JOIN A GLOBAL RESEARCH PROGRAM EXAMINING ETHICAL AND RESPONSIBLE TECHNOLOGY IN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXTS

Applications due March 18, 2024

The Invitation

We are inviting advanced level students interested in the ethics and impacts of technology and digital solutions to join a cohort-based fellowship program on the ethical dilemmas associated with artificial intelligence and emerging technologies. With this program, you will examine opportunities and risks associated with emerging technologies, collaborate with industry and government on responsible digital innovations, and build a global scholarly network. Your background could be engineering, the humanities, computer science, social sciences, law, business, philosophy or other – we are looking for diversity across disciplinary backgrounds and geographic regions. We encourage refugee students or students with forced migration experience to apply. English language proficiency is a requirement.

In prior years we have examined the use of technology across the financial and education sectors, focusing upon how technology enables and obstructs access to capital and learning. This year, we continue to study technology in finance and education and, in collaboration with the Digital Engagement unit of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), add new examininations into the ways technology impacts people who have been forcibly displaced from their homes due to conflict, disasters and the impacts of climate change, human rights violations, and persecution. This may include but is not limited to areas of research on the use of AI to threaten or strengthen information integrity, biometrics and AI use embedded in border technology, and capitalizing on the research conducted in prior cohorts - how technology impacts access to financial and education services? Consideration of measures that can facilitate the inclusion of forcibly displaced people in all stages of the technology lifecycle will be especially welcome, recognizing that these communities are often marginalized and face digital and other forms of exclusion.

The program launches in April 2024 and runs through October 2024. Scholars meet online twice a month with digital experts across a range of disciplines from UNHCR and will engage in inspiration sessions with leading scholars, industry, and government leaders to learn about and contemplate the latest developments in technology, data use, and their regulation. We will discuss applications of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies; existing and evolving regulations; ethics, human rights, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and various theoretical and empirical frameworks for assessing risk; digital innovation in international humanitarian and development contexts; the processes and practices by which ethical and responsible technology is developed, including the specific ethical frameworks which guide humanitarian action; and the GAEIA Ethical Dilemma template and research process. Importantly, we will also build an international network of similarly interested scholars and practitioners.

Scholars are invited to contribute to GAEIA's growing Ethical Dilemma Library and gain feedback on their research from their global peers. GAEIA supports the dissemination of scholars' work via our website, global conference, maturing podcast series, and external events. Upon completion of the program, scholars earn a digital badge issued from the <u>Public Interest Technolology University</u> Network.

Scholars interested in applying these learnings to the development of a real-world digital innovation prototype, will have the opportunity to work on a culminating project with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). This project will involve a cross-disciplinary team of scholars working collaboratively with UNHCR experts in the development of a responsible, ethically evaluated digital innovation prototype.

The Program

Launched from the Responsible Digital Leadership project anchored at Stanford's Center for Human Rights and International Justice, GAEIA's platform enables a global, inclusive dialogue about the risks and benefits of AI and advanced technologies to further globally diverse research and inform the development of guidelines for acting responsibly with data and new technologies. This unique collaboration process has brought together and sustained dynamic partnerships among a highly diverse group of over 100 PhD and advanced level students from global universities representing more than 25 countries, and prominent governmental, nongovernmental and industry professionals. Together we've collected and analyzed ethical dilemmas in the use of artificial intelligence and advanced technologies in the financial and education sectors, sharing our work at conferences and industry workshops, as well as via podcasts and working papers.

This collaborative process offers a distinctive method for examining opportunities and risks associated with advanced technologies: the insights born from these collaborations are the result of pioneering interdisciplinary scholarship in this emerging field, and the ensuing research is inclusive and grounded within varied global contexts. This comprehensive and nuanced approach is vital given the global reach of technology and its impacts, increasing public distrust and concern about advanced technology and data use, and the relatively limited perspectives currently considered in these dialogues.

You will work with an exciting team of students from some of the world's most renowned universities all over the world. Prior cohorts include scholars from universities in Kenya, Bulgaria, Australia, Lithuania, U.K., Greece, India, Germany, Turkey, Switzerland, Hong Kong, France, Croatia, Nigeria, Spain, Denmark, Poland, Japan, Ukraine, Mexico, Norway, South Africa, Singapore, Brazil, Chile, Italy, Egypt, USA.

<u>Application deadline is March 18, 2024.</u> To apply, please email a CV and brief (<1 page) letter describing your background and interest in the program to:

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