

Summer Institute Biographies & Boilerplates

The Summer Institute on AI Societal Impacts, Governance, and Ethics will allow graduate-level students and early-career researchers to engage with international experts and researchers through a combination of lectures, panels, and participatory problem-solving.

Learn more about the co-organizers/faculty members, as well as additional early confirmed faculty members below. More faculty members and speakers will be added in the coming weeks:

Co-organizers/faculty members

Alona Fyshe

Dr. Alona Fyshe is an Assistant Professor with a joint appointment in the departments of Computing Science and Psychology at the University of Alberta. Her work focuses on computational linguistics, machine learning and neuroscience to study the way the human brain processes language. Before joining the University of Alberta, Fyshe was faculty at the University of Victoria. Prior to this, she received a BSc and MSc in Computing Science from the University of Alberta, and worked at Google as a Software Engineer. She completed her PhD at Carnegie Mellon University, where she was advised by Dr. Tom Mitchell. In 2018, Fyshe was appointed a CIFAR AI (CCAI) Chair.

Edward Parson

Edward Parson is Dan and Rae Emmett Professor of Environmental Law and Faculty Co-Director of the Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Parson studies international environmental law and policy, the role of science and technology in policy-making, and the political economy of regulation. He holds degrees in physics from the University of Toronto and in management science from the University of British Columbia, and a Ph.D. in Public Policy from Harvard. His 2013 book *Protecting the Ozone Layer: Science and Strategy* (Oxford) is widely recognized as the authoritative account of the development of international cooperation to protect the ozone layer. Parson was formerly Joseph L. Sax Collegiate Professor of Law, Professor of Natural Resources and Environment, and Professor of Public Policy at the University of Michigan, and spent twelve years on the faculty of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. In addition to his academic positions, Parson has worked and consulted for the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Office of Technology Assessment of the U.S. Congress, the Privy Council Office of the Government of Canada, the U.N. Environment Program, and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA).

Daniel Lizotte

Dr. Daniel Lizotte is a faculty member in the Departments of Computer Science and Epidemiology & Biostatistics at Western University. His research aims to support health decision-making by developing and applying machine learning and statistical tools to new sources of data including electronic health records and social media to better support patients and health professionals working at all levels of the health care system from public health to tertiary care. Dr. Lizotte has been formally teaching AI methods to a diverse set of students for over ten years, and he teaches the Public Health Informatics course for in the Schulich Interfaculty Program in Public Health at Western. Recently, he was invited to speak about the potential for AI to support public health activities at the IPPH-CIFAR Workshop on AI and Public Health Equity.

Additional early confirmed faculty members

Yoshua Bengio

Yoshua Bengio is Full Professor of the Department of Computer Science and Operations Research at the Université de Montréal, scientific director of Mila, CIFAR Program co-director of the CIFAR Learning in Machines and Brains program (formerly Neural Computation and Adaptive Perception), scientific director of IVADO and Canada Research Chair in Statistical Learning Algorithms. His main research ambition is to understand principles of learning that yield intelligence. Yoshua supervises a large group of graduate students and post-docs. His research is widely cited (over 130,000 citations found by Google Scholar in August 2018, with an H-index over 120, and rising fast).

Geoffrey Rockwell

Dr. Geoffrey Martin Rockwell is a Professor of Philosophy and Humanities Computing at the University of Alberta, Canada. He studied philosophy at Haverford College (BA) and the University of Toronto (MA, PhD). He is currently the Director of the Kule Institute for Advanced Study. Geoffrey Rockwell has published on textual visualization and analysis, and computing in the humanities including a book from the MIT Press, *Hermeneutica: Computer-Assisted Interpretation in the Humanities* (2016). He is a co-developer of Voyant Tools, a suite of text analysis tools, and leads the TAPoR project documenting text tools.

Graham Taylor

Graham Taylor leads the Machine Learning Research Group at the University of Guelph, where he also works as an Associate Professor. His research focuses on statistical machine learning and biologically-inspired computer vision, with an emphasis on deep learning and time series analysis. Graham received his PhD in Computer Science from the University of Toronto in 2009, where he was advised by Geoffrey Hinton and Sam Roweis. In 2017, he became a member of the Vector Institute.



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Boilerplates

Amii

One of three centres of excellence in Canada's national AI Strategy, the Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (Amii) performs advanced research in the fields of machine learning and artificial intelligence and guides businesses as they grow their AI capabilities. Amii supports world-leading research and training at the University of Alberta and acts as a catalyst for transformative growth for Alberta and Alberta-based businesses through machine intelligence. Learn more at amii.ca, or download the [Amii Fact Sheet](#).

CIFAR

CIFAR brings together outstanding researchers from across disciplines and borders to address important challenges facing the world. CIFAR supports leading edge research with the potential for global impact. In 2017, CIFAR was chosen by the Canadian government to lead the \$125 million Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy. Learn more at cifar.ca.

AI PULSE

The Program on Understanding Law, Science, and Evidence (PULSE) at UCLA School of Law explores the complex, multi-faceted connections between technology, science, and law. PULSE engages in cutting-edge interdisciplinary research and innovative programming to study how technological advances and scientific knowledge and uncertainties influence law and policy making, and how their impacts can be managed to advance human and societal well-being. Learn more at aipulse.org.