

07 **innoLab**

ASEF HIGHER EDUCATION

**The Role of Universities in Advancing
AI for Good**

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Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
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Asia-Europe Meeting
the ASEM Education Secretariat



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2	Mr	Lei	ZHANG	Deputy Executive Director	Asia-Europe Foundation	
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5	Ms	Urszula	LIS	Executive Committee Member	European Students' Union	
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7	Ms	Trine	JENSEN	Manager, Digital Transformation and Higher Education	International Association of Universities	
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9	Dr	Anja	POLAJNAR	Research Project Manager	International Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence	
10	Ms	Christelle Mae	AGUSTIN	Policy and Communications Officer	SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development	
11	Ms	Anja	GENGO	Internet Governance Programme Expert and Capacity Development Lead	United Nations Internet Governance Forum Secretariat	
12	Dr	Aneela	YASMIN	VET Coordinator	East Preston Islamic College	Australia
13	Mrs	Rashikala	WEERAWARNA	Senior Lecturer	Holmesglen TAFE	
14	Dr	Shalinka	JAYATILLEKE	Senior Lecturer in AI and Data Analytics & Course Coordinator, Bachelor of Business Analytics	La Trobe University	
15	Dr	Chetanpal	SINGH	University Lecturer	RMIT	
16	Dr	Fernaz	NARIN NUR	Professor	Daffodil International University	Bangladesh
17	Dr	Lafifa	JAMAL	Professor	University of Dhaka	
18	Mr	David	TIMIS	Senior Fellow in AI Governance	Global Governance Institute	Belgium
19	Dr	Sharina	YUNUS	Assistant Professor & Director, Enterprise Office	Universiti Teknologi Brunei	Brunei Darussalam
20	Prof	Yi	SHEN	Professor of SIRPA & Director,	Fudan University	China
21	Mr	Shuyan	ZHANG	Research Assistant, International Research Institute of Global Cyberspace Governance	Fudan University	China
22	Prof	Andri	IOANNOU	Professor of Learning Design and Technology	Cyprus University of Technology	Cyprus
23	Ms	Zeynep	YARADANAKUL	Country Representative for Finland	Erasmus Mundus Association	Finland
24	Ms	Stefanie	ENGERT	Senior Desk Officer for the ASEM Education Process	German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)	Germany
25	Dr	Radwan	ESKHITA	Senior Lecturer in Cyber Security and IT Law	Lucerne University of Applied Science	
26	Mr	Francesco	AMIGHETTI	Development Lead & Founding Member	THINK.TANK Plus	Greece
27	Mrs	Ajita	DESHMUKH	Assistant Professor & MSc eLearning Programme Leader	MIT Art Design and Technology University	India
28	Prof	Tejpavan	GANDHOK	Director, IDEATE LAB & Professor of Practice Strategy & Entrepreneurship, Jindal Global Business School	OP Jindal Global University	
29	Mr	Anshumaan	GOEL	PhD Scholar	OP Jindal Global University	
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32	Mr	Jin	TADA	Joint Researcher	National Institute for Environmental Studies	Japan
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37	Dr	Claudio Andres	RIVERA	Director of Programmes & Assistant Professor	RTU Riga Business School	
38	Mr	Muhammad	SOHAIL	Senior Lecturer & Lead for AI and SDG Innovation	Mykolas Romeris University	Lithuania
39	Prof	Mira	KARTIWI	Director, Data Management and Data Analytics, Office of Strategic Institutional Transformation	International Islamic University Malaysia	Malaysia
40	Prof	Zainal	SANUSI	Director, Sejahtera Centre for Sustainability and Humanity	International Islamic University Malaysia	
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44	Prof	Andrea	MASCOLO	Academic Director	European Institute for Medical Studies	Malta
45	Prof	Vanessa	CAMILLERI	Associate Professor	University of Malta	
46	Prof	Lampros	STERGIOULAS	Professor of Data Science and AI & UNESCO Chair on AI and Data Science for Society	The Hague University of Applied Sciences	Netherlands
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48	Dr	Munir	SEWANI	Global Education Expert and Researcher / PhD Programme Admittee	University of Malta	Pakistan
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63	Dr	Muhammad Zahid	IQBAL	Assistant Professor in Immersive Technologies	Teesside University	
64	Dr	Muhammad	ADAMU	Research Fellow	University of Nottingham	
65	Mrs	Ramneek	ATHWAL	PhD Student	University of Nottingham	
66	Prof	Steve	BENFORD	Dunford Professor of Computer Science & Director, Horizon Centre for Doctoral Training	University of Nottingham	
67	Miss	Favour	BOROKINI	PhD Researcher	University of Nottingham	
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69	Prof	James	GOULDING	Professor of Data Science & Director, N/LAB Research Centre	University of Nottingham	
70	Ms	Krishika Haresh	KHEMANI	PhD Candidate	University of Nottingham	
71	Miss	Bogna	LIZINIEWICZ	PhD Researcher	University of Nottingham	
72	Dr	Weiyao	MENG	Research Fellow	University of Nottingham	
73	Ms	Nimisha	PARASHAR	PhD Student	University of Nottingham	
74	Prof	David	PARK	Dean, Business School	University of Nottingham	
75	Prof	Elvira	PEREZ VALLEJOS	Professor of Digital Technology for Mental Health, Faculty of Science	University of Nottingham	
76	Prof	Tom	RODDEN	Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Exchange	University of Nottingham	
77	Dr	Neelima	SAILAJA	Assistant Professor	University of Nottingham	

Ms Cleo CACHAPERO
Lead for Higher
Education Projects,
Education Department

**ASIA-EUROPE
FOUNDATION**



Cleo CACHAPERO, a Filipino national, joined ASEF's Education Department in July 2023 and now leads its higher education portfolio. Prior to joining ASEF, Cleo worked at the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) of the Philippines for 10 years as the Desk Officer for ASEAN and SEAMEO Affairs of its International Affairs Service (IAS).

Mr ZHANG Lei
Deputy Executive
Director

**ASIA-EUROPE
FOUNDATION**



Mr ZHANG has served in different departments of the Chinese Foreign Ministry and has extensive experience in multilateral affairs. Prior to his appointment at ASEF, he was Counsellor at the Department of International Economic Affairs. Mr ZHANG has also been posted to several overseas missions, including the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations in New York, as well as the Chinese Embassies in Bangladesh, New Zealand, and Trinidad and Tobago. Mr ZHANG graduated from the Beijing Foreign Studies University and holds a Master's degree in Diplomacy and International Strategy from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Mr Marco Commoti
IT Manager / Web
Project Administrator

**ERASMUS STUDENT
NETWORK**



Marco holds a Bachelor's in IT Engineering and a Master's in Computer Science and Engineering from Politecnico di Milano, graduating with a thesis on blockchain environmental sustainability conducted partly at Instituto Superior Técnico de Lisboa.

Before becoming IT Manager/Web Project Administrator (WPA) at ESN, Marco worked as a Data Engineer in consultancy. His ESN journey began in 2021, serving as Local Webmaster, Section Representative, and National Representative for ESN Italy. As WPA, Marco oversees ESN's IT infrastructure, digital ecosystem design, and web network. Recognising digitalisation as a strategic pillar, he drives the digital transformation of both ESN and the Erasmus+ programme. His core objective is to engineer a seamless, user-friendly digital experience, ultimately making international student mobility as accessible as the click of a button.

Ms Urszula LIS
Executive Committee
Member

**EUROPEAN STUDENTS'
UNION**



Urszula Lis is an Executive Committee Member of the European Students' Union (ESU), where she works on artificial intelligence and digitalisation in higher education, with a particular focus on student-centred AI governance, interoperability, and quality assurance. She has coordinated ESU's work on AI policy, including leading a Europe-wide survey on AI implementation in higher education and co-authoring policy papers and statements on AI, digitalisation, and quality assurance. She also serves as a Student Expert at the Polish Accreditation Committee and contributes to European discussions on the future of higher education through initiatives such as the Bologna Process and European University Alliances. Urszula studies Electric and Hybrid Vehicles Engineering at the Warsaw University of Technology and Psychology at WSB Merito University in Toruń.

Dr Inge DE WAARD
AI and Learning Lead

INNOENERGY



Inge de Waard is a longtime researcher, activist and award-winning learning innovator. She is the AI & Learning Lead for the Masters+ at InnoEnergy, a European network of engineering and business universities that also invests in startups and alumni.

Her work spans the coordination of online and hybrid learning initiatives, innovation support for entrepreneurs, and the co-design of AI tools and educational technologies. She has extensive experience co-creating international blended curricula with engineers and educators, with a particular interest in active learning formats. Her current interests also include vibe coding and the development of agentic systems.

Her expertise in learning innovation and educational technology has been recognised through keynote invitations, invited talks and co-authored publications. She is also an experienced facilitator of workshops and seminars, bringing an energetic and highly engaged approach to learning.

Underlying her work is a strong belief that meaningful innovation emerges not simply from accolades or technological advancement, but from curiosity, experimentation and authentic human conversations. She sees innovation as an ongoing process of reflection and reinvention, bringing together emerging technologies with distinctly human ways of learning, connecting and creating.

Ms Trine Jensen
Manager, Digital
Transformation and
Higher Education

**INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITIES**



Trine Jensen leads the work on the strategic priority Digital Transformation at the International Association of Universities (IAU). She is spearheading projects spanning policy-shaping, strategy, advocacy, and monitoring of the digital transformation of HE with partners globally. She is the author of several IAU Global Monitoring Reports, both on Higher Education in the Digital Era: the Current State of Transformation around the World (2020) and on the impact of the pandemic on higher education (2020 and 2022). In collaboration with an International Expert Advisory Group, she crafted the IAU Policy Statement: “Transforming Higher Education for the Global Common Good in a Digital World”. She furthermore coordinates multiple projects on Open Science and Artificial Intelligence and leads the IAU site visit programme fostering international peer-to-peer learning in relation to digital transformation of higher education institutions.

Mr Davor ORLIČ
Chief Operating Officer

**INTERNATIONAL
RESEARCH CENTRE FOR
ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE**
*under the auspices of
UNESCO*



Davor Orlic is an AI strategist, programme leader, and ecosystem builder working across technology, policy, research, and social impact. He co-created IRCAI, an AI centre backed by UNESCO and the Slovenian government, where as COO he helps shape the centre’s vision, strategy, product work, fundraising, partnerships and impact. His work has connected researchers, policymakers, international organisations, philanthropies, and underserved AI communities across Europe, the UN system, and the Global South. Davor has also led AI and open education initiatives through the K4A Foundation and is an honorary research assistant at UCL’s Centre for Artificial Intelligence.

Dr Anja POLAJNAR
Research Project
Manager

**INTERNATIONAL
RESEARCH CENTRE FOR
ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE**
*under the auspices of
UNESCO*



Anja Polajnar is a project manager and researcher at the International Research Centre on Artificial Intelligence (IRCAI) under the auspices of UNESCO, hosted by the Jožef Stefan Institute (JSI), Slovenia. She coordinates the Open Education for a Better World (OE4BW) programme within the UNESCO Chair on Open Technologies for Open Educational Resources and Open Learning.

Anja's work focuses on the design, coordination, and implementation of European and international research and innovation projects, with an emphasis on dissemination, stakeholder engagement, and community building. She contributes to interdisciplinary initiatives at the intersection of artificial intelligence, open education, and sustainable development, and is actively involved in project development and proposal preparation. She holds a PhD in Humanities, with research centred on historical representations, discourse analysis, and intercultural perspectives.

**Ms Christelle Mae
Agustin**
Policy and
Communications Officer

**SEAMEO REGIONAL
CENTRE FOR HIGHER
EDUCATION AND
DEVELOPMENT**



Christelle Mae Agustin is a passionate advocate for regional cooperation and gender equality in Southeast Asia, with a strong focus on innovation in higher education. She serves as a Policy and Communications Officer at SEAMEO RIHED, where she leads learning and knowledge exchange initiatives that advance regional harmonisation, cross-border collaboration and online higher education community connection. Her experience spans international organizations, non-profits, and social enterprises, including the ASEAN University Network, where she supported harmonised approaches to quality assurance, and Female Entrepreneurs Worldwide, where she designed educational content to help women entrepreneurs adapt to digital transformation. She also worked in the tech start-up, Outwiths, focusing on digitalising skills and talent development, which deepened her expertise in leveraging technology to empower learners and institutions. She holds a Masters in Management from Mahidol University.

Ms Anja GENGO
Internet Governance
Programme Expert and
Capacity Development
Lead

**UNITED NATIONS
INTERNET GOVERNANCE
FORUM SECRETARIAT**



Anja Gengo is a Programme Expert with the United Nations Secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), where she leads capacity-development initiatives and serves as the focal point for the global network of national, regional, subregional, and youth IGF initiatives.

Prior to joining the Secretariat, she worked as an analyst and legal adviser in private practice. She is also a co-founder of the Centre for Media Law, where she worked as a policy analyst and programme coordinator.

Ms Gengo holds a Bachelor of Laws, a Master's degree in International Law, and a Master's degree in Transnational IP and IT Law. She is also an alumna of the Monroe E. Price Media Law and Policy Program, jointly offered by the University of Oxford and the Annenberg School for Communication. Her work focuses on Internet governance, digital cooperation, multistakeholder processes, and capacity development in the digital policy field.

Dr Aneela YASMIN
VET Coordinator
*East Preston Islamic
College*

AUSTRALIA



Dr Yasmin is an educator of Applied Sciences with 25+ years of experience across academia and research. Her prior work as a Principal Investigator in plant biotechnology (viral resistance, Agrobacterium-mediated transformation, algal wastewater treatment) produced 30+ peer-reviewed publications and the supervision of multiple graduate students. She has held academic appointments in both tertiary and secondary settings in Australia, including at RMIT University.

Currently, she explores the convergence of biosciences and emerging technologies with a specific focus on the AI creativity paradox: how generative AI may simultaneously constrain and amplify creative thinking in classrooms. She proposes a new definition of creativity for the AI era that shifts focus from divergent thinking metrics alone toward the coordination of human judgement and machine agency. Using classroom-generated data to refine pedagogical interventions, her work directly addresses the disruptive role of AI in education and the urgent need to humanise learning, assessment, and academic formation.

Mrs Rashikala WEERAWARNA
Senior Lecturer
Holmesglen TAFE

AUSTRALIA



With 18 years of experience in higher education across New Zealand and Australia, Rashikala is an Information Systems lecturer passionate about fostering inclusive learning environments for all learners. Her research focuses on AI, blockchain, and data analytics, particularly their application in education and governance. She is currently researching blockchain and AI in remittance systems.

Her mission is to inspire the next generation of technology leaders while advancing knowledge for global sustainability.

Dr Shalinka JAYATILLEKE
Senior Lecturer in AI and
Data Analytics & Course
Coordinator, Bachelor of
Business Analytics
La Trobe University

AUSTRALIA

Other Affiliations: Fellow,
Higher Education Academy
(FHEA)



Dr Shalinka Jayatilleke is a Senior Lecturer in AI and Analytics at La Trobe University (LTU), Australia, Fellow of Higher Education (HE) Academy, Course Coordinator of the Bachelor of Business Analytics, and a member of the Centre for Data Analytics and Cognition at LTU. Her work sits at the intersection of AI, HE, ethics, and institutional transformation. She researches generative AI governance, inclusive AI for diverse learners, responsible AI in HE, and applied AI in cyber-physical systems. Shalinka has led curriculum innovation, industry-linked learning, and cross-sector partnerships, including AI strategy collaboration with industry that led to fully funded PhD projects. She has extensive experience in teaching, course leadership, and research supervision, and is particularly interested in developing practical, policy-relevant frameworks that help universities move from fragmented AI responses to coherent, inclusive, and future-ready institutional practice in HE institutes.

Dr Chetanpal SINGH
University Lecturer
RMIT University

AUSTRALIA



Dr Chetanpal Singh is an academic and researcher with expertise in artificial intelligence, digital transformation, cybersecurity, and higher education innovation. He has extensive experience in teaching, curriculum development, and research across information technology and business disciplines within the Australian higher education and vocational education sectors. His academic work focuses on the ethical and responsible integration of emerging technologies into education, industry, and society.

Dr Fernaz Narin NUR
Professor
*Daffodil International
University*

BANGLADESH



His current research interests include responsible AI, AI-driven education systems, multimodal deep learning, cybersecurity governance, and the role of digital technologies in sustainable development. He has contributed to several interdisciplinary research initiatives exploring the application of artificial intelligence in healthcare, education, and decision-support systems.

Dr Singh is committed to promoting innovation that aligns technological advancement with ethical responsibility, human values, and global societal benefit.

Dr Fernaz Narin Nur is a Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Daffodil International University (DIU). She also serves as the Convener of the Daffodil AI Club and Director of the CSE AI Centre, where she works to promote innovation, research, and capacity building in Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies. In addition, she is actively involved in professional and community initiatives related to technology education and digital transformation in Bangladesh. She earned her BSc (Hons) in CSE from Jahangirnagar University in 2008, her MSc in Information Technology from University of Dhaka in 2010, and her PhD in CSE from the same university in 2017.

Before joining DIU, Dr Nur taught at Military Institute of Science and Technology (MIST), East West University, Notre Dame University Bangladesh, State University of Bangladesh, and World University of Bangladesh. She has more than 14 years of teaching and research experience and has supervised numerous students in their thesis and research projects. Her research interests include agentic AI, wireless sensor networks, software defined networking, IoT, cloud computing, MAC protocols, cybersecurity, and intelligent communication systems. She has published research articles in reputed international journals and conferences. She is also a member of IEEE, Internet Society, and Bangladesh Women in IT (BWIT).

Dr Nur is passionate about creating collaborative research environments that connect academia, industry, and society. Through her teaching, mentoring, and leadership activities, she actively supports young researchers and students in exploring innovative and socially impactful technologies.

Dr Lafifa JAMAL
Professor
University of Dhaka

BANGLADESH



Dr Lafifa Jamal is a Professor in the Department of Robotics and Mechatronics Engineering at the University of Dhaka, where she previously served as Chairperson. She began her academic career in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the same university. She holds a PhD in Computer Science and Engineering and is a Senior Member of IEEE and a Fellow of the Bangladesh Computer Society.

Her research spans Robotics and Intelligent Systems, VLSI Design and Reversible Logic Synthesis, and Gender and Diversity in STEM. She has authored numerous publications in reputed journals and international conferences, earning global recognition, including a Best Paper Award. She has delivered invited talks across Europe, Asia, and North America, including in Spain, the USA, South Korea, China, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Malaysia.

Dr Jamal is the Founding Director of Bangladesh Flying Labs, where she promotes the use of robotics and emerging

Mr David TIMIS
Senior Fellow in AI
Governance
*Global Governance
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BELGIUM



technologies for social impact. She also serves as Vice President of the Bangladesh Open Source Network Foundation, working to empower youth and increase female participation in STEM and ICT. She participated in the US Department of State's IVLP programme "Hidden No More," collaborating with global STEM leaders to advance inclusive innovation, and represents Bangladesh in the European Network for Gender Balance in Informatics.

She plays an active leadership role in international conferences and robotics initiatives. She is the Founder President of the Bangladesh Robot Olympiad and a Central Committee Member of the International Robot Olympiad.

David Timis writes and speaks regularly about AI and the risks and opportunities it presents for people, businesses and society, as a Senior Fellow in AI Governance at the Global Governance Institute in Brussels, International Strategy Forum Fellow at the SCSP in D.C., and AI Energy Impact Fellow at the the World Economic Forum in Geneva.

He is also the Community Champion for the BeNeLux & France region, Co-Lead for the 2025 edition of SHAPE Europe & Eurasia, and Longevity Economy Taskforce Member within the Global Shapers Community (a young leaders initiative of the World Economic Forum). He previously led the EU Civics Outreach efforts at Google during both the 2019 and 2024 EU Elections, and before that he was a UN Youth Delegate representing Romania. His career spans a range of public, private and third sector organisations including L'Oreal, Mars Inc., Burson (formerly known as BCW), Chatham House, and the Council of Europe.

With a career at the crossroads of technology, workforce development, and policy, David has been deeply involved in shaping conversations on skilling, education, AI governance, and digital transformation. His work spans from advising companies on their AI strategy to navigating the complexities of AI training for some of the world's most influential brands. Whether discussing the ethical implications of machine learning, the future of work in an AI-driven economy, or the regulatory challenges facing big tech companies, David brings a unique perspective grounded in both leading research and real-world implementation.

Dr Sharina YUNUS
Assistant Professor &
Director of Enterprise
Office
*Universiti Teknologi
Brunei*

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



Dr Sharina Yunus is an educator, researcher, and innovation ecosystem builder with over 20 years of experience in artificial intelligence, engineering, and sustainable development. She holds a PhD in Optoelectronics Engineering and serves as Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB), where she also directs the Enterprise Office.

In her role as Director, Dr Yunus leads UTB's Startup and Spinoff Programme established through a BND 1.3 million endowment from Brunei Shell overseeing IP commercialisation, technology transfer, and the university's structured pipeline from research to market. She is one of the Coordinators of the Asia-Europe for AI (AE4AI) Network and has been an active contributor to ASEAN-EU research and innovation collaborations, including Erasmus Plus-funded programmes and the ASEAN Research Grant on ICT Star.

Prof SHEN Yi
Professor of SIRPA &
Director of the
International Research
Institute of Global
Cyberspace Governance
Fudan University

CHINA

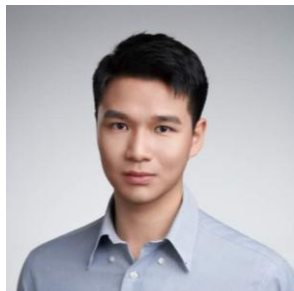


Professor SHEN Yi is the Director of the International Research Institute of Global Cyberspace Governance, a non-resident researcher at the China Cyberspace Studying Institute, and individual director of the China Association of Cybersecurity. His main research focuses on cybersecurity, cyber diplomacy and the governance of global cyberspace. From 2008 to 2009, Professor SHEN Yi went to Georgetown University as a post-doctoral research fellow in the School of Foreign Affairs.

In 2013, Professor SHEN Yi published his book on the National Cybersecurity Strategy of the US and also participated the Conference of Cybersecurity and Informatization, which was hosted by President Xi Jinping on 19 April 2016, as one of the ten key speakers.

Mr ZHANG Shuyan
Research Assistant,
International Research
Institute of Global
Cyberspace Governance
Fudan University

CHINA



Mr Zhang Shuyan is taking up his PhD at Fudan University. He has extensive experience in international organisation and diplomatic work. His research interests focus on AI global governance and great power competition in science and technology. Mr Zhang is the coordinator in organising ASEFINnoLab from Fudan University's side.

Prof Andri IOANNOU
Professor of Learning
Design and Technology
*Cyprus University of
Technology*

CYPRUS



Dr Andri Ioannou is a Professor at the Cyprus University of Technology, co-founder of the Cyprus Interaction Lab and founding academic member of the CYENS Centre of Excellence. Her work focuses on educational technology and learning experience design, with particular emphasis on emerging technologies in education. Her research explores how technology can support creativity, collaboration, inclusion, and meaningful learning across formal and informal educational settings. He has coordinated and contributed to numerous European and international research projects related to AI in education, STEAM education, digital innovation, and emerging technologies in education.

Dr Ioannou has published extensively in the fields of educational technology and regularly collaborates with interdisciplinary and international teams across academia and policy contexts. Alongside her research, she is actively involved in quality assurance in higher education. Her recent work also focuses on responsible and ethical approaches to generative AI adoption in universities.

**Ms Zeynep
YARADANAKUL**
Country Representative
for Finland
*Erasmus Mundus
Association*

FINLAND



Zeynep Yaradanakul is a Data Science graduate from the Erasmus Mundus programme, with academic experience in Finland and Spain. Her work has mainly focused on multilingual AI systems and evaluating question answering models across different languages, which gave her a practical understanding of how AI behaves across linguistic and cultural settings.

Alongside her technical background, she is active in international collaboration and youth initiatives. She currently serves as Country Representative for Finland in the Erasmus Mundus Association, where she supports student engagement and helps connect international students across different countries. She has also volunteered in policy-focused youth spaces, including the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, where she facilitated dialogues between young people and

Other Affiliations: Student,
Åbo Akademi University

Ms Stefanie Engert
Senior Desk Officer for
the ASEM Education
Process
German Academic
Exchange Service
(DAAD)

GERMANY



parliamentarians and contributed to policy recommendations on regional cooperation and resilience.

Her main interests sit at the intersection of AI, education, and governance. She is especially curious about how universities can bring together technical AI development with real-world use, ethical questions, and more inclusive approaches to innovation.

Stefanie Engert is Senior Desk Officer at the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Together with her colleagues at the EU policy support section, she contributes to the ASEM Education Process and coordinates the ASEM Expert Group on Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence, in collaboration with the German Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR). The DAAD is the world's largest funding organisation for the international exchange of students and researchers. It provides scholarships for individuals, supports universities in their internationalisation and advises decision makers on education, foreign science and development policy. Stefanie is based at the DAAD headquarters in Bonn, Germany.

Dr Radwan ESKHITA
Senior Lecturer in Cyber
Security and IT Law
Lucerne University of
Applied Science

GERMANY



Radwan Eshkita is a Lecturer in Cyber Security and Information Technology Law at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Switzerland. His work focuses on the intersection of technology, privacy, and regulatory frameworks, with particular expertise in data protection and cyber security governance.

He completed his PhD at Erasmus University Rotterdam, where his research examined comparative data protection laws and their extraterritorial implications. His work combines legal analysis with empirical approaches to address practical challenges in digital regulation.

Radwan teaches courses in privacy, cyber security, and network regulation, and is involved in developing interdisciplinary teaching methods. His research interests include privacy-enhancing technologies, AI governance, and the role of universities in advancing responsible and ethical AI.

**Mr Francesco
AMIGHETTI**
Development Lead &
Founding Member
THINK.TANK Plus

GREECE



Francesco Amighetti is a sustainability and innovation expert. He is Development Lead & Founding Member at THINK.TANK Plus, a non-profit action tank based in Athens (Greece), and Programmes and Operations Lead at DOTANK Plus, a sustainability consulting agency operating internationally. He holds a BSc with distinction in Economics and Management and a MSc with distinction in Economics and Management of Government and International Organizations from Bocconi University (Italy).

His work focuses on translating complex policy and technology challenges into actionable outputs, including fundable project concepts, training programmes, impact frameworks, and advocacy-oriented knowledge products, spanning AI ethics and governance, EU regulatory frameworks, and emerging technology policy, with experience across sustainability and social innovation.

Francesco designed EmpowerAI, an EU-funded initiative supporting the ethical integration of artificial intelligence in academic education in Europe. His policy analysis of Italy's AI governance architecture received first prize from BlueDot Impact (UK). He contributes to CePTE (Centro per le Politiche

Mrs Ajita DESHMUKH
Assistant Professor &
Programme Leader, MSc
on eLearning
MIT Art Design and
Technology University

INDIA



sulle Tecnologie Emergenti), Italy's first think tank on emerging technology governance, where he works on AI policy development and strategic writing. His ongoing research explores how emerging technologies are reshaping education, institutional governance, and social systems across regions.

Dr Ajita Deshmukh is an academic innovator, curriculum designer, and educator working at the intersection of digital pedagogy, eLearning, AI-enabled education, and creative learning design. She is the Founder and Programme Lead of the MSc eLearning programme at MIT Art, Design and Technology University, India. She is also the Founder of The Interaction Studio. Her work focuses on reimagining higher education through learner-centred, culturally responsive, and technology-enabled learning experiences. She has designed interdisciplinary curricula, MOOCs, faculty development programmes, and digital learning resources including podcasts, interactive activities, story-driven learning materials, and multimedia educational content that foreground critical digital literacy, participatory pedagogies, and meaningful technology integration.

Her current interests explore the role of AI in advancing open, inclusive, and socially meaningful education. She is particularly interested in human-centred and ethically grounded approaches to AI that expand access, agency, collaboration, and knowledge co-creation across diverse learning communities. Dr Deshmukh's broader research and creative practice engage with adaptive learning, game-based learning, online communities, digital culture, and the role of storytelling in shaping learning experiences and technological imagination. She has presented and published work on educational technology, digital pedagogy, social media in education, and innovative curriculum design, while also collaborating on initiatives exploring gamified STEM learning ecosystems and future-oriented educational models.

Prof Tejavan GANDHOK
Director, IDEATE LAB &
Professor of Practice
Strategy &
Entrepreneurship, Jindal
Global Business School
OP Jindal Global
University

INDIA



Pavan has had an eclectic career with a strong track-record: in his current pracademic role the ~50 incubated ventures portfolio is delivering significant economic and social impact.

Previously as a serial entrepreneur and investor, he created excellent investor returns and successful exits including start-ups, high growth and turn-arounds. He also has 20+ years of international Senior Partner level corporate advisory experience in country and regional head roles across Australia, USA, Southeast Asia and India with strategy consulting and private equity firms such as Halcyon Partners, AT Kearney, Stern Stewart & co. and the Boston Consulting Group. In earlier career roles, he worked in corporate strategy, technology management and incubation, and as an engineer and research scientist.

Pavan is an Indian born, US educated, Australian citizen, former Permanent Resident of Singapore and an Overseas Citizen of India.

Mr Anshumaan GOEL
PhD Scholar
*OP Jindal Global
University*

INDIA



Anshumaan Goel is a PhD Scholar at the Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, specialising in AI ethics, behavioral science, and public policy. His research investigates human-algorithm interaction and automation bias within public administration, with a focus on designing inclusive socio-technical systems. In addition to his academic pursuits, Anshumaan Goel serves as an Enforcement Officer in Government of India, where he works to bridge the gap between policy formulation and on-the-ground implementation. A strong advocate for education and literacy, he also runs an online educational platform on YouTube focused on mentoring public policy students.

Prof Pushpanadham Karanam
Professor and Head,
Department of
Educational
Administration, Faculty
of Education and
Psychology
*The Maharaja Sayajirao
University of Baroda*

INDIA



Professor Karanam Pushpanadham is a distinguished academic, educational leader, and researcher currently serving as Professor of Educational Management and Head of the Department of Educational Administration at the Faculty of Education and Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda. He has also served as Officer on Special Duty for PhD Programmes and has been actively involved in the implementation of educational reforms and policy initiatives in higher education. At the international level, Prof. Pushpanadham is widely recognized for his leadership in lifelong learning, digitalization, and educational innovation. He serves as the Coordinator of the e-ASEM Research Network on E-Learning and Digitalization in Education under the ASEM Lifelong Learning Hub, connecting researchers and institutions across Asia and Europe. He has held visiting professorships and research fellowships in Sweden, Denmark, Ireland, and other countries. He is representing ASEM LLL Hub for DAAD.

Mr Jin TADA
Joint Researcher
*National Institute for
Environmental Studies*

JAPAN



Jin Tada is a Joint Researcher at the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) and an Environmental Policy Specialist and Engineer at SoftBank Corp. in Japan. He is a Master's candidate at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), specialising in the twin transition of digital transformation and ecological sustainability.

Recognised as the youngest Expert Reviewer for the IPCC AR7 and UNEP GEO7, Jin excels at bridging the gap between high-level climate science and grassroots implementation. He is the lead developer of AI Carson, a generative AI agent that translates complex multilateral environmental reports into localised and culturally accessible narratives. This initiative was honored with the Gold Award at UNESCO Digital Learning Week in Paris.

Jin's extensive leadership includes directing the Water Storytellers Collective, an officially endorsed UN Ocean Decade Action, and serving as a Regional Focal Point for the UNESCO i-WSSM Young Professionals for Water and Gender Network. A four-time delegate to the World Bank Group Youth Forum and a representative at the St Gallen Symposium, he has also spearheaded the Kankyo Cafe initiative for over a decade, facilitating intergenerational dialogue and consensus-building on urban climate resilience. His work focuses on governing AI as a digital public good to accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals.

Dr Rafis ABAZOV
Director
*Kazakh National
Agrarian Research
University*

KAZAKHSTAN



Dr Rafis Abazov is a director of the International Institute for Green & Sustainable Development and a visiting professor at Kazakh National Agrarian Research University (KazNARU), Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Dr Abazov has also served as a UNDP Project Manager for the EU-funded project on developing education in a post-conflict region (2019-2022). He was regional director for the Model UN New Silk Way (MUN-NSW) programme and a co-director for the Global Hub of United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) programme on sustainability (both 2012-2019). He was elected as an elected member of the Committee on Innovations and PPP at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) (since 2017). In addition, he has more than 20 years of experience serving as a consultant for the ADB, EU, UNECE, UNDP, UNIFEM, and other organisations and holds various board and director positions.

His research interests include as follows: sustainable development, AI in higher education, sustainable digital transformation, AI-driven education innovation, and international social & labor mobility in emerging economies. He has written 10 books on Central Asia and the Middle East and has regularly contributed to UNECE studies on innovation performance and public policies in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. In addition, he is a regular contributor to the New York Times (USA), QS Top Universities (UK), and Forbes Magazine (Kazakhstan) web columns. Dr Abazov's academic achievements are reflected in his Scopus Index H-12, WoS-4, and Google Scholar H-21. He has also been a valuable contributor to UNECE studies on innovation performance and public policies in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

**Mr Xaysavath
SOUKCHALEUN**
Lecturer and Researcher
*Souphanouvong
University*

LAO PDR



Mr Xaysavath Soukchaleun is a Lecturer and Researcher at Souphanouvong University, Lao PDR, where he teaches Programming, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, and Computer Networks. He holds a Master's degree in Computer Science and is committed to equipping the next generation of students with the digital and technological competencies needed to thrive in an AI-driven world.

Mr Xaysavath has conducted research on the integration of Artificial Intelligence in university teaching and learning, exploring how AI can be applied responsibly to enhance pedagogical practices, improve student engagement, and strengthen the quality of higher education—particularly in the context of developing nations in Southeast Asia. His work reflects a firm belief that universities play a central role in ensuring that AI serves the common good rather than deepening existing inequalities.

Motivated by the conviction that universities must lead by example in the ethical and inclusive deployment of AI, Mr Xaysavath is passionate about fostering international collaboration that bridges Asia and Europe. He sees cross-border research partnerships as essential pathways for advancing AI in ways that are equitable, locally grounded, and aligned with broader societal values.

Ms Julija MIRONOVA
Programme Director
Riga Nordic University

LATVIA



Julija Mironova is the Programme Director of Business Administration in Tourism at Riga Nordic University. Her academic and professional work focuses on innovation in higher education, with particular research interests in artificial intelligence in education, sustainable tourism, and educator burnout in higher education institutions.

Dr Claudio Andres RIVERA
Director of Programmes
& Assistant Professor
RTU Riga Business School

LATVIA



With over 20 years of experience in business schools, training, and both non-formal and higher education, he has led and contributed to a wide range of projects across multiple countries. Over the past 12 years, He has spearheaded and collaborated on programmes with universities such as MIT, University at Buffalo, BI Norwegian Business School, and Fudan University, primarily through his roles in management and teaching at Riga Business School.

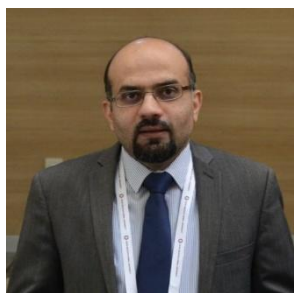
Other Affiliations:
ASEFInnoLab Strategic Advisor

Claudio's work extends beyond the classroom, as he actively engages in advocacy and policy initiatives focused on higher education reform, AI integration in education, youth development, and workforce upskilling.

His core areas of interest include executive leadership, AI in education, youth development, and social entrepreneurship, where he continues to drive impact through research, education, and consulting.

Mr Muhammad SOHAIL
Senior Lecturer & Lead
for AI and SDG
Innovation
Mykolas Romeris University

LITHUANIA



Muhammad is an academic, researcher and international higher education expert with interdisciplinary expertise in AI-enabled educational transformation, innovation and entrepreneurship education and sustainable development. At the University of Mykolas Romeris University, he works at the intersection of digitalisation, educational leadership, sustainability transitions and institutional transformation. He has extensive experience in designing and leading international Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe initiatives focused on knowledge valorisation, DeepTech entrepreneurship, and SDGs. His work particularly examines human-centred approaches to AI integration, systems thinking at HEIs and the development of future-oriented learning environments.

Prof Mira KARTIWI
Director of Data
Management and Data
Analytics, Office of
Strategic Institutional
Transformation
International Islamic University Malaysia

MALAYSIA



Mira Kartiwi is a Full Professor in the Department of Information Systems of the Kuliyah of Information and Communication Technology at the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). She also currently serves as the Director of Data Management and Data Analytics at the Office of Strategic Institution Transformation.

She earned her Bachelor of Commerce (Business Information Systems), Master of Information Systems, and PhD from the University of Wollongong, Australia, with doctoral research focused on electronic commerce adoption among urban and rural Indonesian SMEs. She was one of the recipients of the Australian Postgraduate Award (2004) and the Higher Degree Research Award for Excellence at University of Wollongong (2007). In 2011, she was appointed an Honorary Fellow at the University of Wollongong. Prof. Mira has served on editorial boards of local and international journals and has extensive consultancy experience across the education, finance and manufacturing sectors.

Prof Zainal SANUSI
Director, Sejahtera
Centre for Sustainability
and Humanity
*International Islamic
University Malaysia*

MALAYSIA



Zainal Abidin Sanusi is the Director of the Sejahtera Centre for Sustainability and Humanity and a Professor of Political Science at the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). A sustainability expert with extensive leadership experience, his previous roles include Minister Council (Education) at the Malaysian High Commission in London and Deputy Director at the Higher Education Leadership Academy (AKEPT).

He holds a PhD from Waseda University and completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the United Nations University, focusing on multilateral environmental agreements. His academic specialization lies in governance and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). Dr. Sanusi was also a Visiting Professor at the University of Tokyo, researching the implementation of sustainability science. Since 2005, he has been deeply involved with UNESCO through various grants and high-level meetings. His current research focuses on Sustainability Science, ESD, and Public Policy Analysis.

Dr Rachel TAN
Head of Programme,
Doctor of Education
*INTI International
University*

MALAYSIA



Dr Rachel Sing-Ee Tan is a higher education scholar and academic leader whose work focuses on how universities are adapting to artificial intelligence (AI) in teaching, assessment, and academic practice. She leads the Doctor of Education programme at INTI International University, Malaysia, where she works across doctoral supervision, curriculum development, and programme governance.

Rachel has led funded research on AI-assisted writing assessment and integrates AI into her own teaching and assessment practices. She is particularly interested in how universities can adopt AI responsibly while maintaining academic judgement, trust, and meaningful human decision-making. She is also engaged in cross-border doctoral supervision and academic collaboration within Asian higher education contexts, particularly in areas related to AI governance and digital pedagogy. In 2026, she was an invited participant at the Royal Academy of Engineering Frontiers Symposium on AI, Sustainability and Responsibility in Tokyo.

Her broader interests include higher education governance, AI in academic practice, and cross-regional approaches to AI in universities.

Dr Nur Lisa ZAHARIN
Senior Lecturer
Universiti Malaya

MALAYSIA



Dr Nur Lisa Zaharin's interdisciplinary background in analytical chemistry, science education, computational thinking, educational robotics, and sustainability-oriented pedagogy enables her to contribute meaningfully to ASEInnoLab's mission of advancing ethical, inclusive, and future-ready higher education.

Her work in integrating digital innovation, technology-based pedagogies, and STEM education aligns closely with the programme's focus on universities' roles in AI innovation ecosystems and sustainable development. Through her experience in teacher education, curriculum innovation, and community-based educational initiatives, particularly within diverse and underrepresented contexts, she brings valuable perspectives on equitable access, digital transformation, and the development of human-centred educational practices for the AI era.

Ms Devisakti ANNAMALI
Senior Lecturer
Universiti Sains Malaysia

MALAYSIA



Devisakti is currently a Senior Lecturer attached to the National Higher Education Research Institute (IPPTN), Universiti Sains Malaysia. She obtained her PhD in technology Management from Universiti Sains Malaysia. Her research focus is on digital teaching and learning in higher education, digital divide, and TVET. She serves as Guest Editor for Public Administration and Policy and Interchange. She actively publishes in ISI and Scopus indexed journals.

Prof Andrea MASCOLO
Academic Director
European Institute for Medical Studies (EIMS)

MALTA



Prof Andrea Mascolo is Academic Director of the European Institute for Medical Studies (EIMS), Malta, where he leads strategic initiatives in higher education innovation, curriculum development, and quality assurance. He is also Full Professor in Digital Dentistry and Innovative Clinical Training at Grigol Robakidze University, Georgia. His work focuses on the responsible integration of artificial intelligence, digital transformation, and interdisciplinary educational design within higher education systems. Through international academic collaborations across Europe, Africa, and Asia, he contributes to the development of scalable, ethical, and innovation-driven models that strengthen educational quality, institutional governance, and public trust.

Prof Vanessa CAMILLERI
Associate Professor
University of Malta

MALTA



Prof Vanessa Camilleri is an Associate Professor within the Department of Artificial Intelligence at the Faculty of ICT, University of Malta. Her work lies at the intersection of emerging technologies, ethics, and education, with a sustained focus on the use of Virtual and Augmented Reality to support behavioural change and the development of empathy in learning contexts.

Her current research bridges AI in sport and AI ethics, where she leads innovative projects such as SWIM-360 and DIVE. These initiatives explore multimodal explainable AI and intelligent video analysis to enhance swimming performance, support biomechanics, and enable data-informed coaching practices. Her approach is grounded in human-centred design principles and a strong commitment to responsible and ethical innovation. Prof Camilleri is widely recognised for her contributions to AI ethics and education, particularly in examining how intelligent systems shape human behaviour, decision-making, and wellbeing. Alongside her research, she is actively engaged in widening participation in AI, co-editing a practical guide that introduces AI concepts through traditional games and contributing to national outreach initiatives aimed at fostering responsible AI awareness among younger audiences.

She obtained her PhD from Coventry University in the United Kingdom, where her doctoral work explored the role of virtual worlds in pre-service teacher training, with a focus on technology acceptance and behavioural change. She continues to contribute to interdisciplinary research and dialogue at both national and international levels, advancing inclusive, reflective, and socially responsible applications of artificial intelligence.

**Prof Lampros
STERGIOULAS**

UNESCO Chair on AI and
Data Science for Society
*The Hague University of
Applied Sciences*

NETHERLANDS

Other Affiliations: Professor in
AI and Data Science



Lampros Stergioulas is UNESCO Chair of AI and Data Science for Society and a professor of Data Science at The Hague University of Applied Sciences, where he leads the Data Science research group in the Faculty of IT & Design. Previously, he has been chaired professor in Business Analytics at the University of Surrey Business School and in Computer Science at Brunel University London, UK. He is also a member of the Technical Advisory Group on AI for Health at the World Health Organisation (WHO). Lampros is also active for the European Commission as an expert in the fields of artificial intelligence, data science and research ethics. He also serves as an expert evaluator for various programmes sponsored by EU and UK.

He has written more than 200 scientific publications and supervised and examined many PhD theses in the fields of AI, data science, educational technology, human-centred computing, data-driven social innovation, system modelling and simulation as well as data ethics.

**Mr Joost GROOT
KORMELINK**

Manager, Open and
Online Education
TU Delft

NETHERLANDS



Mr. Joost Groot Kormelink is Manager Open and Life long learning Education (portfolio of around 30 courses) of the Faculty Technology, Policy and Management (TPM) of the TU Delft. AI is a core business of the faculty with a focus on ethics, regulation and governance.

He is also involved in various EU-educational projects as work package, Chair Quality Assurance board for Life Long Learning and former secretary of the Human Research Ethics Committee TU Delft.

Side activities include being a mentor for the UNESCO supported programme titled Open Education for a Better World (OE4BW).

Dr Munir SEWANI

Global Education Expert
and Researcher

PAKISTAN

Other Affiliations: PhD
Programme Admittee,
University of Malta



Dr Munir holds a PhD in Education and has more than 14 years of teaching and international research experience. His contributions to the field of education are internationally recognised. He was part of the ASEFIInnoLab6 Cohort, the Global Heumann Fellowship, the Charles Wallace Fellowship, and the Georg Arnold Fellowship, among others. He also won the British Council's Social Impact Award for his socio-educational model.

He has authored several research reports, edited several open books, and proposed more than 40 innovative educational models, theories, frameworks, and concepts, including the intellectual barter system and the Nonuple+ Artificial Intelligence Ethical Framework. He has also delivered lectures at various global institutions, including Fudan University in China and the Open University in the United Kingdom. He is an active member of the UNESCO Inclusive Policy Lab and the Asia-Europe for Artificial Intelligence (AE4AI) Network. His areas of interest include global education, open education, AI in education, low-cost technology, inclusive education, and higher education policies.

Dr Joey AVILES
IT Programme Chair,
Graduate School
*Angeles University
Foundation*

PHILIPPINES



Dr Joey Aviles is a seasoned Information Technology educator, researcher, and academic leader with two decades of experience in higher education, both in the Philippines and abroad. He currently serves as Faculty Member and Graduate School Programme Chair for IT, and Service Unit Coordinator of the College of Computer Studies at Angeles University Foundation, where he actively leads initiatives in curriculum development, artificial intelligence integration, data analytics, and technology-driven learning innovation.

Before joining AUF, Dr Aviles served as Dean of the College of Computer Studies at Panpacific University and taught at Al Farabi Colleges in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated strong leadership in academic planning, programme development, and information systems management.

Dr Aviles is a prolific researcher with numerous Scopus-indexed publications presented in international IEEE, ACM, and other global conferences. His research interests include artificial intelligence, machine learning, business intelligence, predictive analytics, data science, and emerging computing technologies. He is also an active member and officer of professional organisations such as the Philippine Society of Information Technology Educators (PSITE), the Analytics and Artificial Intelligence Association of the Philippines, and the Council of IT Education Deans and Heads.

In addition, Dr Aviles holds several industry certifications reflecting his commitment to continuous professional growth and excellence in IT education and research.

Dr Vicente PITOGO
Vice President for
Academic Affairs
Caraga State University

PHILIPPINES



Dr Vicente Pitogo serves as the Vice President for Academic Affairs of Caraga State University, Philippines. With a doctorate degree in Information Technology and years of experience in higher education, he has dedicated his career to promoting innovation, academic excellence, and meaningful community engagement through technology.

His work centres on information technology, digital governance, social computing, and the use of emerging technologies, artificial intelligence to improve education and support community development. Over the years, he has contributed to initiatives in curriculum enhancement, quality assurance, research development, and technology-enabled learning, helping create more inclusive and future-ready learning environments.

Beyond academic leadership, Dr Pitogo is passionate about building collaborations that connect education, research, and society. He strongly believes in the role of innovation and digital transformation in empowering communities and preparing learners for the demands of a rapidly changing world. Through his work, he continues to advocate for accessible, people-centred, and socially responsive approaches to education and technological advancement.

Prof Robert BILLONES
Full Professor &
Research Fellow,
Department of
Biomedical,
Manufacturing, and
Robotics Engineering
De La Salle University

PHILIPPINES



Dr Robert Kerwin C Billones is a full professor in the Department of Biomedical, Manufacturing, and Robotics Engineering at the Gokongwei College of Engineering, De La Salle University, Philippines. He completed his Doctor of Philosophy in Electronics and Communications Engineering (2018) at De La Salle University. He received a postgraduate certificate programme and fellowship for the Leaders in Innovation Fellowship (LIF) programme (2019) at the Royal Academy of Engineering (RAEng), London, United Kingdom, and the Asian Institute of Management, Philippines. He serves as a research fellow at the Intelligent Systems Laboratory under the Centre for Engineering and Sustainable Development Research, where he has led and co-led several applied AI projects funded by both the university, government, and international agencies. He had published one hundred fifteen (115) international scientific research articles (2014-present) in the areas of applied AI, computer vision, cyber-physical systems, digital manufacturing, digital twins, and process optimisation.

He is a founding member and currently serves as the Asia Coordinator for the Working Group on AI Governance (2023-present) within the Asia-Europe for Artificial Intelligence (AE4AI) Network, organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in Singapore. The network produces academic and industry white papers for international dissemination, focusing on AI governance, AI in education, and AI for sustainable development. He is a research group member of the AI Policy Clinic (2026-present) at the Centre for AI and Digital Policy (CAIDP), headquartered in Washington, DC, United States. CAIDP is an independent, non-profit thinktank dedicated to advancing AI governance, digital rights, and technology policy.

Prof Marion Lux CASTRO
Professor
*University of the
Philippines Los Baños*

PHILIPPINES



Dr Marion Lux Castro is a Professor at the Institute of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (IABE), College of Engineering and Agro-industrial Technology (CEAT), University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB).

She has a PhD in Environmental Engineering from the University of the Philippines Diliman (2018), MS Agrometeorology (2005) and BS Agricultural Engineering (1997) from UPLB. She has a micro-credential certificate on Outcomes-based Engineering Education (OBEE) from the Batangas State University.

Her research interests have evolved from biomass energy technology characterisation and assessment, maize crop modelling, to biomass recovery from immobilised microalgae in wastewater. At present, she is a study leader for crop-environment interactions for the nationwide deployment of Project SARAI (Smarter Approaches to Reinvigorate Agriculture as an Industry) Centralized National Hub Regional Operations (CeNTRO); and a study consultant for the Development of a Unified Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization Industry Roadmap (AFMIR) focusing on human resources development. Both are funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST)-Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD).

She teaches a graduate course on tropical agrometeorology, and undergraduate courses in environmental control engineering and introduction to ABE.

Mr Rustam SHARIQ MUJTABA
Southeast and East Asia
Regional Youth
Champion
*Digital Transformations
for Health Lab*

SINGAPORE



Rustam Shariq is a Data Scientist at the Health Sciences Authority, where he develops and deploys artificial intelligence systems in regulatory contexts. His work includes building multimodal large language model applications for analysing multilingual health data, as well as contributing to model evaluation, safety, and governance in high-stakes environments.

He also supports regulatory affairs and data analytics at Peach Health Asia, enabling the introduction of AI-enabled digital health solutions across Southeast Asia. His experience spans navigating regulatory pathways and supporting the responsible scaling of technologies such as clinical decision support systems and ambient AI tools.

John is actively engaged in regional AI capacity building as an AI Master Trainer with the ASEAN Foundation. He also serves as Regional Youth Champion for Southeast and East Asia at the Digital Transformations for Health Lab, where he works on digital health and futures-oriented initiatives. He has contributed to policy-oriented work including a white paper on Entrepreneurship in the Age of AI: US-Indo-Pacific Cooperation for SME and Education Readiness in collaboration with the United States Department of State, and the ASEAN Digital Health Policy Charter with the Pijar Foundation.

Dr Sunyub KIM
Associate Research
Fellow
*Science and Technology
Policy Institute*

SOUTH KOREA



Sunyub Kim is an Associate Research Fellow at the Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI) and a policymaker specialising in Science Education and Inclusive AI Governance. With a robust background in science diplomacy and international S&T cooperation, she dedicates herself to designing strategic frameworks to respond to global fragmentation by building extensive human networks across Asia, Europe, and North America.

Mr Antonio PELEGRINA JIMENEZ
Post-Graduate Student
Universidad de Granada

SPAIN



With a first background in Physics, Mr Antonio Pelegrina's research experience was on rare-earth materials, at a Sino-French corporation, at the department of high performance scintillation materials in Shanghai. Later back in Europe, he specialised on Image Processing through an Erasmus Mundus Master programme about Color in Informatics and Media Technology, where he insight the ALARA concept on dose, at medical imaging detectability, while keeping European cooperation as Management Committee Member of a CERN ruled action.

On its entrepreneurial side, he collaborated a summer with Shanghai Tech, looking for innovative solutions, on a team work, with great success. Other scholarships awarded include "Linking Organizations through University Synergies" LOTUS+, an initiative coordinated by Uppsala and PKU, joining it as a student not belonging to the consortia.

Beijing University (PKU) became later an institution where he was able to study further—mostly online—thanks to a later agreement with Granada University, through a diverse range of topics including as an example, Education and AI. But not limiting those onto technology, on a wider look, hence including

Prof Dr Daniel BURGOS
Vice-Rector for
International Research &
UNESCO Chair on
eLearning
*Universidad
Internacional de La
Rioja*

SPAIN

Other Affiliations: MIU City
University Miami (President)



subjects as can be "Tianxia and Chinese cosmopolitanism" or "History of Modern Political Thought" where he was the only foreigner to accept the challenge to attend a class fully taught in mandarin. Its interest for Asia started as undergraduate, where he took translation subjects and critical literature analysis as freestanding courses in Granada University.

Daniel is President of MIU City University Miami in the USA, Vice-Rector for International Research, UNESCO Chair on eLearning, and Director of the Research Institute for Innovation & Technology in Education (iTED) of Universidad Internacional de La Rioja in Spain. He has implemented 85+ worldwide R&D projects and published 270+ scientific papers, 60 books and special issues, and 12 patents.

He holds 14 Doctorate and PhD degrees, including Computer Science and Education. He is a visiting professor at universities in the five continents (e.g., CIT Research Center, China; INTI International University, Malaysia). He works as a consultant for the United Nations (UNECE), the University of the United Nations (UNU-Flores), ICESCO, and the European Commission. His interests are mainly focused on Educational Technology & Innovation, Personalised and Informal eLearning, Learning Analytics & AI in Education, Open Education & Science, eGames, and eLearning Specifications. ORCID: 0000-0003-0498-1101.

**Mrs Cinta GALLENT
TORRES**
Assistant Professor
Universitat de València

SPAIN



Cinta Gallent-Torres is an Assistant Professor at the University of Valencia (UV). PhD in Educational Intervention from the UV (2016) and PhD in Education from the University of the Balearic Islands (2025). She is currently Coordinator of the Ibero-American Network on Digital Ethics and Educational AI (REDIE), within the framework of the CYTED project (2026-2029).

She has taught at the University of Connecticut, the College of Continuing Studies (United States), and at several Spanish universities, both public and private. She has also undertaken research stays at the Université Bourgogne Europe (France), Stockholm University (Sweden), and the University Jaume I (Spain) and worked as a volunteer language coordinator at the Språkstudion Language Learning Resource Centre (Sweden). She is a member of the Institut de Recherche et d'Action sur la Fraude et le Plagiat Académiques (IRAFPA, Switzerland), the Ibero-American Research Network on Academic Integrity (Red-IA), and the FORTHEM Alliance.

Her research interests include the ethical and responsible use of generative AI in teaching and research, AI-assisted plagiarism, academic integrity and dishonesty, emerging technologies, and second language learning.

Mr Mauricio SKRYCKY
Independent
Photographer

SPAIN



Mauricio SKRYCKY is a Uruguayan freelance photographer based in Madrid, Spain. His work revolves around cultural and political affairs.

His collaborators include Casa Asia and Expansión, Spain's leading economic daily newspaper among others. His journalism work has been published by major news outlets and magazines across Latin America and Europe. His personal projects have been shown in solo and group exhibitions both in art galleries and museums. Madrid 5500°k, a series of eight

**Prof Dr Ebba
OSSIANNILSSON**
Chief Executive Officer
*Ossiannilsson Quality in
Open Online Learning
Consultancy*

SWEDEN



black and white photos was bought by Madrid's Contemporary Art Museum.

Professor Dr Ebba Ossiannilsson, Sweden, is an independent international consultant, award-winning researcher, influencer, and quality reviewer with more than 20 years of experience in open, online, and distance education. Her expertise includes quality assurance, leadership, on-demand learning, smart education, AI, Open Educational Resources (OER), inclusive, scalable and sustainable education, and innovative approaches to lifelong learning. She is actively engaged in advancing SDG4 and the futures of education, promoting equitable and accessible learning opportunities worldwide.

She collaborates with international organisations and networks, including UNESCO, the UNESCO OER Dynamic Coalition, the European Commission, OECD, ISO, ITCILO, OE4BW, and several global lifelong learning and digital inclusion initiatives. She is also affiliated with research projects such as the Global Research Project on Seamless Learning (IRN ISSE), Connecting Online, and Open Education and Open Science.

Ossiannilsson has served two mandate periods on the International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE) Board and has chaired several global initiatives related to OER, quality, advocacy, and leadership. She is an international quality assessor for ICDE and EADTU and contributes to editorial boards, programme committees, and international conferences worldwide. She is Associated Professor with the University of Nova Gorica in Slovenia on Open Education Leadership.

In 2025, she received the ICDE Honorary Membership Award. Other recognitions include the OEGlobal Leadership Excellence Award, SPARC Europe Open Education Champion, EDEN Senior Fellow, EntreComp Champion, and T4Education Ambassador. She has authored more than 300 publications and is a frequent keynote speaker internationally.

Ms Leïla CELLÉRIER
PhD Student
University of Geneva

SWITZERLAND



Leïla is a researcher with a multidisciplinary background spanning socioeconomics, applied statistics, geography, and environmental studies. This blend of perspectives shapes her approach to complex social questions, combining rigorous quantitative methods with a sensitivity to social, environmental, and contextual dimensions.

Her professional experience extends across Europe, Africa, and Asia, where she has worked at the intersection of international cooperation, global health, education policy, and women's rights.

She is currently a PhD student in socioeconomics at the University of Geneva, where her research examines the digitalisation of social policies in the European and Swiss contexts. She is particularly interested in how digital tools and AI are reshaping access to social rights, the relationship between citizens and welfare institutions, and the broader implications for equity, inclusion, social justice and democracy.

Prof Bundit THIPAKORN
 Advisor to the President
*King Mongkut's
 University of Technology
 Thonburi*

THAILAND



Assoc Prof Bundit Thipakorn, PhD, is the Advisor to the President for Learning Innovation at King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT) in Bangkok, Thailand. He also served as Deputy Secretary-General at the Office of the Higher Education Commission, Ministry of Education, Thailand, from 2016 to 2017.

Assoc Prof Bundit has been actively involved in policy-related projects and activities of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation, including the Thai Higher Education Standards, Conformity Assessment and Accreditation, Competency/Outcome-Based Education, the Thailand National Credit Bank, Transforming Thai Higher Education, the Lifelong Professional Capability Ecosystem, and Micro-Credentials.

His ultimate goal in contributing to the development of higher education is to produce the fourth wave of Thai human capital in the age of human-AI symbiosis.

Dr Yang BONG
 Senior Lecturer
 Birmingham Newman
 University

UNITED KINGDOM

Other Affiliations: Research
 Associate, University of
 Nottingham



Dr Yang Bong is a Research Associate at the University of Nottingham and a Senior Lecturer at Birmingham Newman University in the UK. His research interests focus on digital inclusion and participatory design of technologies, particularly in collaboration with traditionally marginalised communities.

As a multidisciplinary academic, Yang has published across fields including machine learning, technology design, business management, and artificial intelligence. Yang is also a founding member of the Asia-Europe for Artificial Intelligence (AE4AI) Network, where he currently coordinates the Sustainable Development working group. Current initiatives within the network include the development of micro-credentials on teaching AI literacy to migrants and refugees across Europe.

Dr Muhammad Zahid IQBAL
 Assistant Professor in
 Immersive Technologies
Teesside University

UNITED KINGDOM



Dr Muhammad Zahid Iqbal is a British Academic, working as an Assistant Professor in Immersive Technologies at Teesside University, External Examiner at Northeastern University London, and External Assessor for the Digital and Technology Solutions Professional & Specialist Programme at Manchester Metropolitan University. He completed his PhD in Computer Science from University College Dublin, Ireland. He has an academic background and experience in digital transformation, artificial intelligence, human-computer interaction, immersive technologies (virtual and augmented reality), and the metaverse. Dr Zahid is deeply interested in using technology to develop technologies that have a positive social impact. He is involved in discussions around the ethical implications of these technologies and works towards establishing guidelines and policies that ensure their safe and beneficial use. He believes that collaboration between technologists, policymakers, and society is crucial to harnessing the full potential of immersive technologies and AI for the greater good.

Before joining Teesside University, Dr Zahid worked as an associate faculty member at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, and the National College of Ireland. He also worked as a Principal Investigator on a British Academy-funded project (Empathic VR for communities facing military conflicts) and co-PI on an Innovate UK-funded AI Feasibility project for healthcare. He aims to create inclusive and equitable technological solutions that empower individuals and communities.

Dr Muhammad ADAMU
Research Fellow
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



Dr Muhammad Adamu is a Research Fellow in Responsible AI for Health within the Responsible Digital Future group at the University of Nottingham, UK. His current research focuses on establishing the AI in/from Africa theme via responsible research and innovation, health data ethics and governance, and responsible digital futures.

Mrs Ramneek ATHWAL
PhD Student
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



Ramneek is a third year PhD student at the University of Nottingham Business School and Horizon Centre for Doctoral Training. Her BSc and MSc were also at the University of Nottingham Business School. Her areas of interests include entrepreneurship and intersectionality. Prior to starting the PhD, Ramneek spent a lot of time engaging in impact activity through consulting for non-profits and representing the United Kingdom at the Enactus World Cup in Puerto Rico, achieving top 4 teams for their social and environmental led social enterprises. Ramneek has also engaged with other presenter opportunities such as TEDxUoN. She also supports teaching activity within the University of Nottingham Business School.

Prof Steve BENFORD
Dunford Professor of
Computer Science &
Director, Horizon Centre
for Doctoral Training
University of Nottingham

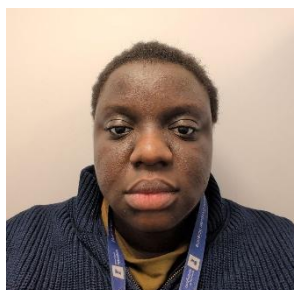
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Steve Benford is the Dunford Professor of Computer Science at the University of Nottingham where he co-founded the Mixed Reality Laboratory. He is Director of the EPSRC-funded Horizon Centre for Doctoral Training and also Director of the University's Smart Products beacon of research excellence. He was previously an EPSRC Dream Fellow, a Visiting Researcher at Microsoft Research Cambridge and a Visiting Professor at the BBC.

Miss Favour BOROKINI
PhD Researcher
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



Favour Borokini is a PhD researcher at the University of Nottingham where she researches ethics concerns in the design and use of avatars. Her interests revolve around how Global South internet users, especially African women, conduct their lives around digital technology and she's interested in alternative approaches to digital regulation.

Dr Minjia CHEN
Assistant Professor in
Finance, Business
School
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



Minjia Chen is an assistant professor in finance at Nottingham University Business School. She holds a Bachelor of Economics from Zhejiang University, China, and an MSc and a PhD in economics from the University of Nottingham. Her current primary research interests lie at the intersection of financial economics and sustainable finance, integrated with artificial intelligence methods. Her research has been published in internationally highly regarded journals, including the Journal of Comparative Economics, International Review of Financial Analysis, and International Journal of Finance & Economics.

As a co-lead for the ASEFIInnoLab7 policy whitepaper, her team explores how higher education institutions and global governance frameworks can be leveraged to advance ethical AI for societal benefit. Their work bridges international academic collaboration with practical policy applications, fostering multidisciplinary partnerships between technical experts,

Prof James GOULDING
Professor of Data
Science & Director,
N/LAB Research Centre
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



university leaders, and international policymakers across ASEM countries.

James Goulding is Professor of Data Science at the University of Nottingham and Director of the N/LAB research centre. With a background in econometrics, computer science and artificial intelligence, his research focuses on developing novel approaches to analysing large-scale human behavioural data, particularly at the intersection of behavioural science, AI, machine learning and smart data.

He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed papers across the social and computer sciences and has served as Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator on research programmes worth over £21 million. His work has pioneered the use of smart data to better understand behaviours and drivers related to health, sustainability and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

His AI research spans a wide range of global challenges, including respiratory disease, mental health, perinatal mortality, dengue fever, food waste, modern slavery, educational development and deprivation. He was a founding committee member of the UN's Code 8.7 initiative, which explores the use of AI and data science to help end modern slavery, and has also contributed to NHS data science training.

James works extensively with industry, government and public-sector partners, and has developed research datasets covering the behaviours of more than 100 million people. An experienced educator, he has supervised 22 PhD candidates and more than 150 Master's dissertations and received the University of Nottingham's MSc Teaching Award in 2018.

Ms Krishika Haresh KHEMANI
PhD Candidate
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



Krishika Haresh Khemani is a final-year PhD researcher at the School of Computer Science at the University of Nottingham. Her research mainly focuses on the Responsible Design of Conversational AI Systems. She also has a strong background in Human-Computer Interaction and Software Development.

Miss Bogna LIZINIEWICZ
PhD Researcher
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



Bogna Liziniwicz is an interdisciplinary PhD researcher based in EPSRC Horizon Centre for Doctoral Training at the University of Nottingham. She is part of the N/Lab, a centre of excellence dedicated to using data science for social good.

Bogna's research is focused on developing tailored digital wellbeing interventions for loneliness. In collaboration with B:friend, she is working on providing dedicated data-driven solutions for successful befriending schemes for lonely older adults, taking a social data scientific approach. Specifically, she is using neodemographic data to identify features associated with positive outcomes for the pairings to investigate the facilitators of meaningful companionship provision.

Bogna's background is multidisciplinary, bringing together Data Science, Psychology and Social Sciences, Languages and Communication. In the past, she has been involved in various collaborative research projects focused on mental health and

wellbeing, behaviour in emergencies, research data quality, and data visualisation reliability.

Bogna is co-leading the PGTA Teaching and Learning Community of Practice at the University of Nottingham, a dedicated space for postgraduate researchers to find information and support about HE teaching experiences and opportunities. She is simultaneously involved in teaching activities, supporting modules focused on Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Business Analytics, Professional Ethics, and Data Visualisation. Working with students, she gets hands-on experience in adapting teaching delivery and assessment to the challenges and opportunities introduced by AI in higher education.

Dr Weiyao MENG
Research Fellow
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



Dr Weiyao Meng is a researcher in AI and data science at the University of Nottingham, UK. She received her PhD in Computer Science from the University of Nottingham, and her areas of expertise include combinatorial optimisation, machine learning, and natural language processing. Her research focuses on AI-driven approaches for automating complex computational tasks and supporting responsible decision-making across real-world systems and challenges. She has contributed to interdisciplinary projects spanning transportation, consumer research, healthcare, and public policy through collaborations across academia and industry in the UK. Beyond research, she is actively involved in the international AI community through IEEE Computational Intelligence Society initiatives, conference organisation, and interdisciplinary education activities.

Ms Nimisha PARASHAR
PhD Student
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



Nimisha is a Horizon CDT PhD student at the University of Nottingham, where she explores the role of gamification in citizen science and its impact on volunteer behaviour. She holds a BSc (Hons) in psychology from Christ University, Bengaluru and an MSc in Social Cognition from University College London. Before beginning her doctoral studies, Nimisha worked as a Web3 game designer, an experience that now informs her research by bridging psychological theory with gamified design.

Prof David PARK
Dean, Business School
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



David Park is Dean of Nottingham University's Business School. He joined in 2018 as a part-time Professor of Practice in Entrepreneurship and Innovation and has since held several leadership roles, including Director of Executive Education and Associate Dean for External Engagement. He has also chaired the University of Nottingham's Modern Anti-Slavery Working Group and Strategic Innovation Fund.

An alumnus of the University of Nottingham, David holds degrees in Civil Engineering, Information Systems, and Airborne Mapping and Remote Sensing. Alongside his academic and professional training expertise, he brings extensive practical entrepreneurial experience from the UK and New Zealand, having founded and managed innovative businesses and social enterprises across a range of sectors.

His experience includes raising multi-million-dollar start-up funding, building multidisciplinary teams, and negotiating major licensing agreements with a FTSE 100 company. Before joining the Business School, he served as an Entrepreneur in

Prof Tom RODDEN
Pro-Vice Chancellor for
Research and
Knowledge Exchange
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



Residence under the UK's Small Business Charter, supporting early-stage companies at both strategic and operational levels.

With a background spanning engineering and artificial intelligence, David's entrepreneurial ventures have covered diverse fields including satellite navigation, geospatial engineering, professional continuing development, employability skills for UK civil servants, and the commercialisation of new food ingredients. His work brings together academic leadership, innovation, entrepreneurship and real-world business development.

Prof Tom Rodden is Professor of Computing at the University of Nottingham, where he has been based since 2001. He has held several senior leadership and advisory roles across UK research and government, with particular expertise in digital technologies, artificial intelligence and research strategy.

From 2016 to 2019, Prof Rodden served in senior roles at the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), including as Deputy Chief Executive and Deputy Executive Chair. During this time, he led research strategy and served as UK Research and Innovation's lead for Artificial Intelligence and e-Infrastructure.

From 2019 to 2023, Prof Rodden was Chief Scientific Adviser at the UK Department for Culture, Media and Sport, advising ministers and senior officials and strengthening connections between government, academia and industry. During the Covid-19 pandemic, he also provided scientific leadership for the Events Research Programme, which used large-scale behavioural and environmental data to inform the safe reopening of major events.

Recently elected as Main Panel B Chair for REF 2029, Prof Rodden will provide leadership across Physical Sciences, Engineering and Mathematics.

Prof Rodden is a Fellow of the Royal Society, Royal Academy of Engineering, Association for Computing Machinery, British Computer Society and Academy of Social Sciences. In the 2025 New Year Honours, he was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to science, technology and academia.

Dr Neelima SAILAJA
Assistant Professor,
Horizon Digital Economy
Hub, School of Computer
Science
University of Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM



Dr Neelima Sailaja is an Assistant Professor at the Horizon Digital Economy Hub at University of Nottingham's School of Computer Science. She researches the socio-technical challenges of cutting-edge computing (AI, IoT, Robotics etc) and works on interdisciplinary projects involving sustainability, circular economy, edge computing, HDI, HCI, legal tech and digital economy.

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