in the Office of the Prime Minister with Oversight for Skills and Digital Transformation, Jamaica	

The impact of AI on society is multifaceted, specifically in terms of freedom of expression and information accessibility. Freedom of expression is important to democracy as it fosters an informed and engaged citizenry, intellectual growth, economic prosperity, and encourages critical thinking and constructive criticism, enabling the identification and rectification of inefficiencies in businesses and governments. The relationship between freedom of expression and economic prosperity is symbiotic, with freedom of expression catalyzing innovation and economic development providing the necessary resources. However, there are concerns with the rise of AI, as there is a need to strike a balance between upholding freedom of expression and curbing harmful content. There are potential dangers of AI-powered content moderation, such as inadvertent censorship and manipulation of information flows.

On the other hand, AI presents benefits to freedom of expression by enabling efficient content distribution, breaking down language barriers, tailoring content recommendations, and enhancing access to diverse viewpoints. AI can have a transformative impact, improving the lives of individuals with disabilities through assistive technologies that level the playing field and enable full participation in society.

AI's impact is global, making it crucial to establish common standards and norms to ensure consistency and interoperability. By harmonizing regulations internationally, we can create a predictable environment for businesses to operate, prevent regulatory arbitrage, and foster effective governance. Furthermore, international cooperation can facilitate technology transfer and capacity building, ensuring that the benefits of AI are accessible to all nations and reducing the global technology divide. However, there are challenges to pursuing an international response, including potential slow decision-making and the difficulty of accommodating each country's legal and ethical landscape.

It is important to find the right equilibrium between international cooperation and local approaches to harness the full potential of AI while safeguarding values and rights. In that regard, Jamaica has formed an AI task force to explore the advantages and disadvantages of AI in various sectors and examine the need for potential changes in existing laws. We must ensure that there is careful consideration, collaboration, and innovation in governing AI while prioritizing inclusion, equity, and responsible stewardship.

A Report on the Live Opening Panel

In this section, panellists discussed the need for a common understanding and frame of reference among stakeholders regarding AI systems. They acknowledged that achieving a consensus on AI is challenging but suggested that focusing on child rights could be a starting point. They also emphasised the importance of distributing responsibilities and decision-making power to local organisations and sectors rather than having one group control everything. The session concluded with expressions of gratitude to the speakers, technical support team, and partners involved in the AI4IA Conference, especially the organising committee.

Andrea Millwood Hargrave, Principal at Millwood Hargrave Ltd

Andrea Millwood Hargrave, moderator, underscored the importance of understanding AI's capabilities, both positive and negative. She referred to the agreement among G7 nations to ensure that AI developments align with shared values. Against this background of growing public awareness and expectations surrounding AI, the AI4IA conference aimed to bring together experts to envision a future where AI serves humanity's well-being.

	**Professor Sonia Livingstone OBE, Professor of Social Psychology, Department of Media and Communication, London School of Economics**

Professor Livingstone opened the discussion by addressing the challenges children's organizations face in keeping up with technological advancements and ensuring that children's voices are heard. She stressed the importance of research and understanding technology to provide informed advice and argued against banning new technologies, such as ChatGPT, without fully exploring their educational and informational opportunities. She emphasized the importance of a skeptical approach to AI and its benefits for children.

She raised concerns about AI powering disinformation and the unequal access and risks faced by children online, urging the need to solve the problems of previous technologies and

address inequalities before fully embracing AI. She referred to General Comment 25, which highlights the application of children's rights in the digital context, emphasizing the fundamental importance of considering children's rights holistically and age-appropriately within the context of Big Tech. Also, attention needed to be given to the role of data and technological infrastructure in mediating information and access.

Prof Livingstone advocated embedding a rights-based process throughout the design, development, and policy formulation of artificial intelligence. In doing so, she envisioned embedding child rights by design and a more inclusive and ethically grounded digital landscape to benefit children worldwide.

	**Professor Jacob L. Jaremko, Fellow & Canada CIFAR AI Chair; Associate Professor, University of Alberta (Radiology)**

Professor Jaremko discussed the opportunity that AI presents in increasing equity and providing more equitable care in the medical field, particularly in areas with limited access to trained professionals and medical imaging. He highlighted the use of AI in handheld portable ultrasound devices to bring expert knowledge to the point of care and discussed the potential of AI to improve medical care for children around the world.

There are, however, several concerns such as the need for balanced data sets that represent diverse demographics. Data privacy is also a concern, particularly when it comes to using personal medical information for training AI systems. Additionally, the issue of liability arises when these AI systems make mistakes. Despite these ethical concerns, he believes that with correct implementation AI has the potential to greatly benefit medical care and promote equity globally.

	**Professor Ashok Jhunjhunwala, Institute Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Madras**

Professor Jhunjhunwala delved into AI's transformative role in dismantling barriers to entry and enhancing access to information, particularly in linguistically diverse countries. A focal point of this discussion centered around the prevalent language diversity and division within the Indian context, where individuals from various states often face challenges in mutual comprehension. English is primarily spoken by the highly educated and affluent, not the majority of the population.

An AI program called “BHASHINI” has been developed to enable text-to-speech and speech-to-text conversion in every language and translation services. This allows Indians to access the internet and digital services in their own languages, bridging the language gap and building a national digital platform for all. There was a brief demonstration of the program's capabilities.

	**Shay Ann Reid, Culture Business Partner, The Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA)**

Shay Ann Reid focused on the importance of AI in creating a more inclusive and accessible world for individuals with disabilities. She discussed the impact of AI on overcoming barriers to employment and highlighted AI tools, such as predictive text and advanced prosthetics, which have greatly improved daily lives and access to previously restricted activities.

Shay called for guidelines and fact-checking when using AI, as users may need to independently verify information provided by AI systems.

Thematic Areas

Theme 1 - AI: The Choice of an Existential Threat or Tool for Scaling Over Human Limitations?

Humanity's future hinges on whether AI is deployed as a tool to help us overcome persistent challenges or as a means by which humanity destroys itself. This was the frame for twenty-four (24) thought-provoking discussions, groundbreaking insights, and innovative ideas by esteemed presenters from countries such as Brazil, Canada, India, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Singapore, South Africa, and the USA, among others. Their contributions encapsulated the global nature of AI, offering unique insights that address the intricate moral, ethical, and technological considerations that lie at the heart of the AI discourse. They covered various topics under this theme, including AI, war, peace & safety, AI & the environment, longtermism, AI & neurotechnology, transhumanism, health, education, agricultural technology, and climate technology.

The presenters sought to engage on a number of questions: Does AI render education unimportant? What determines if AI development is a risky endeavor? Will AI change the way we interact? Is AI the harbinger of untold advancements, empowering us to transcend limitations and achieve previously unimaginable feats? Or will it pose existential threats as we grapple with the safety, ethical, social, and philosophical quandaries that emerge?

Emad Mousavi outlined the distinction between non-generative and generative AI, providing insights on the capabilities of generative conversational AI compared to human capabilities. This served as a foundational understanding for evaluating the potential and limitations of AI technologies.

Cordel Green advocated for encoding human-centric values into AI systems design, emphasizing the importance of aligning AI development with human values and ethics. Tugba Yoldas introduced a cautionary note, highlighting that AI should not be made more human-like, yet. She stressed that AI should not be endowed with flexible broad goals, experiences, motivations, and beliefs, as this could lead to unintended consequences and ethical concerns.

Prof. Shafika Isaacs stated that artificial intelligence is being developed in a non-transparent manner which facilitates lack of awareness, fear, and opportunities for misuse for surveillance and political manipulation. Angelo Ferraro outlined that artificial intelligence is laden with uncharted grounds and unique opportunities that can be leveraged for monetary gain but fraught with risks. The tension between agents trying to develop AI and those trying to prevent its development at all costs became evident in Emille Torres' presentation. Jeff Greenberg and Mike Johns agreed that while AI dangers include disrupting fields of work, particularly content creation, it opens new opportunities that can be leveraged by the common person or seasoned professional. Lynn Rowe and Ashwini Kotaru expressed the view that the internet and information access are crucial for developing AI. Kotaru explained that humans should move away from fear and instead work towards an approach that has AI augmenting the innovation process such that we can tailor AI to produce software on demand and information on demand. David Harel alluded to how knowledge of the identity of our interaction partner being a machine or human could affect communication going forward.

Isabela Ferrari examined how neuromarketing and big data enable the manipulation of people's emotions, inducing mentally harmful habits. Paul G. Thompson offered the perspective of artificial reasoning agents whereby the process retains an authorization layer for human decision-making before an AI can execute the decision it formulated. Jeff Greenberg offered a similar perspective, exploring the possibility of using AI to co-create content thereby overcoming writer's block and other creator-unique challenges.

Jose Hernandez-Orallo posited that AI will change job descriptions, but at the same time enhance worker ability. The education system must therefore assess learners in settings that allow them to use AI augmentations in a scalable and ethical way rather than ban such tools as they will be used in day-to-day work. Martha White spoke similarly about continual learning systems which could be applied to processes that require multiple analyses and minute adjustments for optimality beyond human capability, while retaining humans for other tasks which AI is not yet capable or suitable to perform. In this sense, AI augments the work process. Dr. Ivana Stepanovic warns, however, against overreliance on AI as it could undermine learners' cognition and other skills.

Other presenters, such as Poonam Mehtrotra and Francois Bolduc, expounded on the capabilities of AI to transform health care for the benefit of mankind. Mehtrotra explained that AI can enhance diagnosis, treatment, patient monitoring, and other clinical and administrative functions. Bolduc discussed leveraging generative AI capabilities of a chatbot to disseminate vetted information about complex medical conditions to patients and their families, overcoming geographical and time constraints and keyword misalignment.

Sri Kumar and Illes Katona focused on autonomous weapons being developed and deployed under a lack of representation and driven by a profit motive.

Winston Ng, a Singaporean High School student, challenged himself to create a deep fake video of himself delivering his presentation to demonstrate AI's capabilities. Other speakers showcased AI products developed by their organizations or deployed in the real world to contextualize their presentations.

Some experts contend that if misused, AI technology has the potential to impede human progress. Others suggest that an abundance of caution and stringent regulations may stifle innovation, thereby hindering human advancement. However, there is general acceptance that the general population should be aware that AI has been around for a long time, and we are likely to have interacted with or impacted by AI in our daily lives in leisure or work. We must, therefore, arrive at common understandings at the individual, community, and international levels on boundaries of responsibility to harness the potential of AI whilst safeguarding the future of humanity.

Presenters

<table>
<tr><td>  </td><td>1H - llés Katona
The furthest end of automation – artificial intelligence in fully autonomous weapons
https://youtu.be/i1OSNVglJ68</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">llés Katona posited that emerging technology is a key factor in changing global structures and that it can either solve the world's major problems or become the major problem, particularly in warfare. Major world powers are increasing their investments in autonomous weapons alongside growing tensions worldwide. The sensors and algorithms used to run these autonomous weapons dehumanize people into binary codes that are compared against datasets and orders from superiors, violating human dignity. Given that current facial recognition systems have difficulty recognizing persons of different races, using these weapons without human supervision can cause serious harm. Intensified</td></tr>
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conflicts are fueling the development of autonomous weapons, with at least one known deployment in Libya. Existing regulations are deemed insufficient, and attempts to enhance them to curb the development of these weapons face resistance in international discussions. However, a ray of hope emerges as the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly has drafted a resolution aimed at addressing the legal, ethical, humanitarian, and security challenges associated with autonomous weapons.

It is imperative that everyone advocates to retain meaningful human control over the use of force in our communities and on the international scene to curtail the use of autonomous weapons in armed conflicts.

1P - Sri Kumar
AI in war
https://youtu.be/UahcRmHV49o

Sri Kumar, a former colonel in the Indian army, explored the possibilities of existing and future AI-powered weapons and their implications for war. He cautioned that unmanned weapons driven by AI, such as combat drones, could revolutionize the duration and lethality of war. Robotic armies are becoming more desirable since they are faster, cheaper, and more durable than human-based forces. This is because human forces suffer mentally and physically from field conditions and may develop PTSD upon survival. Conversely, unmanned drones will lack human emotional factors and facilitate quick decision-making with minimal error in coordination. They will also be able to endure harsher field conditions on land, air, and/or sea than human forces, undertaking more difficult missions. With fewer human limitations, future wars may escalate and propagate throughout the world.

Kumar then introduced Black Parrot Consulting which is developing products to simulate field conditions using AR, VR, the metaverse, and other AI-related technologies that can be employed in military training, safety exercises, war simulation, and gaming. These can mentally prepare soldiers for their tasks, improving decision-making, reaction, and overall performance. They could also aid efforts to retain the human element decisions about war and dissuade countries from taking the violent route.

1U - 3T - Caleb Gichuhi
Digital Peacebuilding supported by AI
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wOvNbIOKYE

Gichuhi believes there is potential to use AI tools for peacebuilding. He introduced a new innovation called the Phoenix AI tool. A decade ago, tools to gather intelligence about violent themes, misinformation, disinformation, and hate speech related to online traffic were lacking. However, developments such as the Phoenix process, created by BuildUp, bridge this gap. The technology scans social media platforms and presents summarised results in a dashboard format. Insights about a particular trend can be analyzed by topic, emoji, actor, and sentiment using various graphical representations. Phoenix has been deployed in over 10 countries to support peacebuilders' efforts to reduce the spread of misinformation, hate speech etc which could escalate into violent events.

1X - Winston Ng
AI Deepfake
https://youtu.be/HXRHBnt_K48

Winston Ng created a deepfake video which gives an overview of deepfakes. Deepfakes are computer-generated or manipulated videos, audio recordings, graphics, and images made to seem authentic, often using artificial intelligence, machine learning, and deep neural networks. An AI model develops deepfakes by collating, analysing, and synthesising large amounts of source data on the target and other desired material, then undertaking a training process. Deepfakes are not inherently malicious. Their usual applications are in entertainment for enhancing actor performance, in education for creating immersive experiences, and in accessibility for assisting persons with disabilities. However, deepfakes may be misused to create misinformation, discredit individuals, breach privacy, and commit identity theft and fraud. After completing the presentation, Ng displayed a brief walkthrough of how he used various AI software to create the deepfake video. Deepfakes are a double-edged sword that people need to adapt to and develop safeguards against, such as improving detection methods, education, and regulation.

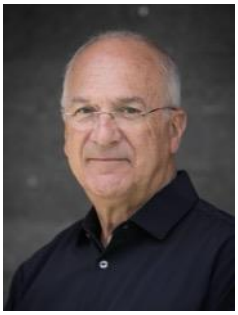
1N - Sacha-Renée Todd
The AI Oasis: A Technological Blueprint to Combat Water Scarcity and Stress
https://youtu.be/0d57Ln_-JmE

Sacha-Renée Todd discussed the consequences of water stress and insecurity and the role AI can play in water management, as well as the roadmap towards water security. AI can be used in water monitoring and analysis, predictive modeling for resource allocation, improving system efficiencies, developing new water technologies for various industries, and supporting climate change adaptation. For instance, Jamaica is a water-stressed country due to outdated systems and infrastructure. In this case, AI can be used for leak detection and predictive maintenance. Limitations include a lack of data about resources, terrain and land use, finances, and specialists. Despite these challenges, there are opportunities due to increasing data collection through sensors, decreasing computing costs, and growing interest in the applications of AI for water management. The roadmap to water security using AI includes steps such as: (1) objective definition, (2) historical and real-time data acquisition and centralization, (3) collaboration, partnerships, and public engagement, (4) infrastructure and technology development, and (5) supportive policy and regulation. Along the journey, it is important that data privacy is upheld and that the information is accessible to the countries that need it the most.
Improving water security is a complex challenge; however, through the integration of AI technologies into water management initiatives, data-driven, proactive approaches can be executed for the benefit of humanity.

1T - 3S - Prof. Shafika Isaacs
Towards Critical Human Agency in relation to Generative AI
https://youtu.be/UA59YiwB2qk

Prof. Shafika Isaacs investigated the concept of human agency and threats to it. She opened the presentation by stressing the concerns that have been expressed about the incomplete understanding of generative AI. These systems are viewed as opaque and may be coded with discrimination or used as strategic tools for surveillance, political manipulation, misinformation, intellectual property infringement, security breaches, and the like. Generative AI may be weaponized or used to augment cybersecurity. Isaacs noted that it is

necessary to consider facets of generative AI, focusing on its contestations of human agency.



1Q - David Harel
The Human or machine issue: Turing inspired reflection on an everyday matter
https://youtu.be/I3Pkdd_LYQw

David Harel outlined a study design on the implications of knowingly or unknowingly communicating with a human or machine using the Turing test as a reference. The study sought to address issues such as:

(1) Can a machine be built to perform or mimic a human task as authentically as a human? (2) Do humans care whether the entity they are interacting with is a human or a machine? (3) If so, why do they care, and how does it affect their interactions? (4) How can the question of whether an agent is human or a machine be elicited? (5) Will machines become indistinguishable from humans, and will it matter?

This forthcoming paper presents a variation of the Turing test introduced in 1950, which determines if a computer can be assessed as intelligent. The general test aims to identify the human or machine identity of hidden agents through interrogation and observation of their reactions. However, this test focuses on the interactions between an interrogator and a hidden agent rather than determining the human or machine identity of the agent. The interrogation or conversation is limited to one subject on everyday interactions, whereas the original test could encompass any subject at the discretion of the interrogator. The study also explores a proposed first law for interacting with machines, which states that machines should declare "I am a machine" at the beginning of conversations; though there are circumstances where such information is better left hidden. The paper intends to understand if knowledge of the human or machine identity of agents affects current and future interactions between human agents, machine agents, and human-machine agents.

The study of determining if the parties to an interaction are either human or machine, and how this affects their current and future interactions, is intriguing and could have a significant impact on such interactions.

	1D - Ashwini Kotaru LLMs in Action. Emerging Application Model Patterns https://youtu.be/IeXbR5L4EWE

Ashwini Kotaru explored the possibilities of large language models (LLMs) for current information access and innovation, noting that they are now more accessible than ever. Previously, LLMs were available only to a privileged few, but they have since become completely open source. Kotaru posited that the future development of LLMs will depend on how they remain competitively relevant to Information Technology (IT) strategies in organizations, as they are best adapted to specific use cases.

IT costs have been falling with the use of AI in software development, making it plausible for generative AI to create software on demand in the near future. The combination of on-demand software and hardware capabilities results in Digital Transformation as a Service (DTaaS). Digital transformation refers to information accessibility at scale, where the right information is delivered to the right person in the right form and at the right time. This approach envisions the generation of new solutions in real-time for emerging problems, requiring sufficient digitization of source data and the creation of standardized markup languages.

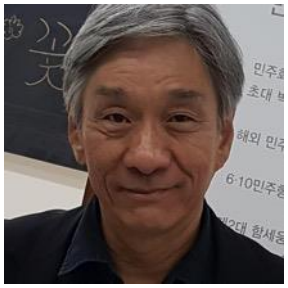
Regarding the concept of singularity, Ashwini Kotaru expressed that humans will drive digital transformation to a point where AI programs can develop others, with human developers observing the process. AI will help achieve UNESCO's ROAM-X vision, which addresses Rights, Openness, Accessibility to all, Multistakeholder Participation, and Cross-Cutting Issues. To attain this and support efforts to achieve DTaaS for everyone, all of UNESCO's digital assets need to be converted into AI-readable, modifiable, and creatable digital quantum for use in development. Kotaru concluded by stating that it is crucial to open our minds to what is possible instead of making decisions from a point of fear.

Photo	1A - Angelo Ferraro AI: New Worlds, Great Explorations, & Treasures of Our Times, Beware, There Be Dragons https://youtu.be/adepAgpuGOM

Angelo Ferraro explored the notion that AI has much untapped potential that could be both beneficial and harmful. Ferraro likened exploring the world of AI today, to discovering new lands by sea in the old days. He stated that we see both real and imagined treasures and risks in AI. The treasures represent the advantages of using AI across various industries. One notable AI technology is affective computing, which is used to treat autism. However, the ability to alter a person's emotional states, beliefs, and the like without their knowledge or consent presents a high risk if developed by malicious parties. Defining and enforcing regulations and security measures is also flawed by human weaknesses. Thus, it is imperative that responsible, capable, and internationally recognized parties are selected to define and defend human rights and needs while addressing power disparities.

Data acquisition is the lifeblood of all AI. Data fusion is the method used to share data from many sources to relevant data centers. Smart cities and the metaverse, for instance, use data fusion to fuel their operations. Consideration must also be given to the boundaries between the digital and real worlds when developing regulations. Data fusion in smart cities and the metaverse may undermine privacy and more. Humans need both a private and social life, and while trust may be an issue, personal AI agents could manage an individual's privacy affairs with human rights and dignity at the forefront.

It is possible to employ AI technology to create, track, and audit the responsible and ethical use of privacy data.



1E - 3C - Lynn Rowe
The Internet, AI & Accessibility
Hopes, Hype, Horrors & the Human Condition
https://youtu.be/BIBLKSoYa5A

Lynn Rowe outlined the challenges to universal access and the moral considerations of AI development. Technology has enabled vast accessibility to information. Yet, with the accelerated advances in AI and technology, digital divides and economic divides are widening, especially in developing countries. Challenges to universal access include physical, infrastructural, language, and censorship and regulatory barriers. There are also moral considerations in the development and use of AI. Asimov's laws essentially state that platforms should work in the interest and safety of human beings. Hence, superintelligence must be monitored for security, and equitable distribution and control codes and regulations should adequately account for the diverse aspects of technology use. If appropriately used, AI can systematically address major world issues, but it can also exacerbate them if misused.

Rowe concluded that “fighting for equal access is the key to equal opportunity and a brighter future for the world. The dangers of the misuse of superintelligence are real and significant. A consistent focus on human-centric, common-man-oriented development by governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), enterprises, and the populace in general is foundational to avoiding the darker consequences of AI development. Compassion versus competition is key.”

N1F - 3E - Jeff Greenberg
The Intersection of Art, AI & Creativity
https://youtu.be/hgN30LSOz6Y

AI tools can democratize creativity in an unparalleled way. Jeff Greenberg explained that AI can aid creators with content development, as a collaborator. These tools are readily accessible via an internet browser and have lowered barriers to entry for creative fields. For instance, MIDI and synthesis tools allow users to compose music. However, there are ethical concerns that the creative process is being diluted, making it difficult to identify and weigh the contribution of the creator's talent versus the AI tool. Additionally, the models for these tools are trained in obscure environments with aggregated data, often lacking transparency, which can hinder innovation and protect profit margins.

There are also concerns about diversity and intellectual property regarding the source content used to train models, as well as potential biases. AI tools might replace craft skills and offer limited safety nets for displaced artisans. Creative interest groups, such as the Writer's Guild of America in the United States, have raised concerns about unrestrained content creation using AI tools, which endangers their livelihoods. The advancement of AI tools makes it increasingly difficult to distinguish between content with genuine human elements and AI-generated content.

These new tools bring new opportunities, but legal frameworks and regulations must be updated to address growing intellectual property concerns, such as determining which party should be compensated for AI-generated content and maintaining a level of privacy and transparency.

To foster an environment of dual transparency and ethical creation, we should encourage AI creators to disclose the tools used, while tool developers should be encouraged to share an overview of the datasets used to train models, especially to facilitate crediting and potentially rewarding source creators. Greenberg envisions the future as an enabling environment, facilitated by internet access, offering equal opportunities for all who want to be creative.

	1B - Émile P. Torres The “TESCREAL” ideologies and the race to build artificial general intelligence https://youtu.be/txok0XY2ePU

Émile P. Torres focused on the concept of the TESCREAL Bundle, how it relates to artificial general intelligence (AGI), and why the TESCREAL Bundle's standpoints should be disconcerting to the masses.

It is hypothesized that far more people will exist in the future on and around earth and in the digital space. Transhumanism, Effective Altruism, and long-termism are central components of the TESCREAL Bundle worldview. They articulate and foreground a particular techno-utopian vision of the future in which the welfare of human and digital beings must be considered. Many TESCREALists, or individuals who accept one or more ideologies in the bundle, believe that value-aligned artificial general intelligence (AGI) is an ideal path to achieving a utopian state of radical abundance, post-human immortality, and space colonization. There are other TESCREALists who believe that AGI could become an existential threat to humanity if its goals are misaligned with human values. To achieve utopia, AI needs to be developed in a sufficiently safe manner.

There are two opposing factions in the AI movement—AI ‘accelerationists’ and AI ‘doomers’—but they both share the goals of using AI to re-engineer humanity, colonize space, overcome scarcity, and maximize value. They disagree on the likelihood of AGI becoming an existential threat. The TESCREAL Bundle’s standpoints should be disconcerting for three reasons. Firstly, the TESCREAL Bundle worldview was developed in an environment underpinned by Western ideology that lacked diversity in perspective, background, and cultural experience, which may negatively affect most of humanity. Secondly, many current AGI systems have been trained using aggregated data and intellectual property theft. Thirdly, AGI doomers advocate for violent actions against AI development, which could lead to escalation into violent conflict, war, and mass death. The promise of utopia drives AGI development, while the threat of annihilation drives advocacy for extreme measures, which could result in mass death. The issue with the TESCREAL Bundle is that the hype distracts parties from the real-world harms that AI companies are causing while concentrating more power within the tech elite.
Torres lamented that the TESCREAL Bundle is one of the most insidious dangers humanity currently faces. These ideologies on tech development should be addressed to safeguard humanity.

Photo	1M - Emad Mousavi

	What AI is and Isn't : A Look at the State of AI Through the Lens of Conversational AIs https://youtu.be/7WtYDxG8c5A

Emad Mousavi focused on the capabilities of conversational AI. Artificial intelligence simulates human intelligence and cognitive functions using machines and computers. AI can be categorized as generative or non-generative. Non-generative AI processes data and solves problems without creating something new, whereas generative AI creates content. A conversational AI agent (chatbot) is an AI software that can recognize, interpret, and simulate a spoken or written conversation with a user in natural language, based on word prediction and probability, and is built with large language datasets. ChatGPT, the most prominent generative AI, has a wide range of uses, from content creation to education to game design. However, ChatGPT lacks the emotional intelligence and common sense to identify context, sarcasm, and humour. It also struggles with multitasking and prioritizing tasks. Intelligence involves more than just the ability to reason. While conversational AI enables machines to converse with and aid humans through probabilities and prediction, human intelligence is not based on predictions and probabilities alone. It is rooted in an iterative and convoluted process of questioning, hypothesizing, learning, and reflecting.

Emad Mousavi posits that the 'intelligence' of ChatGPT and other generative AIs differs from human cognition because they lack the internal desire to learn, improve, and reflect, and they create content through aggregation and consolidation rather than pure creation.

AI is an extremely powerful tool that has pervaded. It is useful in many areas of life, but requires multinational governance and oversight.

	1L - 2E - Tugba Yoldas Thinking About Future Artificial Moral Patients https://youtu.be/xQEY8yxyR1c

Tugba Yoldas explored whether humanity is prepared to create artificial beings that are capable of being harmed or benefited in a morally relevant sense. A moral patient is **defined as** someone or something capable of being intrinsically harmed or benefited in a morally important sense, in a way that entails duties to avoid causing harm and to promote benefit. Conversely, a moral agent is defined as someone or something capable of harming and benefiting moral patients. Intrinsic harms, such as pain, are harms that are harmful in themselves, not merely because of the effects or consequences they might bring about. There are basic moral principles that guide this approach to a defensible moral view: we should avoid unnecessarily harming others and take actions that promote the well-being of others for their sake rather than for our own.

Intentionality, which includes experiences, motivations, and beliefs, is integral to having a mental state. Intentionality allows individuals to be in a genuinely mistaken state without deriving this state from another entity's mental state and to recognize a state of being fulfilled or unfulfilled in the world. For instance, tools cannot trick themselves into using themselves incorrectly, but users can inadvertently misuse tools based on their beliefs. Mental states with true intentionality must have the capacity for experiences, motivations, and beliefs. An AI system has this intentionality capacity if its operations, drives, and behaviors are best explained by egocentric representations, purposes, motivations, desires, or goals that can flexibly and systematically interact with a variety of the system's other representations and goals.

Yoldas examined game-playing AIs, such as AlphaGo AI, and found that their actions are solely driven by code, with no intention to play a particular move or capability to conduct another task. AlphaGo AI and other game AIs lack intentionality because they have narrow goals, lack flexibility in their operations, and are not driven by desires. They have no egocentric space. To represent an egocentric space is to represent oneself as a stance on things from which one represents oneself and interacts with the world. Nevertheless, through innovation, some AIs, such as Gato, a generalist agent, and Waymo Driver, a self-driving car technology, exhibit sufficient systematic flexible intentionality and egocentric capacity due to their wide variety of goals, which allow them to exhibit a broader range of behaviors.

Yoldas posits that there are strong moral reasons to avoid creating artificial moral patients at this time because we have failed to adequately care for the well-being of existing biological moral patients, such as animals and vulnerable people, with our limited resources. AIs with moral patients would add to this burden and might not be treated or cared for fairly. Instead, resources intended for creating these artificial moral patients could be used to care for existing biological moral patients. Furthermore, developing artificial moral patients for use in areas like autonomous weapons, vehicles, and automated personal assistants could potentially threaten our well-being if they are not properly aligned with our moral values.

1G - 3G - Mike Johns & Vin Rock
AI: What's All the Hype About & How Can It Benefit Me?
https://youtu.be/Fp4NLQAOLms

Mike Johns, the owner and founder of Digital Mind State, is joined by Vinnie Brown (Vin Rock), a member of the legendary Hip Hop group Naughty by Nature, in a discussion

about how AI can help those in the music industry. AI is the science of making machines think like humans and perform tasks for them. ChatGPT is the low-hanging fruit among AI technologies since it is a disrupter that is accessible and can be used to create business plans and help with education. AI use augments workers in their tasks and can create new jobs, such as AI maintenance and monitoring. Technological improvements have made securing certain products from local and international sources easier. Thus, AI can be used to enhance a business.

The strike in Hollywood is related to intellectual property conflicts where creators and actors are seeking to avoid their image, likeness, and work being used in perpetuity through AI without proper compensation. There should be regulations for companies creating and using AI. The SAG-AFTRA strike in Hollywood highlights how technology can be used to exploit others. However, it is not all negative, as technology, including sampling, has revolutionized music production, marketing, merchandise creation, and consumption. AI allows for more efficiency. In the 1990s, sampling innovation allowed artists to build on the technology of different musical instruments and explore various genres to create and update their unique sound to fit the audience. AI can be used to analyze an artist's catalog and simulate future characterizations of their voice and music based on the expectations of the time period, helping artists stay relevant in the market. AI can also assist artists suffering from medical issues related to their voice, allowing them to create music with a simulated version of their original voice. Additionally, AI can facilitate the monetization of new frontiers in music. For instance, while lyric videos are viewed as cost-efficient content for fans in the industry, they are still pricey, but AI can generate engaging and creative lyric videos using multiple songs as source material. AI assists small business owners in making, managing, and saving money. It is important to learn how to leverage AI, so it is recommended to start with free resources like YouTube to gain awareness and then take certified courses at accessible grassroots institutions as an investment in learning how to use the technology. It is also crucial to surround yourself with more AI-savvy individuals and professionals to effectively translate and utilize the technology. Awareness of AI tools and capabilities can reduce paranoia about them and motivate people to leverage these technologies to improve their tasks.

1W - 3X - Cordel Green
Future Proofing Human Agency in the Age of Disruptive Technologies
https://youtu.be/F-HMw2lKYhQ

Cordel Green delved into crucial considerations that demand attention for safeguarding human agency in a present and future. It could be argued that mankind are information beings, with everything about us coded in genes. Some see this an equivalence with

machines. This approximation justifies re-engineering humanity with technology and includes pursuing machine consciousness and approximating machine agency to core aspects of human cognition. Although AI is positioned as a potential major solution to many real-world problems, especially in the language and communication sphere, there is a risk of losing agency over basic human communication (language is an expression of humanity's inner thoughts) to machines. Furthermore, insights from neurotechnology are challenging the concept of 'free will', which erodes the theoretical assumptions underpinning legal decision-making, for example, *mens rea*. To combat this, digital and information literacy should be universally accessible. A new set of rights encompassing the right to cognitive liberty or mental self-determination should be considered, as the current law is inadequate. The law should also impose fiduciary responsibilities on technology companies as a response to information asymmetry and power imbalances between big tech, governments, and ordinary people. This can be done by modelling existing relations of trust between a fiduciary (e.g doctor) and the vulnerable party (patient). There should also be a global framework of humane realism built on a new form of multilateralism which is 'bottom-up'.
Green concluded that if we apply appropriate governance frameworks to create AI systems based on human-centric values, we can avoid technological determinism and information feudalism and address many real-world challenges rather than exacerbating them and creating new ones.

1S - Isabela Ferrari
The Machine of Chaos - Data analysis, cheap dopamine and our daily lives
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I4IOUSdnMtY

Isabela Ferrari posited that the spread of AI is influencing the behavior of the masses and deeply affecting our well-being. In contrast to traditional marketing, which was less intrusive, the advent of big data and data analysis enables sellers to aggregate information from online interactions. This information is then utilized to create profiles of individuals and identify target audiences for their products. The collected information may encompass purchase history, browsing behavior, and customer feedback to uncover interests and consumption patterns. By leveraging neuromarketing and big data, sellers manipulate people's emotions to adjust their needs to the products being sold. Nowadays, marketing uses images embedded with energy to encourage individuals to buy particular products. After sellers create the narrative and scenarios, they employ buying triggers—particularly time-sensitive ones, like 'available just today'—to induce people to make quick decisions and thus secure sales. Our society, for example, is seeing online platforms offering more

opportunities to release stress and gain cheap dopamine, but these effects are relatively short-lived. Repeated consumption of these activities can lead to addiction and a decreased sensitivity to dopamine-inducing activities, which could result in anxiety, depression, and other mental and emotional issues. It is important to avoid dopamine addiction, but if already afflicted, one should address the addiction through habit changes and emotional detox. Information can be used to manipulate us, but once we take care of our internal space and external habits, and remain aware of the traps, we can protect ourselves. In the era of information, life should be an ongoing search for greater consciousness.

1C - Paul G. Thompson
Decisions, Decisions - How Autonomous Reasoning Agents are Paving the Way for Ethical AI Governance
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sa96z9ElooQ

Paul G. Thompson focused on the use of autonomous reasoning agents, to efficiently and responsibly aid decision-making without eliminating human input. Thompson opened his presentation by asserting that life is a series of decisions with consequences. To aid in decision-making, a government may use an autonomous reasoning agent (ARA), which is an advanced type of AI that incorporates contextual reasoning, ethical and critical thinking, and adaptive decision-making. Governments may use one or a group of such autonomous agents to, for instance, analyze youth engagement, identify and address needs, forecast and plan scenarios for disaster mitigation and emergency responses, as well as to collate and analyze feedback after policy implementation. ARAs can facilitate more efficient decision-making, improve communication and negotiation, and also transform the decision-making process. However, ARAs should be adapted using guides such as the Socratic Reflective Chain of Thought (SRCT) method, which replicates the human decision-making system with an authorization layer before executing the formulated decision. This ensures that considerations for critical thinking, ethics, human values, and complexities are maintained in autonomous reasoning. Governments are likely to face challenges in adopting, developing, and implementing these ARAs due to technical complexity, resource constraints, ethical dilemmas, scalability issues, and concerns about replacement. The benefits outweigh the drawbacks of developing, implementing, and using ARAs. These systems currently exist in private spheres. He then demonstrated an ARA in his company operating under the SRCT method. Thompson argues for ARAs as a potential area to build out AI systems to aid our decision-making.

1O - Poonam Mehrotra Verma
AI In Healthcare
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VdgizwSC1jo

Poonam Mehrotra discussed the applications of AI across various industries, particularly its extensive impact on clinical and administrative functions in healthcare. AI can be used to analyze X-rays, assist with surgical procedures, manage electronic records, and administer diagnoses, among other tasks. It is applied in radiology, screening, psychiatry, disease diagnosis, and more. The drive to adopt AI in healthcare is partly due to a shortage of physicians. By 2030, there will be a shortage of 5 million doctors worldwide. AI in healthcare is projected to have a compound annual growth rate of 45% over the next 10 years, according to studies by Research Nester. The number of startups widely using AI has increased, while health giants like Siemens Healthcare GmbH are using it to transform operations. However, there is a shortage of workers to program AI for healthcare, which is also one of the challenges India faces as it strives to implement AI for its population. The Indian government envisions AI as a means to increase access, quality, and affordability in healthcare. AI holds great promise for transforming healthcare by enhancing diagnosis, treatment, patient monitoring, and other clinical and administrative functions.

1V - Francois Bolduc
Chatbot for knowledge mobilization for individuals with complex medical conditions
https://youtu.be/Z9UrSKwT-7g

Francois Bolduc explored how a chatbot can be used to aid the on-demand dissemination of information about rare, complex medical conditions to those who need it most. Traditionally, medical information was disseminated by experts, scientists, and professionals to individuals and their families. More recently, these sources have leveraged online mediums to facilitate dissemination. However, social media has shifted the source of information from solely experts, scientists, and professionals to include accounts from citizens, individuals, and families. After all, citizens and families can also be considered experts in some ways through their lived experiences, especially regarding rare disorders where there is very limited information and limited experience from clinicians. Complex medical conditions, such as cancer, autism, and intellectual disabilities, have multiple aspects or features. When these conditions are also rare, there is often a steep learning

curve for families and a lack of up-to-date training for local health professionals due to limited exposure, geographical location, and time constraints. The expert on the rare disorder may not be in the particular area or country, and interactions may be limited among experts and between experts and families, hindering the adequate conveyance of necessary information. Hence, it is envisioned that AI could assist in the transfer of vetted information from professionals to users and create more equity and a better environment for sharing quality, inclusive information in a more engaging manner, on demand. This approach employs an AI chatbot that leverages large language models to guide and coach patients and their families through medical conditions, awareness, and procedures through conversation at any time. The chatbot could use natural language processing to understand questions from users and bridge the gap between technical literature or expert sites and non-technical websites, posts, and other content from families on social media and other online platforms. It aims to guide awareness of the rare disorder and provide reputable sources for further reading on the condition and related ones.

The norm is that there is a barrier or gap in keywords associated with rare disorders, making information dissemination ineffective and leaving individuals new to the condition unaware of what to look for. One study analyzed public posts about ADHD from experts and public data using NLP and revealed that there is some overlap in discussion topics for the disorder between the groups. However, some related topics were not discussed at all or shared between the expert and public groups. In that light, chatbots, despite being able to leverage LLMs such as ChatGPT, require fine-tuning, so the collaboration and co-creation of this tool by multidisciplinary teams is important. AI can develop a better understanding of our mental models, shared ideas, and blind spots.

A mental model is a graphical representation of thought processes, which differ from patients to parents to healthcare providers, while a knowledge graph is a way to structure information so it is machine-readable. AI combines the knowledge graph and mental model to provide a user-specific experience. Cami, the chatbot Bolduc's team developed, was created by an interdisciplinary team comprising social scientists, computing professionals, and health professionals, as well as individuals and families with lived experiences of the rare disorders covered. Cami uses gamification to cover core knowledge, patient profiles, applications to programs, and other resources. The chatbot allows users to save, share, or report the suggested websites and content. The Canadian Autism Association and other health and machine learning groups collated and contributed resources they had already identified and labeled for Cami's development. Developing a chatbot involves considerations such as ensuring it addresses the user group(s) and engagement strategies, identifies user needs which may change over time and in reaction to existing technologies, and is facilitated by an advisory group to ensure co-creation and co-development from the outset. This interdisciplinary team and families should also be involved in the testing stage.

Additionally, it is important to develop a database of resources while being mindful of web scraping and who has agency over the data collected. Neural developmental disorders or medical conditions have limited amounts of labeled data for chatbots to train with. While

there may be surface-level information about services or their source domains, this information is not easily accessible. Depth of knowledge and normalized vocabulary are key for the chatbot's successful training and deployment. Nevertheless, the chatbot approach allows experts to reach more users and respondents compared to traditional interviews and consultations. However, AI bias, data harmonization, and privacy and confidentiality should be considered in information sharing. Consideration should also be made for jurisdictional differences, such as different provincial laws in Canada, to ensure actionable responses can be given. An AI chatbot could also exhibit bias towards gender, ethnic groups, income groups, and other minorities if these groups were not represented in the training data. If an organization disseminates information to a local audience but it is not easily found generally, it may be excluded from the training dataset, resulting in gaps in representation. Language barriers also pose an issue since most computer science projects are in English, while some websites may be in different languages. Canada's second official language is French, and there are minority languages as well as many new immigrants entitled to access such medical information. Another major issue is how the chatbot can be connected to the individual and be helpful, supportive, and engaging while maintaining the understanding that the user is interacting with a computer program rather than a person.

The chatbot is intended to integrate with the medical workflow rather than replace individuals, and it is not feasible at this stage of innovation. The chatbot will direct individuals to specific specialists and provide support while the individual and their family wait to get expert help.

1R - Jose Hernandez-Orallo
AI, education and work: remarks from an augmentation perspective
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5E0fb2OudVY

Jose Hernandez-Orallo stated that AI is impacting education, its assessment, and its impact on the work environment. Skills are changing in response to AI’s role in replacement, displacement, or extension of tasks. Technology may affect a task by creating an entirely new one, redesigning an existing one, or acting as a direct substitute for human input with or without functional changes. Human augmentation with AI can be empowering, but it also poses several potential risks related to safety, responsibility, and assessment. Previously, AI was disallowed in exams; however, there are now claims that the evaluation environment should not be very different from the work environment. For instance, the required skills for programming have changed with the use of AI cognitive extenders, shifting from writing all code to choosing and validating the consistency of results from AI-generated code. Therefore, there are ongoing reviews of how AI can be used in exam

settings. The use and referencing of AI tools should be promoted as long as the assessed work reflects the student's own capabilities and the assessment remains scalable.
There are many ideas, challenges, and reflections on how AI will change education, and these should be considered when changing methods of evaluation in educational institutions.

1I - 3K - Dr Ivana Stepanovic
Towards a Human-Centered Education in the Age of Algorithmic Governance
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EffcNnKCPdk

Dr. Ivana Stepanovic posited that education systems and processes need to be adjusted to account for artificial intelligence to maintain their relevance and usefulness, as well as to achieve mutual complementation with AI. There is an increased reliance on AI rather than human cognition. The original purpose of education is to build learners' capacities and cultivate human judgment, autonomy, and ethics. This purpose is becoming unclear with the widespread use and increasing dependency on AI tools whose algorithms can mimic many human tasks and generate algorithmic knowledge. Such reliance undermines learners' cognition and other skills. Furthermore, the development of AI is concentrated among international technology and military superpowers serving their own purposes, raising potential risks.

The use of AI is increasing, and education must therefore be human-centered, covering ethics, human rights, understanding of AI systems, and critical thinking skills to make learners adaptable and employable. Online platforms may also need to be regulated at an international level. Possible interventions in job markets include redefining the division of labor between humans and machines and developing new professions that cannot be automated across all economic sectors.

Theme 2 - "The New Rules of AI"

In recent years, AI technology has progressed at breakneck speed, with anthropomorphized machines increasingly performing many tasks. This rapid advancement has transformed various sectors, highlighting the need to establish comprehensive guidelines and regulations for the development, deployment, and ethical use of AI. Within this context, the theme delves into critical topics such as the regionalization of AI, the challenges posed by automation bias, and the ethical implications inherent to its use. What are the implications for society? How do we ensure responsible innovation and stewardship of advanced technologies, and what are the legal and ethical considerations in their development, deployment, and use? Eleven presentations delved into these questions, covering topics such as AI regulations, AI law, AI governance, digital rights (data scraping, privacy, etc.), and multilateral normative instruments.

Changfeng Chen addressed the concept of regionalizing AI values, highlighting its potential impact on information accessibility. Different countries and regions are proposing their own sets of principles and policies to regulate artificial intelligence, often including values they deem fundamental to their own ethical and sustainable development. Consequently, this trend can potentially create disparities in AI accessibility, thereby fragmenting the global AI landscape and favoring certain regions or countries. She offers three potential solutions aimed at mitigating these challenges.

Katrina Ingram addressed the issue of automation bias and trust in AI systems, which can lead to overreliance on technology and exclude essential sources of information. Trust in AI tools is based on product regulation, safety standards, intent, and professional codes of conduct. She challenged users of AI technology to question its oversight, alignment with our best interests, proven reliability, and explainability to ensure its credibility.
Geoff Mulgan broadened the discussion by exploring the multifaceted implications of AI on various aspects of our lives, ranging from home and politics to the economy. Recognizing the increasing generality of AI, Mulgan proposed a multidimensional governance approach, including measures such as banning, testing, licensing, and voluntary codes. Additionally, he suggested the establishment of a global AI observatory akin to that done for climate change monitoring.

Other presentations deal with the risks associated with counterfeit individuals, the EU AI Act, the importance of global AI ethics through cultural collaboration, and the evolution of new forms of sovereignty in the AI era. These measures are crucial for the conscientious and equitable integration of AI technologies, prioritizing the preservation of fundamental rights, societal welfare, and overarching global ethical standards in the realm of AI deployment.

Presenters

Changfeng Chen **The challenges of Information Accessibility: regionalisation of AI values** **https://youtu.be/TRLhrwMnKQM**	

Changfeng Chen from Tsinghua University, Beijing**,** discussed the challenges of information accessibility: the regionalisation of AI values. As AI strategies develop worldwide, countries and regions propose their own principles, acts, and policies to regulate AI, often including the values they believe should guide its development and use. This regionalisation and nationalisation can impact the accessibility of information. For example, the United States has proposed AI for the American people, emphasising the importance of AI benefiting all Americans regardless of their background or circumstances. AI systems like ChatGPT are designed to promote American norms and values; however, they may need to adapt more effectively to other cultural contexts. The European Union has proposed AI for Europe based on human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

The regionalisation and nationalisation of AI values can lead to the development of AI technologies that are more accessible to specific regions or countries, as well as the fragmentation of the AI landscape and the creation of AI technologies designed to serve particular interests. Solutions to address these challenges include:

- Developing international AI frameworks.
- Promoting cross-border data sharing.
- Developing transparent and accountable AI systems.

As AI continues to evolve, awareness of these challenges is essential.

Katrina Ingram **Trust and Automation Bias** **https://youtu.be/RqkuLAtbc7o**	

Katrina Ingram discussed automation bias and trust in AI systems. Automation bias refers to the tendency to trust or favor decisions made by automated systems even when there is contradictory evidence. This can lead to overreliance on technology and the exclusion of other essential sources of information.

In the context of AI, automation bias is becoming more prevalent as it is integrated into all enterprise tools, search engines, and websites. Trust is essential for navigating a complex world and dealing with everyday scenarios, such as using chairs, elevators, and calculators and accepting recommendations from friends. Trust is multifaceted, encompassing product regulation, safety standards, intent, and professional codes of conduct.
In the case of a chair, our subconscious mind acknowledges product regulation and safety standards. In the case of a friend's book recommendation, our best intentions are not at stake. This idea extends to other trusted sources of information, such as credible journalists, who adhere to professional codes of conduct and mechanisms that align with the public good. With a calculator, trust is based on reliability and explainability rather than intent. By considering these factors, we can better understand how trust works worldwide and why certain things are trustworthy in the context of AI and automated tools.

Automated tools often lack trust mechanisms, such as regulations, safety standards, and incentive structures that align with the public interest. They can be over-relied on, leading to potential biases and harm. They are often presented as neutral or objective but can also be misleading. While they can help navigate complex issues, their design can sometimes lead to addiction.

To be more sceptical about AI and automated systems, we should consider their history of explainability, their intentions to provide reliable recommendations, and their alignment with our best interests. We should also question the trustworthiness of automated systems and avoid succumbing to automation bias.

To ensure the trustworthiness of automated systems, we should scrutinize their oversight, alignment with our best interests, proven reliability, and explainability. We must remain vigilant and not let automation bias cloud our judgment.

Geoff Mulgan **AI Governance and Innovation for the public good** **https://youtu.be/hV9vJ8RGvaw**	

Geoff Mulgan discussed the implications of AI as a general-purpose technology (GPT) that will affect various aspects of our lives, including the home, politics, and the economy. He argued that more than simplistic solutions will be needed and that governments must respond to AI's increasing generality. AI has manifested in various forms, such as Amazon Echo, automated factories, ChatGPT, and driverless cars. However, the complexity of technology and the lack of a single definition can lead to confusion. For example, Facebook's suicide warning system has caused problems, and the responsibility for fatalities remains unclear. Mulgan aims to raise difficult questions about the practice of government in the next 1, 2, 5, and 10 years, focusing on the role of AI in predicting child maltreatment.

Professor Mulgan argued that the future of AI will be complex and uncertain, with the technology evolving and introducing new rules. AI is comparable to the evolution of cars, where rules such as speed limits, drink-driving laws, and social norms were established over time. AI can bring tensions to governance, as seen in the UK's backlash against AI marking kids' exams and the Netherlands' resignation due to welfare issues.

He further suggested that governments need to think multi-dimensionally about the next five or ten years of governance and AI. Potential concerns include misinformation bias, dangers to critical infrastructure, job loss, new monopolies, and privacy abuses. Governance actions will include making things illegal, banning, testing, licensing, having voluntary codes, and trying to inform the public.

The author proposes a global AI observatory, similar to the IPCC model, that would help the world observe climate change and consider necessary actions to prevent catastrophic climate change. This observatory would gather and report incidents of robust AI systems, providing a shared body of data and analysis on AI in education, health, and politics and offering governments options for regulation.

Finally, he warned that there is a lot of ‘hot air’ around AI, with vague talk of existential threats and disasters distracting from practical action. He advocated for governments to effectively enhance their competence in governing, shaping and regulating technology.

Bettina Berendt **Consensual counterfeit people** **https://youtu.be/bSQTlKKRzyc**	

Bettina Berendt discussed the concept of *consensual counterfeit people*, coined by philosopher Daniel Dennett. She argues that these counterfeit people are dangerous artifacts that can destroy economies, human freedom, democracy, and civilization. Dennett calls for strict penalties for the creation and passing of counterfeit people. Some examples of counterfeit people include deep fakes, such as a fake call from Ukrainian President Zelensky urging his people to return to their families, and politicians like Narendra Modi using realistic simulations in election campaigns. Entertainment also plays a role in creating fake news.

To address the problem, Berendt suggests a tenth sanity check: does it work cognitively? Chatbots, like Shasa and Risk Capital's digital twin, can create a sense of core presence and immediacy, even in one-to-one settings. Generative AI is expected to become more prominent in these areas, making it more normal to interact with advertisers and politicians. Additionally, counterfeit people may lead to the unemployment of real people, as seen in the Hollywood actor strike. Background performers have been proposed to have their bodies, movements, and faces scanned in a studio, which could violate their privacy and rights. To address these issues, Dennett calls for accountability and stricter penalties for the creation and passing of counterfeit people.

Berendt presented 64 scenarios for protecting individuals from counterfeiting, with three main types of protection. The first is that the depicted person not consenting violates personality rights, which could go against laws against impersonation. The second argument is that a ban would preclude good consequences, as speech acts can have real consequences immediately before legal persecution, which can take time. The third argument is that humanity will come up with workable ways of authentication and be able to address counterfeits, as has happened to some extent in the past. However, signatures—an excellent and longstanding authentication system—are not yet catching on in the electronic realm due to their cumbersome and expensive infrastructure.

She also raised questions about whether to ban the technology, learn from historical examples, or consider exemptions for specific cases.

Kilian Gross **The AI Act** **https://youtu.be/KLAG1xufAp8**	

Killian Gross discussed the European perspective on AI policy, focusing on making AI understandable and beneficial for everyone. The EU has prioritized AI policy since 2018 with a strategy aimed at creating an ecosystem of excellence and trust. The EU seeks to become a global leader in AI and to promote its development as human-centric, trustworthy, and beneficial for all, especially persons with disabilities. AI can have positive and negative effects, such as enabling people with disabilities to access information and education. However, AI can pose significant risks, such as discrimination due to biased training data. The European Commission has proposed an AI Act that is proportionately risk-based, aiming to regulate AI to create a single market while addressing risks to health, safety, and fundamental rights. The proposed AI Act will have a risk-based approach. It requires AI providers and manufacturers to embed fundamental rights protection into the design of their systems, ensure the accessibility of information, and consider potential adverse impacts on vulnerable groups. The AI Act also aims to foster innovation by providing legal certainty for companies to develop innovative AI systems under the guidance of competent authorities.

Negotiations on the AI Act are ongoing, with key discussion points including the scope of high-risk systems, governance of the AI Act, and how to address general-purpose AI systems.

In conclusion, the AI Act will be future-proof legislation that protects European values while ensuring human-centric AI use within the EU. The Act will not impose excessive burdens on companies, ensuring that AI is used responsibly and serves everyone while allowing for world-class development and application within the EU.

Doaa Abu Elyounes **Facilitating Information Accessibility through the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI** **https://youtu.be/OSjQ_espqtw**	

Doaa Abu Elyounes discussed the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI adopted by acclamation in November 2021 after two years of elaboration with multiple stakeholders. The structure of the recommendation is a pyramid, with four values, including the protection of human rights, dignity, and diversity, as the foundation. The recommendation also includes ten principles, such as fairness, transparency, accountability, and human involvement.

Fairness calls for member states to ensure inclusivity in AI system development, ensuring everyone can benefit from the technology and that information about AI systems is accessible and available online.

There are also 11 domains for policy action, including the accessibility of information in education, ethical governance and stewardship, data protection and privacy, gender inclusivity, and funding for women and girls. These areas aim to ensure the quality and availability of AI systems in commonly spoken languages, respecting different cultures and languages. Ethical governance and stewardship mechanisms are to be implemented to ensure immediate actions in case of harm. Data protection and privacy require member states to guarantee that users have control over their data and a data governance framework. Gender inclusivity and gender equality are priority areas, and member states are called on to dedicate public funds to ensure the inclusivity of women and girls throughout the AI lifecycle.

UNESCO has developed two flagship tools and networks to facilitate interaction with member states and stakeholders. These tools are also important for collecting data. The Readiness Assessment Methodology (RAM) assesses countries' ethical policy and law adoption readiness. Ethical Impact Assessment tools are also available for government procurement officers and companies seeking to be leaders in the field.

Prof. Emma Ruttkamp **Building a global AI ethics through Cultural Collaboration** **https://youtu.be/q-eHNEnJlnw**	

Prof. Ruttkamp discussed the importance of building global AI ethics through cultural collaboration, arguing that it is both necessary and possible. The discussion explored the concept of interconnectedness, epistemic justice, and the idea of viewing culture as a calculus of AI ethics. Emphasis was placed on the need for global regulation to address the harm caused by AI technologies, particularly in Africa, where the median age is low. The speaker focused on the African concept of Ubuntu, which emphasizes the humanness of individuals, and the concept of Ukama, which emphasizes relatedness or communion. It was argued that harming one person means harming the entire wave of life and all humans. The principle of solidarity, which speaks of interdependency, was acknowledged, but it was pointed out that interconnectedness was not the same as solidarity.

The concept of epistemic justice is crucial in the global regulation of ethics, as it involves hearing each other as credible knowers and contributors to knowledge in a specific context. It involves addressing equity and considering the conditions for hearing each other, which may differ from situation to situation and social grouping to social grouping. In global regulation, values and principles should be emphasized, allowing every community and social grouping

to contribute to these values. This requires being sensitive to formulation and considering different epistemologies and diverse engagements.

Culture as a calculus is essential in understanding values, concerns, and epistemic attitudes. Different articulations of shared values can help us understand different cultures and highlight the importance of diversity in ethical values. Different approaches, such as rights-based, duty-based, or value-based, can be used to ensure adherence to regulation. Evaluating the correct nuance of our approach while considering culture as a lens for interpreting values and articulating different perspectives is essential. This approach can positively influence global openness to AI ethics regulation by viewing humans as interwoven components of humanity, the environment, and the values driving it. By incorporating culture as a tool, we can calculate, differentiate, and distil values respectfully and epistemically justly, promoting inclusivity and ensuring that every voice can be heard in the way needed.

Dr. Ricardo Neil **Governing AI: Balancing Freedom of Expression and Information Accessibility** **https://youtu.be/LGBauRcMPJo**	

Dr Neil focused on the paradox of respecting democratic principles and promoting freedom of expression whilst enhancing information accessibility, on the one hand, and AI governance to address challenges such as algorithmic biases, content moderation, and defining the responsibilities of AI developers and platforms, on the other. Ethical frameworks that include transparency, accountability, fairness, and privacy are essential, along with fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and investments in ongoing research.

Fatima Roumate **Artificial Intelligence and technological Sovereignty** **https://youtu.be/kmnT5XktnD4**	

Professor Roumate pointed to the COVID-19 pandemic as an accelerator to the AI era which is characterized by new notions of sovereignty, including data, cyber and technological sovereignty. Data sovereignty allows states to regulate, manage, and protect data generated within or passing through their territories, while cyber sovereignty refers to the autonomy and governance of cyberspace. Technological sovereignty encompasses technological independence in all fields, including politics, the economy, and society, allowing states to choose their political and economic systems without interference or influence from other states.

The competition for technological sovereignty can be illustrated using three criteria: investment in AI and robotics, advancements in 5G technologies, and research and development in AI over the last five years. The global AI market is forecast to grow at a CAGR of 36.2% by 2027, and the global autonomous military weapons market is expected to grow at 10.4% between 2022 and 2026. The US, China, South Korea, and the European Union are the top competitors in the field of lethal autonomous weapons. Transnational companies with significant technological resources compete with states in the race for technological sovereignty, monopolizing cyberspace through their innovation and investment in AI systems.

Rethinking relations between states and transnational companies and reinforcing collaboration between state, academia, and industry is therefore now an obligation rather than a choice.

Paul Hector and Erica Simmons **UNESCO Caribbean AI policy Roadmap** **https://youtu.be/5OeVuMjEAUs**	 

The UNESCO Caribbean AI Policy Roadmap aims to develop a strategy for AI and digital transformation, considering post-COVID conditions, regulatory environments, and large language models.

Caribbean small island developing states must improve data governance to protect citizens' data. AI adoption requires internet access, and data is its foundation. For social and economic development, the region should prioritize data value and explore new business models and data perspectives. It is also important to consider that AI is expected to increase carbon emissions and eliminate jobs.

A Caribbean policy development research team has identified four pillars to address these risks. The first pillar focuses on governance and transformation, ensuring regional safety and security under AI privacy and data protection policies. As AI matures, the second pillar promotes collaboration and capacity building through upskilling and education. The third pillar emphasizes resiliency and sustainability, aiming to adapt to the AI revolution by using AI to support regional growth and address climate change. The fourth pillar stresses creativity, preservation, and Caribbean identity.

Simmons emphasized bolstering data protection policies and laws in the Caribbean region to ensure citizens' data is protected and scaled up. The potential impact of AI on property rights, law enforcement, and border security is also being discussed. Biases in AI systems need to be addressed, along with the potential for misinformation. The region must consider infrastructure for AI, such as access to the internet, to support small business development and training. There must be upskilling and education, as well as the fostering of collaboration and capacity building that addresses the needs of vulnerable populations.

The Caribbean region is focusing on preserving human creativity and safeguarding its cultural heritage. Integrating AI in the Caribbean orange economy could benefit businesses, but it must refrain from cannibalizing or copying the culture. The region should also involve women, youth, and disabled people in cultural preservation initiatives and build data sets around unique cultural information.

To begin with, the region should come together to assess existing laws regarding data, privacy, and citizen protection. Ethical and regulatory frameworks are essential, as seen in the EU Act and the US emerging AI policy.

Mark Higgins **The Many Faces of Equality** **https://youtu.be/ZW0h-GWTHsc**	

Mr Higgins argued for better privacy protection around facial recognition. The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) was discussed, specifically the right to respect for individual privacy and family life.

The presenter delved into the tort of misuse of private information. It involves two stages. The first stage considers the attributes of the claimant, the nature of the intrusion, the purpose of the intrusion, the absence of consent, and the circumstances in which the information came into the hands of the publisher. The second stage involves weighing the competing rights, justifications for interference, and the proportionality of the proposed interference. Photographs can be considered private information, albeit the House of Lords ruled that the mere taking of photographs does not necessarily carry a reasonable expectation of privacy. The author discussed the concept of a reasonable expectation of privacy in the context of facial recognition technology, examining cases where individuals were photographed during a disorderly meeting and the difficulty in decoupling the physical taking of the photograph from its intended use. The author suggested that while AI can identify individuals by name, it does not necessarily imply a reasonable expectation of privacy. However, there is the public interest in maintaining privacy, confidentiality, and equal access to information in a democratic society.

The author argued that the blanket ban on facial recognition is inconsistent with international laws on the misuse of private information and suggested that domestic English law could offer a more nuanced approach to addressing the issues.

Theme 3 -Securing Open, Inclusive Knowledge Societies

In our rapidly evolving world, adopting AI technologies has become a defining characteristic of societies striving to secure open and inclusive knowledge ecosystems. This discussion spotlights AI in Africa across accessibility, social equity, education, journalism, art, and data governance. The African Open Science Platform (ASP) illustrates how AI can positively address societal challenges but also exposes limited consideration of the unique African context. AI's potential for accessibility and social equity is demonstrated through sign language technology and ventures such as EQ4. These applications aim to address social inequalities, particularly for those with developmental challenges. AI's impact on children's digital rights is also a critical concern. The discussions emphasize the importance of involving children in AI development and regulation and restrictions on access to AI devices to protect their development and well-being. AI's influence in art and journalism is also examined through the lens of power dynamics that control information.

Presenters

Dr. Vincent Obia **Who makes AI decisions? Africa as a technology receiver and standard taker** **https://youtu.be/t1Z0D2-Qcu0**	

This presentation delved into the dynamics of AI in Africa, examining its position as a standard taker and the imperative to redefine the AI narrative through transcontinental partnerships. African countries increasingly adopt AI technologies from global sources, primarily the West and China, without considering the unique African context. This can lead to misapplications and misrepresentations. The tendency is to focus on economic benefits while neglecting ethical considerations and the needs of older populations. Although some African nations are developing creditable AI strategies, these efforts are insufficient, and there is a need for transcontinental partnerships to ensure that Africa plays a more active role in shaping AI's future. These partnerships should involve African stakeholders in co-creating policies based on African values and principles, focusing on ethical AI use. Additionally, an inclusive and flexible international AI governance system is essential to prevent global standards from dominating African AI regulation. Involving African stakeholders in shaping AI policies according to their values is key to ensuring that Africa no longer remains merely a technology receiver and standard taker. This involvement will empower Africans to influence the AI landscape positively.

Dr. Natalie Pang **Pivoting AI for digital inclusion** **https://youtu.be/KAIeKSnPIqI**	

AI often relies heavily on training data, and when this data is incomplete or underrepresents certain groups, it can lead to biases and incorrect recommendations. The three ideas discussed to combat these challenges are transparency in training data, the concept of data citizenship, and the shift towards platform cooperativism. Dr Pang discussed the need for transparency in data handling, the promotion of data citizenship to empower users, and a shift to community-based governance to mitigate AI-related problems.

Kevin Lee **Sign Language Translation Tech and Information Accessibility** **https://youtu.be/p6pUztmWEsc**	

This presentation explored the evolution of sign language translation technology and diverse use cases for enhancing information accessibility including announcements, kiosks, museums, emergency broadcasting, web content, and more. EQ4, a social venture, is discussed, highlighting its mission to use AI to solve social problems and promote equal information and accessibility for all.

Karsten Mundel **Generative AI and Academic Citizenship: A Call to Action** Karsten Mundel - Generative AI and Academic Citizenship: A Call to Action **Photo**	

This presentation discussed the multifaceted relationship between generative AI and academic citizenship. There is a call for using AI tools for collaborative and integrative assignments. Moreover, developing AI literacies among educators and students is essential. Embracing the concept of academic citizenship can guide us through AI disruptions and deliver the promise of equitable, inclusive, and diverse pedagogies.

Dionne Jackson Miller **Journalism, AI and ATI: A View from a Newsroom of a Small Island Developing State** https://youtu.be/7oJovXpImg8	

Ms Jackson-Miller urged news organizations to consider implementing the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, particularly focusing on communication and information policy, journalist training, and knowledge support. She posits that AI has become essential for newsrooms, especially for smaller and under-resourced news organizations, by aiding in data analysis, automated content generation, and personalized content delivery. These benefits come with concerns about disinformation, deepfakes, and unauthorized use of images and voices. These issues challenge the authenticity of content. She called for support from organizations that believe in democracy and urged media houses, newsrooms, and journalists to take the initiative by getting trained and developing policy documents and codes of ethics.

David Aguacheiro **Curated Information** https://youtu.be/4smj9mLlrb4	

David Aguacheiro's discourse is about the use of art to address complex topics related to his homeland, Mozambique, particularly the exploitation of mineral resources and the erosion of culture. His artwork addresses displacement and exploitation caused by multinational companies' extraction of mineral resources. He highlighted how information is controlled by those in power, making it hard for true narratives to emerge, and expressed scepticism that AI would help the situation. Reflecting on his personal and professional experience, Aguacheiro expressed concern about the blurred lines between human creativity and artificial intelligence in art and design. He emphasized the need for artists to preserve the authenticity of their work in an age of technological advancement.

Christena Williams Intersection of AI on Art and Human Creativity: Can AI Imitate me? https://youtu.be/5JeWdBEySdg	

Williams, an award-winning poet, weighed in on AI's role in the creative process. She acknowledged AI's empowering impact on the confidence of creatives and its assistive role when artists face writer's block by, for example, generating fresh ideas. On the other hand, there are concerns about fairness, plagiarism, copyright, and whether AI can truly imitate human emotions and cultural nuances. Williams views creativity as deeply rooted in human nature, questioning whether AI can authentically replicate such an innate quality. She expressed herself through a poem on originality and self-improvement.

Shamira Ahmed **Responsible AI Governance, Structural Inequalities, and Sustainability in the Global South** **https://youtu.be/pps7x1QyHII**	

Shamira Ahmed discussed the importance of responsible AI governance and its relation to structural inequalities and sustainability in the Global South. She emphasized the significance of quality, machine-readable data in AI governance for climate mitigation and adaptation. However, there is a lack of such data in Africa, which hinders the region's ability to leverage AI technologies. The discussion also highlighted the intersectional inequalities in AI development and called for equitable access to data, focusing on gender disparities. Four recommendations were made: building local data ecosystems, ensuring the participation of marginalized groups, and forming partnerships for sustainable and inclusive digital transformation. The speaker noted that collaboration with all stakeholders is crucial for achieving a sustainable green digital transition. She also emphasized that efforts must include greening digital public infrastructure, improving accountability mechanisms, and supporting policy coherence and systems thinking for a just and sustainable green digital future.

Esther Ngamba **The impact of AI usage base on the digital rights of children between 6-12 years old** **https://youtu.be/0bfeuwvSKLA**	

Ngamba discussed children's digital rights and the role of AI in their lives (education, safety, inclusivity, and innovation). Recommendations were also made for balancing the potential benefits of AI with children's digital rights. AI technologies have a significant impact on the digital rights of children aged 6 to 12. To safeguard their rights, it is essential to involve children in the development and regulation of AI systems and to consider restrictions on AI devices to protect their well-being.

Tshiamo Motshegwa **Development Of The African Open Science Platform Towards a Continental Open Science Vision** **https://youtu.be/GxjJ_Uxp17M**	

This presentation delved into the significance of open science, the importance of data, and the unique challenges and opportunities that Africa faces in the context of AI. The African Open Science Platform (ASP) is actively promoting open science, addressing societal challenges, and recognizing the importance of data availability for AI. ASP aims to facilitate data flow through continental data policies, emphasizing infrastructure development, capacity building, and the integration of indigenous languages. It seeks to stimulate collaboration, create efficiencies, and contribute to a global framework for addressing common societal issues through science and technology diplomacy. ASP is establishing a Data Science and AI Institute, identifying impactful projects, and enhancing education and skills networks for open science. With a governing council and regional nodes, ASP fosters collaboration, data accessibility, and global connections for African scientists. Dr. Motshegwa positioned the African Open Science Platform as a necessary starting point for collaboration to ensure impactful work in the region and integration into the global landscape.

Madeline Nolan, Eric Langer, Ashish Agrawal **How AI Can Help Bring Educational Content to Everyone** **https://youtu.be/vlowfYDpWjA**	  

This session explored the harnessing of AI to promote information equity. Madeline Noland, President of the Advanced Television Systems Committee (ATSC), Eric Langer from the Information Equity Initiative, and Ashish Agrawal from Eon Media discussed the use of AI to organize digital content, assist curators, and create content summaries for access via television signals, bridging the gap for those lacking broadband access. Another use case is an AI application to extract metadata, emotions, demographics, and trends from audiovisual content, enhancing personalization and historical preservation.

María José Labrador Blanes **Ethical challenges and vulnerabilities of women in relation AI** **https://youtu.be/xl3y96sHNx8**	

This presentation explored the vulnerabilities humans face in the context of technology and the ethical challenges, with a special focus on the ethics of care, in the era of information abundance and Internet access. It discussed how technology impacts human vulnerabilities and emphasized the importance of care ethics in the context of information overabundance and Internet access disparities.

Maria Dolores Souza **Artificial Intelligence, Common Good and human rights** **https://youtu.be/3cTDlBcYc9o** **https://youtu.be/hD5IVmmKX0w** **(Espanol)**	

This presentation spotlights Latin America and the challenges in harnessing AI's potential across different domains of life. It calls for Latin American states to develop sound strategies for AI governance.

Sayeed Al-Zaman **Information Poverty in Bangladesh** **https://youtu.be/s3aUUNWn1DM**	

This presentation explored the concept of information poverty, which is especially prevalent in Bangladesh and many other developing countries. The digital divide, economic challenges, and insufficient digital literacy exacerbate the problem. Potential solutions are discussed.

Kate Sonka, Rolando Mendez-Fernandez, Casey McArdle, Bill Hart-Davidson, Caroline White **Can Artificial Become Assistive? Navigating AI in Accessibility and Education** **https://youtu.be/qmnmNym0-h0**	

This presentation addressed the discourse about AI's role in accessibility. The speakers advocated for integrating AI into education and academia, highlighting the need for collaboration with disability advocates to ensure inclusivity.

David Leslie **Advancing Data Justice Research and Practice** **https://youtu.be/e1PJUdUiMXk Photo**	

This presentation delved into the project "Advancing Data Justice Research and Practice," which has been undertaken by a dedicated research team at the Alan Turing Institute. Supported by various organisations, this project aims to widen the perspective of data justice and provide valuable resources for policymakers, practitioners, and impacted communities. It seeks to redefine data justice by shifting the focus from Western-centric perspectives to a more inclusive, non-Western viewpoint. It emphasises three key aspects of relocation: changing the geographic centre, considering equity within nations, and expanding the temporal horizon to understand long-term inequities. The project's six data justice pillars form the practical foundation for this redefined concept. Ultimately, the aim is to provide resources that help policymakers, practitioners, and communities understand and implement equitable data collection and governance in a rapidly evolving global data landscape.

The six pillars of data justice are: Power, Equity, Access, Identity, Participation, and Knowledge. These pillars guide a redefined approach to data justice that prioritises the lived experiences and civic epistemologies of those affected by data issues. Power involves critiquing, challenging, and empowering data ecosystems. Equity focuses on transformative potential, measurement justice, and multi-dimensional access. Access prioritises material preconditions and data witnessing. Identity involves critiquing othering, challenging ratification and erasure, and focusing on recognition struggles. Participation democratises data and ensures transformational inclusiveness. Knowledge embraces pluralism, interdisciplinary approaches, strong objectivity, and intercultural sharing, recognising the diversity of knowledge forms. We should encourage embracing pluralism in knowledge, challenging the presumptive authority of certain knowledge forms, prioritising interdisciplinarity, and cultivating intercultural sharing and wisdom.

May Ann Lim **Implications of AI: Risks and Opportunities for Information Accessibility** **https://youtu.be/bRhY--bJZmQ**	

This presentation explored the multifaceted nature of AI risks and opportunities in the context of information accessibility. The speaker emphasized the importance of data representation, collection, fairness, usability, complexity, and questions related to trust, verification, and ethical sharing. Lim advocated for use of information as a social good, promoting open data and ethical APIs. Lim noted that assessing AI risks and opportunities for information accessibility requires both a macro and micro perspective, focusing on the unknown uses of shared information and the importance of international collaboration.

Ntsibane Ntlatlapa **How can public accounts committees harness digital transformation?** **https://youtu.be/ea96KAytzSg photo**	

This presentation discussed how digital transformation can enhance the performance of oversight of government operations by the Public Accounts committees in Parliament. Dr. Ntlatlapa emphasised the importance of transparency and accountability through the use of digital technology and application of data analysis. He highlighted the concept of open government and how it can improve governance and combat corruption.

The AI4IA Community

AI4IA Conference Website	ai4iaconference.com
Digital Library Link:	https://ualberta.aviaryplatform.com/collections/1845
AI4IA Conference on Gather.Town	https://app.gather.town/app/V9eirMnwoZWaECDt/AI4IA20
AI4IA Conference on Youtube	https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLTULETeBko5G--y7nXR8MtPPDN1a-c4Ay&si=sf4c2mdF9Z7Xnp5Y
AI4IA Conference on Instagram:	https://www.instagram.com/ai4iaconference/
AI4IA Conference on X	https://x.com/ai4iaconference?s=11&t=mZyd_AD0h-B9gg1IeMv5wQ
AI4IA Conference on Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/AI4IAConference
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Samridhi Arora, India		Maria Dolores Souza, Chile	
Professor Geoffrey Rockwell, Canada		Andrea Millwood Hargrave, United Kingdom	
Dr Nicolàs Arnáez, Canada			

Co-opted members

Janine Sale. Jamaica		Sasha Harrison, Jamaica	

Conference Volunteers

Speaker Management and Conference Reporting Volunteers

Brandon Whittaker - Jamaica
Camesha Petrie - Jamaica
Tatyana McLean - Jamaica
Hema Mohan - India

Gather.Town Volunteers

Najay Malcom - Jamaica
Kayan Brown - Jamaica
Devante Hines - Jamaica
Country: Jamaica - Jamaica
Khadejah Blake - Jamaica
Christina Williams - Jamaica
Ozioma Umera - Resident Country: South Africa; Country of Origin: Nigeria

Conference Sponsors

Appendix: Technical Report

Room ID Card - Creation and Management

Event cards were created to assist conference attendees, guests, and fellow speakers navigate the GatherTown platform. These event cards included a conference map card, theme cards, and speaker cards. The conference map card categorized speakers and their presentation rooms by themes, summarising the conference lineup. Room cards identified a group of presentations according to a specific theme and outlined their titles and speakers, and assigned room numbers where the presentations could be viewed. On the other hand, speaker cards outlined a speaker's name and presentation title. When available, these cards also displayed a photograph, a concise biography of the speaker, and the presentation's abstract. In cases where a presentation was prepared by several speakers or had external contributions, the speaker cards also displayed the related speakers or contributors to the presentation.

The cards were prepared in Canva using a bespoke conference-themed template. The template is saved on the Canva account used and can be accessed using the conference's official Google account credentials. The source information is saved on the conference's Google Drive, which contains the master sheet and folders for headshots, biographies, videos, and abstracts. These folders further contain subfolders labeled with speaker names for ease of reference. General information about confirmed speakers was obtained from the speaker master sheet and used to guide speaker engagement and card content. Each presentation was vetted and assigned a theme before a room on the GatherTown platform was assigned. The room assignments for each presentation were determined by the conference administrator and documented in the conference master sheets for the information or reference of the card manager.

Presentations that could be categorized under more than one theme were assigned more than one room number, and this information was presented on the conference map card as well as on the room card of the room number that appears first in alphanumeric order out of all the room numbers assigned to the presentation.

Once the cards were completed, they were filed in the Google Drive folder for the conference year as either room cards or speaker cards. The Canva file is also stored in the Google folder for future use and reference. The conference map is displayed on noticeboard areas on the Gather.Town platform. Room cards are mounted at the entrances to a theme's set of rooms or area. Speaker cards are mounted at the entrance of each room, which would already display the room numbers; hence, the speaker cards do not have any room numbers on them.

Areas for Possible Improvement

1. Speakers should be given a maximum word limit for their biographies to facilitate card creation.
2. Speakers should be asked to state their current titles clearly.
3. To facilitate compliance, speakers should be given a maximum word limit for their abstracts and informed of the purpose and presentation of the same.
4. A sample of the room card and the speaker card should always be given to the card manager upon appointment to the role and referenced in the conference's annual reports for consistency.

AI4IA Conference Line-up

Room 1

1A - Angelo Ferraro
1B - Émile P. Torres
1C - Paul G. Thompson
1D - Ashwini Kotaru
1E - 3C - Lynn Rowe
1F - 3E - Jeff Greenberg
1G - 3G - Mike Johns & Vin Rock
1H - Illés Katona
1I - 3K - Dr Ivana Stepanovic
1J - 2C - David Daou
1K - Martha White
1L - 2E - Tuba Yoldas
1M - Emad Mousavi
1N - Sacha-Renée Todd
1O - Poonam Metrotra
1P - Sri Kumar
1Q - David Harel
1R - Jose Hernandez-Orallo
1S - Isabela Ferrari

Room 1 - Cont'd

1T - 3S - Prof. Shafika Isaacs
1U - 3T - Caleb Gichuhi
1V - Francois Bolduc
1W - 3X - Cordel Green
1X - Winston Ng

Room 2

2A - 3H - Changfeng Chen
2B - 3J - Mark Higgins
2D - Katrina Ingram
2F - Geoff Mulgan
2G - Bettina Berendt
2H - Kilian Gross
2I - Doaa Abu Elyounes
2J - Prof. Emma Ruttkamp
2K - Paul Hector & Erica Simmons
2L - 3a - Ricardo Neil
2M - Fatima Roumate

Room 3

3A - Dr Vincent Obia
3B - Natalie Pang
3D - Kevin Lee
3F - May Ann Lim
3I - Kate Sonka, et al.
3L - Sayeed Zaman
3M - Karsten Mundel
3N - David Aguacheiro
3O - Christena Williams
3P - Dionne Jackson Miller
3Q - Madeleine Noland, et al.
3R - Maria Jose Labrador
3U - Esther Simon Ngamba
3V - Dr. Tshiamo Motshegwa
3W - Maria Dolores Souza Meyerholz
3Y - David Leslie
3Z - Dr. Ntsibane Nntllapa
3b - Shamira Ahmed

Room 3 - Securing Open, Inclusive Knowledge Societies

3A - Dr Vincent Obia
Who makes AI decisions? Africa as technology receiver and standard taker.

3B - Natalie Pang
Pivoting AI for digital inclusion

3D - Kevin Lee
Sign Language Translation Tech and Information Accessibility

3F - May Ann Lim
Implications of AI - Stakeholder and semantic divides when assessing risks and opportunities for information accessibility

3I - Kate Sonka, Rolando Méndez-Fernández, Casey McArdle, Bill Hart-Davidson, & Caroline White
Can Artificial Become Assistive?: Navigating AI in Accessibility and Education

3L - Sayeed Zaman
Information Poverty in Bangladesh

3M - Karsten Mundel
Generative AI and Academic Citizenship: A Call to Action

3N - David Aguacheiro
Curated information

3O - Christena Williams
Intersection of AI on Art and Human Creativity
Can AI Imitate ME?

3P - Dionne Jackson Miller
Journalism, AI and ATI: A View from a Newsroom of a Small Island Developing State

3Q - Madeleine Noland, Ashish Agrawal, & Erik Langner
How AI Can Help Bring Educational Content to Everyone

3R - Maria Jose Labrador
Ethical challenges and vulnerabilities of women in relation to the use of artificial intelligence.

3U - Esther Simon Ngamba
The impact of AI usage base on the digital rights of children between 6 to 12 years old

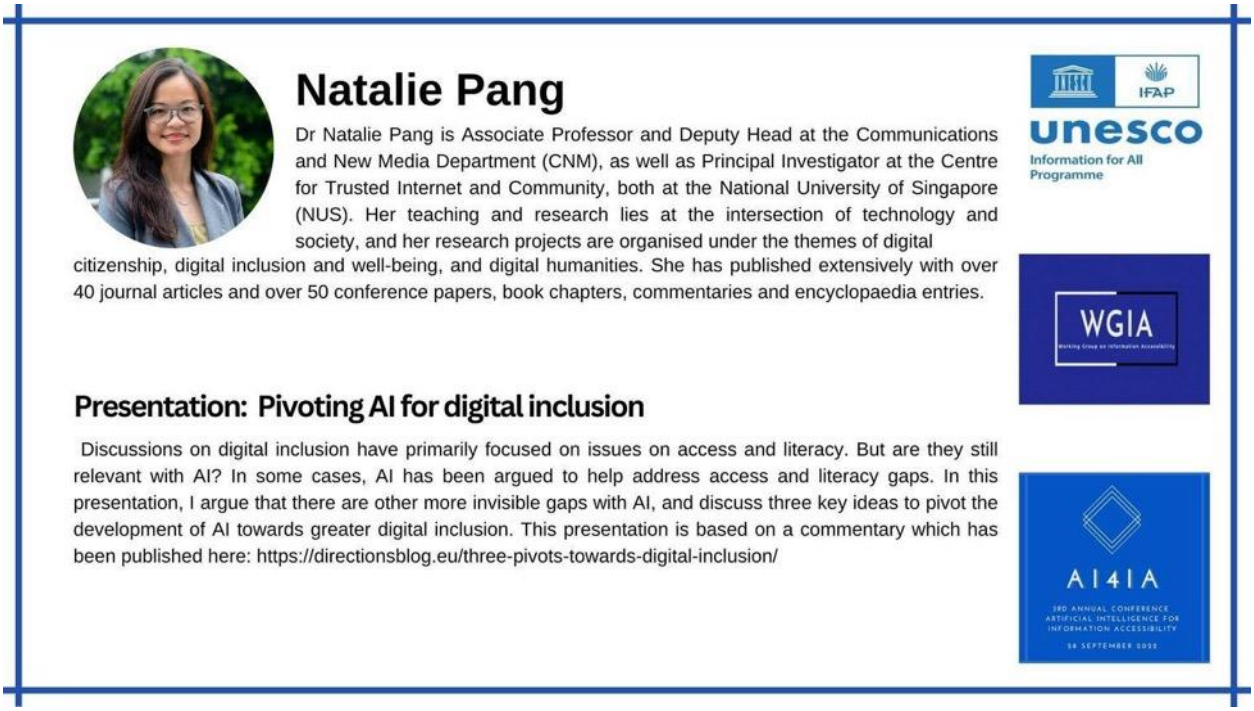
3V - Dr. Tshiamo Motshegwa
Development Of The African Open Science Platform (AOSP) Towards a Continental Open Science Vision

3W - Maria Dolores Souza Meyerholz
Artificial Intelligence, common Good and human rights

3Y - David Leslie
Advancing Data Justice Research and Practice

3Z -Dr. Ntsibane Nntllapa
How the Public Accounts Committee can harness the Digital Transformation

3b - Shamira Ahmed
Responsible AI Governance, Structural Inequalities and Sustainability in the Global South



Speaker Management

Summary of Communication Tools and Templates

- Speaker Invitation
- Guidelines for Speakers
- Confirmed Speaker Database
- Reminder Emails
- How to Upload YouTube videos for conference
- Doodle Polls
- Google One - to increase storage for videos - paid

Points of Improvement

- Include a deadline for the submission of photos and bios.
- Include a character/word limit for bios and abstracts - seek recommendations from website developers
- Engage speakers no later than August 1

Registration and Promotions Management

Points of Improvement

- Each presenter must have a folder in Google Drive for bios and pictures.
- Pictures must be separate JPEG or PNG files and not included in a Word document.