

# **EG 2401 Engineering Professionalism**

## **Additional Notes II (Professionalism & Ethics Issues -- -The Advent of Machine/ Artificial Intelligence)**

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*“Another example... here on the advent of possibly truly potent Machine/ Artificial Intelligence... and how engineers must manage unknowns ahead...”*

... engineers [need to] realize how their technical work has far reaching impacts on society. The work of engineers can affect public health and safety and can influence business practices and even politics. ...

## Elon Musk donates \$10M to keep AI from going full Skynet

by Devindra Hardawar | @devindra | 1 day ago

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Elon Musk hasn't been shy about bringing up the potential [dangers of artificial intelligence](#) -- now, he's actually doing something to help prevent an AI takeover. Musk [just announced](#) that he's donating \$10 million to the Future of Life Institute (FLI) for a research program that will focus on keeping AI "beneficial" to humanity. And by beneficial, he means making sure future computers will actually listen to us when they surpass our intelligence, and not take matters into their own hands when they realize they don't need us. Musk isn't some outlier -- [Stephen Hawking](#) has made it clear he's terrified of the AI revolution as well, and FLI has also gotten plenty of researchers to sign [an open letter](#) calling for research on keeping AI beneficial.

"This donation will make a major impact", UCSC professor and FLI co-founder Anthony Aguirre said in a statement. "While heavy industry and government investment has finally brought AI from niche academic research to early forms of a potentially world-transforming technology, to date relatively little funding has been available to help ensure that this change is actually a net positive one for humanity."

Elon Musk & Thomas Dietterich on AI safety



Mr. Elon Musk is a brilliant technology leader in this era... he is the Founder & CEO of Tesla Motors... the first entity to have truly made fully battery-powered full-scale cars available en-masse... note here especially his dedication to engineering ethics in service to humanity...

Professor Stephen Hawking is of course the well-known physicist...

## THL1.2 - Why Study Engineering Ethics? [from Lecture 1]



- *Engineering is managing the unknown:* *You must test your design as thoroughly as time and resources permit to ensure that it operates safely and as planned.*
- *Engineering is managing the unknown:* *Also, you must use your creativity to attempt to foresee the possible consequences of your work.*

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