

# Geoff Keeling

📍 London, United Kingdom

**in** /in/geoff-keeling

🔗 [geoffkeeling.github.io](https://geoffkeeling.github.io)

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## Employment

<b>Staff Research Scientist</b> , <i>Google Research</i> .	2025–Present
<b>Senior Research Scientist</b> , <i>Google Research</i> .	2023–25
<b>Research Scientist</b> , <i>Google Research</i> .	2023–23
<b>Bioethicist</b> , <i>Google Health</i> .	2021–23
<b>Postdoctoral Fellow</b> , Institute for Human-Centered AI & Center for Ethics in Society, <i>Stanford University</i> .	2020–21
<b>Research Assistant</b> , Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence, <i>University of Cambridge</i> .	2019–20

## Affiliations

<b>Fellow</b> , Institute of Philosophy, School of Advanced Study, <i>University of London</i> .	2024–Present
<b>Associate Fellow</b> , Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence, <i>University of Cambridge</i> .	2020–Present

## Education

<b>PhD Philosophy</b> , <i>University of Bristol</i> , No Corrections.	2017–20
<b>MA Philosophy</b> , <i>University of Bristol</i> , Distinction in all Components (Rank: 1st/24).	2016–17
<b>BSc Philosophy, Logic, and Scientific Method</b> , <i>London School of Economics</i> , First Class (Rank: Joint 1st/51).	2013–16

## Research

Ethics of AI/ML, Moral and Political Philosophy, Bioethics, Cognitive Science.

## Papers

1. Gabriel, I. & **Keeling, G.** (2025). A matter of principle? AI alignment as the fair treatment of claims. *Philosophical Studies*, 1-23.
2. **Keeling, G.** & Street, W. (2025). On the attribution of confidence to large language models. *Inquiry*, 1-27.
3. **Keeling, G.\***, Street, W.\*, Stachaczyk, M., Zakharova, D., Comşa, I., Sakovych, A., Logothetis, I., Zhang, Z., Agüera y Arcas, B., & Birch, J. (2024). Can LLMs make trade-offs involving stipulated pain and pleasure states? *arXiv preprint arXiv:2411.02432v1*. (\*Equal Contribution) [Media: [Scientific American](#), [Futurism](#), [The Guardian](#), [MSN](#)]
4. Gabriel, I.\*, Manzini, A.\*, **Keeling, G.\***, ... , Agüera y Arcas, B., Isaac, W., & Manyika, J. (2024). The ethics of advanced AI assistants. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2404.16244*. (\*Equal Contribution) [Media: [WIRED](#), [CBS](#), [The Information](#), [Axios](#), [The Verge](#), [MSN](#), [Tech Policy Press](#), [MarkTechPost](#)]
5. Manzini, A., **Keeling, G.**, Marchal, N., McKee, K., Reiser, V., Haas, J., & Gabriel, I. (2024, June). Should users trust advanced AI assistants? Justified trust as a function of competence and alignment. In: *Proceedings of FAccT '24: ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency*.

6. Manzini, A., **Keeling, G.**, Alberts, L., Vallor, S., Ringel Morris, M., & Gabriel, I. (2024, October). The code that binds us: Navigating the appropriateness of human-AI assistant relationships. In: *Proceedings of the Seventh AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society*. [🏆 Runner Up: Best Paper Award]
7. El-Sayed, S., Akbulut, C., McCroskery, A., **Keeling, G.**, Kenton, Z., Jalan, Z., Marchal, N., Manzini, A., Shevlane, T., Vallor, S., Susser, D., Franklin, M., Bridgers, S., Law, H., Rahtz, M., Shanahan, M., Tessler, M.H., Douillard, A., Everitt, T., & Brown, S. (2024). A mechanism-based approach to mitigating harms from persuasive generative AI. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2404.15058*. [Media: [VentureBeat](#), [Futurism](#)]
8. Street, W., Siy, J.O., **Keeling, G.**, Baranes, A., Barnett, B., McKibben, M., Kanyere, T., Lentz, A., Agüera y Arcas, B., & Dunbar, R. (2024). LLMs achieve adult human performance on higher-order theory of mind tasks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2405.18870v1*.
9. Schaekermann, M., Spitz, T., Pyles, M., Cole-Lewis, H., Wulczyn, E., Pfohl, S.R., Martin, D., Jaroensri, R., **Keeling, G.**, Liu, Y., Farquhar, S., Xue, Q., Lester, J., Hughes, C., Strachan, P., Tan, F., Bui, P., Mermel, C.H., Peng, L.H., Matias, Y., Corrado, G.S., Webster, D.R., Virmani, S., Semturs, C., Liu, Y., Horn, I., & Chen, P-H.C. (2024). Health equity assessment of machine learning performance (HEAL): a framework and dermatology AI model case study. *Lancet eClinicalMedicine*. [Media: [MarkTechPost](#)]
10. Alberts, L., **Keeling, G.**, & McCroskery, A. (2024). Should agentic conversational AI change how we think about ethics? Characterising an interactional ethics centred on respect. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2401.09082v2*.
11. **Keeling, G.**, Lange, B., McCroskery, A., Pedersen, K., Weinberger, D., & Zevenbergen, B. (2024). Moral imagination for engineering teams: The technomoral scenario. *International Review of Information Ethics*, 34(1).
12. Lange, B.\*, **Keeling, G.\***, McCroskery, A., Zevenbergen, B., Blascovich, S., Pedersen, K., Lentz, A., & Agüera y Arcas, B. (2023). Engaging engineering teams through moral imagination: a bottom-up approach for responsible innovation and ethical culture change in technology companies. *AI and Ethics*, 1-10. (\*Equal Contribution)
13. **Keeling, G.** (2023). Algorithmic bias, generalist models, and clinical medicine. *AI and Ethics*, 1-12.
14. **Keeling, G.** & Nyrop R. Explainable machine learning, patient autonomy, and clinical reasoning. In: Véliz, C. (Ed). (2023). *Oxford Handbook of Digital Ethics* (pp. 528–552). Oxford University Press.
15. **Keeling, G.** (2023). A dilemma for reasons additivity. *Economics & Philosophy*, 39(1), 20-42.
16. Grote, T. & **Keeling, G.** (2022). Enabling fairness in healthcare through machine learning. *Ethics and Information Technology*, 24(3), 39.
17. **Keeling, G.** Automated vehicles and the ethics of classification. In: Jenkins, R., Cerný, D., & Hrlbek, T. (Eds). (2022). *Autonomous Vehicle Ethics: The Trolley Problem and Beyond* (pp. 41-57). Oxford University Press.
18. Grote, T. & **Keeling, G.** (2022). On algorithmic fairness in medical practice. *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics*, 31(1), 83-94.
19. **Keeling, G.** & Burr, C. Digital manipulation and mental integrity. In: Jongepier, F., & Klenk, M. (2022). *The Philosophy of Online Manipulation* (pp. 253-271). Routledge.
20. **Keeling, G.** & Paterson, N. (2022). Proper functions: etiology without typehood. *Biology & Philosophy*, 37(3), 19.
21. Bommasani, R., ... , **Keeling, G.**, ... , & Liang, P. (2021). On the opportunities and risks of foundation models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2108.07258*. [Media: [Forbes](#), [The Economist](#), [VentureBeat](#), [WIRED](#)]
22. **Keeling, G.** (2020). Why trolley problems matter for the ethics of automated vehicles. *Science and Engineering Ethics*, 26(1), 293-307.
23. **Keeling, G.**, Evans, K., Thornton, S. M., Mecacci, G., & Santoni de Sio, F. Four perspectives on what matters for the ethics of automated vehicles. In: Meyer, G. & Beiker, S. (Eds). (2019). *Road Vehicle Automation 6* (pp. 49-60). Springer International Publishing.

24. **Keeling, G.** (2018). Legal necessity, Pareto efficiency & justified killing in autonomous vehicle collisions. *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, 21(2), 413-427.
25. **Keeling, G.** Against Leben's Rawlsian collision algorithm for autonomous vehicles. In: Müller, V. (Ed). (2018). *Philosophy and Theory of Artificial Intelligence 2017* (pp. 259-272). Springer International Publishing.
26. **Keeling, G.** (2018). The sensitivity argument against child euthanasia. *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 44(2), 143-144.
27. **Keeling, G.** (2018). Autonomy, nudging and post-truth politics. *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 44(10), 721-722.
28. **Keeling, G.** (2017). Commentary: Using virtual reality to assess ethical decisions in road traffic scenarios: applicability of value-of-life-based models and influences of time pressure. *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience*, 11, 247-48.

## Talks

1. **Animal-inspired Approaches to Assessing LLM Sentience**, *with Winnie Street*.  
AI Welfare Workshop, Eleos AI, Berkeley, 2025.
2. **What About the Moral Claims of AI Agents?**.  
Symposium: Themes from Iason Gabriel, Department of Philosophy, Hong Kong University, 2025.
3. **Do Large Language Models Have Credences?**  
AI and Ethics Workshop, Princeton University, 2024.  
Institute for Ethics in Technology, Hamburg University of Technology, 2024.
4. **Can LLMs Make Trade-Offs Involving Stipulated Pain and Pleasure States?** *with Winnie Street*.  
Institute of Philosophy, School of Advanced Study, University of London, 2024.
5. **The Ethics of Advanced AI Assistants**.  
Being Human in the Age of AI, Institute of Philosophy, 2024.  
Conference on the Ethics of Generative AI & Conversational Agents, LMU Munich, 2024.
6. **Educational Impact of Advanced AI Assistants**.  
AI in Education Workshop, University of Bristol, 2024.
7. **Autonomy, Advice-Giving, and AI Assistants**.  
Autonomy in an AI World, Imperial College London, 2024.
8. **Engaging Google Teams Through Moral Imagination**, *with Amanda McCroskery, Ben Zevenbergen, et al.*  
Paris Conference on AI & Digital Ethics, 2023.  
NeurIPS Workshop on Cultures in AI/AI in Culture, 2022.
9. **Panel: Fairness in Machine Learning**, *with Sam Corbett-Davies and Susan J. Brison*.  
Neukom Institute for Computational Science, Dartmouth College, 2022.
10. **Algorithmic Bias, Generalist Models, and Clinical Medicine**.  
Workshop on the Ethics of Influence, University of Oxford, 2022.
11. **The Ethics of Autonomous Vehicles**.  
Philosophy and AI Seminar, Meta, 2022.  
Center for Human-Compatible AI, UC Berkeley, 2021.

12. **Enabling Fairness in Healthcare through Machine Learning.**  
Stereotyping and Medical AI Colloquium, King's College London, 2021.
13. **Digital Manipulation and Mental Integrity**, *with Christopher Burr.*  
Workshop on the Philosophy of Online Manipulation, 2021.
14. **A Dilemma for Reasons Additivity**  
Political Theory Workshop, Stanford University, 2021.
15. **On Algorithmic Fairness in Medical Practice**, *with Thomas Grote.*  
Workshop on Algorithmic Fairness, University of Copenhagen, 2020.
16. **Decision Support Systems and Clinical Reasoning**, *with Rune Nyrup.*  
Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge, 2020.  
Philosophy of Medical AI Workshop, University of Tübingen, 2020.  
Issues in Explainable AI, Saarland University, 2019.
17. **Proper Functions: Etiology Without Typehood**, *with Niall Paterson.*  
9th Philosophy of Biology and Cognitive Sciences Workshop, University of the Basque Country, 2019.  
British Society for the Philosophy of Science, University of Durham, 2019.
18. **Object Classification, Autonomous Vehicles, and the Reasonable Belief Standard**  
2nd CEPPA Graduate Conference on Moral and Political Philosophy, University of St Andrews, 2019.  
Automated Vehicles Symposium, Orlando FL, 2019.  
Research Institute for Ethics and Law, Swansea University, 2019.  
iCog5: Approaches to Higher Cognitive Function, University of Reading, 2019.  
Smart Cities Workshop, University of Bristol, 2019.
19. **Uncertainty About Persons in Autonomous Vehicle Collisions**  
Automated Vehicles Symposium, San Francisco, CA, 2018.
20. **Panel: Ethical and Social Implications of Autonomous Vehicles**, *with Nicholas G. Evans, Noah Goodall, Ryan Jenkins, and Katherine Evans.*  
Automated Vehicles Symposium, San Francisco, CA, 2018.
21. **Against Leben's Rawlsian Algorithm for Autonomous Vehicles**  
Philosophy and Theory of Artificial Intelligence, University of Leeds, 2017.  
Artificial Ethics Symposium, University of Southampton, 2017.
22. **Reliability Weighted Belief Revision in Peer Disagreements**, *with Nemo D'Qrill.*  
Graduate Conference on Epistemology of Disagreement, University of Tartu, 2017.  
9th European Congress of Analytic Philosophy, LMU Munich, 2017.
23. **Blame in Autonomous Vehicle Collisions**  
10th Symposium on Computing and Philosophy, Annual Convention of the Society for the Study of Artificial Intelligence and the Simulation of Behaviour, University of Bath, 2017.

## Service

<b>Organising Committee</b> , <i>ICLR Workshop on Human-AI Coevolution</i> .	2025
<b>Organising Committee</b> , <i>Paris Conference on AI &amp; Digital Ethics</i> .	2024
<b>Program Committee</b> , AI Alignment Track, <i>AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence</i> .	2024
<b>Program Committee</b> , FAccT, <i>Association for Computing Machinery</i> .	2022-2023
<b>Program Committee</b> , Explanatory AI: Between Ethics and Epistemology, <i>TU Delft</i> .	2021-2022
<b>Program Committee</b> , Bias and Discrimination in Algorithmic Decisions, <i>Leibniz University, Hannover</i> .	2021-2022
<b>Program Committee</b> , Philosophy After AI Symposium, <i>AISB</i> .	2019-2020
<b>President</b> , <i>British Postgraduate Philosophical Association</i> .	2018-2019
<b>Executive Committee Member</b> , <i>British Philosophical Association</i> .	2018-2019

## Teaching

<b>Ethics, Law, and Politics of Artificial Intelligence</b> , Primary Instructor, <i>Stanford University</i> .	2020-2021
<b>Political Philosophy</b> , Seminar Tutor, <i>University of Bristol</i> .	2019-2020
<b>Research Methods for Social Science</b> , Seminar Tutor and Guest Lecturer, <i>University of Bristol</i> .	2018-2019
<b>Formal Logic</b> , Seminar Tutor, <i>University of Bristol</i> .	2017-2018

### *Ad-Hoc Teaching*

<b>Assessing Consciousness in LLMs</b> , Guest Lecture, <i>Hong Kong University</i> .	2025
<b>Fairness in Machine Learning</b> , Guest Lecture, <i>Princeton University</i> .	2024
<b>Do LLMs have credences?</b> , Guest Lecture, <i>Drake University</i> , with Winnie Street.	2024
<b>Moral Imagination for Responsible Innovation</b> , Guest Lecture, <i>LMU Munich</i> , with Benjamin Lange.	2023
<b>Fairness in Machine Learning</b> , Guest Lecture, <i>Princeton University</i> .	2023
<b>Black Boxes and Explainability</b> , Guest Lecture, <i>Chinese University of Hong Kong</i> .	2021
<b>Ethics of Medical AI</b> , Guest Lecture, <i>Utrecht University</i> .	2020

## Awards

<b>PhD Studentship</b> , <i>Arts and Humanities Research Council</i> , c.a. £55,000.	2017-2020
Awarded through the South, West and Wales Doctoral Training Partnership.	
<b>Andrea Mannu Prize</b> , <i>London School of Economics</i> .	2016
Awarded for joint-best performance across all undergraduate philosophy programs (joint-1st/51).	

## Research Students

<b>Lize Alberts</b> , DPhil Candidate in Computer Science, <i>University of Oxford</i> .	2023
Primary supervisor for 3 month Student Researcher engagement at Google Research.	

## Public Policy

<b>Law Commission of England and Wales and Scottish Law Commission</b> .	2021
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Consulted for the 2022 joint report on ‘Autonomous Vehicles.’ [\[Link\]](#)

## Wider Engagement

<b>Fireside Chat: AI Cognition and Consciousness</b> , <i>with Henry Shevlin.</i>	2025
Homerton College, University of Cambridge.	
<b>Panel: Industry-Academia Collaboration in Responsible AI</b> , <i>with Murray Shanahan &amp; Winnie Street.</i>	2024
Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge.	
<b>Talk: Thinking about AI Consciousness</b> , <i>with Winnie Street.</i>	2024
LSE Philosophy Society, London School of Economics.	
<b>Panel: AI, Tech and Humanities Careers</b> , <i>with Harriet Walker, Dora Szabo &amp; Genevieve Liveley.</i>	2024
South, West and Wales Doctoral Training Partnership.	
<b>Panel: Careers in Philosophy</b> , <i>with Leticia García Martínez, Hamza King, Rachel Ghaw &amp; Jefferson Courtney.</i>	2024
Department of Philosophy, Logic, and Scientific Method, London School of Economics.	
<b>Panel: Careers in AI Ethics and Policy</b> , <i>with Risto Uuk &amp; Ashyana-Jasmine Kachra.</i>	2024
London School of Economics.	
<b>Podcast: Could AI Undermine Informed Consent?</b> , <i>with Rune Nyrup &amp; Reid Blackman.</i>	2024
Ethical Machines Podcast.	
<b>Panel: Spotlight on Ethical AI</b> , <i>with Mandeep Soor, Ismael Garcia &amp; Timothy Wu.</i>	2023
London School of Economics.	
<b>Talk: Ethics and Large Language Models.</b>	2023
Penningtons Manches Cooper & Ethical Reading.	
<b>Talk: Practical Ethics in Silicon Valley.</b>	2022
Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, University of Oxford.	
<b>Talk: Teaching AI Ethics: Lessons from Stanford and Google.</b>	2022
National Symposium on Developing Socially Responsible STEM Professionals, City, University of London.	
<b>Talk: Practical Ethics in Tech.</b>	2021
Let’s Phi: Beyond Academic Philosophy.	
<b>Talk: AI Ethics and the Long Term Future.</b>	2021
CreAItivity Workshop (for underprivileged high school students).	
<b>Talk: Philosophy Careers Outside Academia.</b>	2021
Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol.	
<b>Talk: Medical Reasoning in the Age of Artificial Intelligence.</b>	2020
Milton Keynes Artificial Intelligence Expert Forum.	
<b>Panel: Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare</b> , <i>with Kourosh Saeb-Parsy, Slawomir Nasuto &amp; Weizi Vicky Li.</i>	2019
Austin Vita & Ethical Reading Public Event on AI in Healthcare.	
<b>Talk: The Ethics of Automated Vehicles.</b>	2018
St Edward’s School, Oxford.	

## Peer Review

Referee for *Nature*, *Nature Machine Intelligence*, *Philosophical Studies*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, *Utilitas*, *Journal of Ethics*, *Synthese*, *Journal of Medical Ethics*, *Ethics and Information Technology*, *Science and Engineering Ethics*, *Philosophy and Technology*, *Res Publica*, *AI and Society*, *IEEE Transactions on Technology and Society*, *IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems Transactions*, *IEEE Access*, and *Virtual Reality*. I have also refereed for ACM FAccT, NeurIPS, ICLR, and AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics and Society, alongside the MIT Press and the John Templeton Foundation.