

BOUNDARY-SPANNING SEMINAR

Artificial Intelligence Ethics

by Andrew B. Williams, Ph.D., M.B.A.

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Abstract: At this seminar we will discuss the ethics and societal impacts of artificial intelligence, including how big data algorithms are increasingly being used in ways that reinforce preexisting inequality. We will discuss controversies and potential solutions, including how Dr. Timnit Gebru, a world-renowned researcher on ethics and artificial intelligence, was recently "separated" from Google. With the growing calls for inclusion in computer science, we will also discuss how to close the gap between those who benefit from AI data, algorithms, and hardware and those who are primarily exploited by them. Without a digitally aware, algorithm-literate public and an equitable public policy on AI, the AI divide will increasingly negatively impact those in lower socioeconomic classes in the U.S. and around the world.

Bio: Professor Williams joined KU's School of Engineering in 2016. Before that he was a Professor and the John P. Raynor, S.J., Distinguished Chair of Electrical & Computer Engineering at Marquette University (2012-2016). He also served as the Department Chair in Computer and Information Sciences at Spelman College in Atlanta, GA and as a Research Affiliate at Georgia Institute of Technology in the Human-Automation Systems Lab. He earned a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering with an emphasis in AI from the University of Kansas in 1999, M.S. in Electrical & Computer Engineering from Marquette University in 1995, and B.S. in Electrical Engineering from University of Kansas in 1988. Dr. Williams is the former Senior Engineering Diversity Manager at Apple Inc. under Steve Jobs. He authored the book, *Out of the Box: Building Robots, Transforming Lives*.

April 21, 2021
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 pm

Join us by Zoom:

<https://kansas.zoom.us/j/92676704507>

Password: 2021

www.nrt.ku.edu

www.cebc.ku.edu

Seminar overview: this series nurtures learning across academic boundaries. Expect rich conversations, spanning machine learning to catalysts, from lab bench to smokestack, with an eye toward protecting nature. Sponsoring units include: KU's Center for Environmentally Beneficial Catalysis (CEBC), the Internet of Catalysis National Science Foundation Research Traineeship (NRT), Information and Telecommunication Technology Center (ITTC), and the Departments of Chemistry, Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

You belong here! We invite everyone from the KU community to join us for this inclusive seminar.