Values in action

Template

Review the information provided in the Additional Resources section and make sure you read about each of the focus areas that demonstrate our values in action:

* Innovation
* Diversity & Inclusion
* Corporate Social Responsibility
* Artificial Intelligence
* Trustworthy Computing

Select two focus areas (out of the five) that you are most interested in. Find a story for each of the two focus areas that you found the most inspiring, thought-provoking or note-worthy. Write a short paragraph outlining how the story you read demonstrated the value in action and why it appealed to you. Provide a link to the story you chose.

Innovation

The link to the story is: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/blog/how-research-can-enable-more-effective-remote-work/?OCID=msr_blog_remote_hero>

I found all these different examples in this article about the ways that Microsoft are

helping the challenge of home working to be fascinating – especially given how

important this has been recently. There are many examples of innovation throughout,

but the one that really stood out and resonated with me was the ‘accelerated instant

replay (AIR)’. This is a great example of innovation at a time where it is really needed

and is adding real value to a real problem many people are currently being faced with.

Diversity & Inclusion

The link to the story is:<https://news.microsoft.com/life/magnet-for-change-an-engineering-job-track-for-women-by-women/>

This is how the story demonstrated the value in action:

The story is very powerful story about the origin and work of Kal Academy. I’d never

thought about women needing more women as role models to gain confidence within engineering. This pro-active approach ensures engineering is more widely accessible for women, especially regardless of their background and financial status. More women are needed in STEM subjects to ensure it creates a diverse and equal workforce. I think this is an excellent example to highlight the importance and impact of Diversity and Inclusion and the support and encouragement Microsoft provided.

Corporate Social Responsibility

The link to the story is:<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/corporate-responsibility/airband>

This is how the story demonstrated the value in action:

It is difficult to identify just one specific ‘story’ from this section, as there are so many examples of amazing initiatives that are being done to ‘give back’ to communities. I think the one that touched me the most was the ’closing the global divide’ story – I found the video so powerful and humbling to watch. It really brought helped me to see the actual difference technology can have for someone – how it genuinely impacts their whole life (family and work). This is one of many amazing stories that brought Corporate Social Responsibility to life for me.

Artificial Intelligence

The link to the story is:<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/blog/training-deep-control-policies-for-the-real-world/?OCID=msr_blog_controlreal_ai>

This is how the story demonstrated the value in action: To understand how AI is being used to more closely map the way that the human brain interprets processes is amazing. The way that it can help ‘search and rescue’ to find people and items more quickly is such a great example of the benefits of AI and shows the advances in this technology. It was interesting to read how this progressed and how it has been used for ‘out of the box’ thinking from the way drones were initially being used. It was interesting to read how they approached this by dividing the problem into two tasks and the challenges they had to consider. This is such a powerful example of bringing this value to life and really seeing it in action.

Trustworthy Computing

The link to the story is: <https://blogs.microsoft.com/on-the-issues/2020/04/13/tech-for-social-impact-covid-19-azure/>

This is how the story demonstrated the value in action:

Firstly, the quote on the top of the overall page really struck me – “If we can’t protect

people, then we don’t deserve their trust”. I found this a powerful statement to start

with before I even started reading the stories. It really summarized the value. I chose

the story relating to ‘More tech and cloud support for nonprofits on the frontline of

COVID-19’ as it resonated with me. It was humbling to read that Microsoft are

committing $35 million to help during this time, so that resources are freed up for

other important work for frontline workers in the nonprofit sector. I found this very

inspiring and really shows that the values are very much in action everywhere.