# KEVIN WITZENBERGER, PhD

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## PROFILE SUMMARY

AI researcher with 8 years of experience studying AI capabilities, now transitioning to commercial AI strategy because I believe the industry needs leaders who truly understand the technology, not just the hype. My approach combines technical literacy (Python, PyTorch, Hugging Face) with proven ability to translate between organisational expectations and technical development teams. I'm currently a Research Fellow at QUT's Generative AI Lab, where I coordinate cross-disciplinary teams and bridge technical specialists with industry partners. Proven stakeholder management across government and industry, with research cited in 18 policy documents from UNESCO and the European Commission.

## KEY SKILLS

**Generative AI Systems Expertise:** Comprehensive understanding of LLM, agentic & multimodal AI system capabilities across commercial and open-source solutions.

**AI Development & Implementation:** Knowledge of Python, PyTorch, Hugging Face transformers, with experience deploying AI applications using Gradio & Streamlit.

**Stakeholder Communication:** Proven ability to translate complex AI concepts for government officials, industry leaders and organisations.

**AI Governance & Policy:** Expert in AI risk assessment frameworks and policy development across government, public service and industry contexts.

**Cross-sector Collaboration & Project Management:** Coordinated interdisciplinary teams and managed large projects across technical, policy, and business domains.

**Thought Leadership**: Published across academic journals, major media (Spiegel.de), and public platforms (The Conversation), with proven ability to communicate complex AI concepts to diverse audiences.

**Technical Strategy & Implementation:** Experience evaluating technical architectures, resource allocation decisions, and build-vs-buy assessments for AI systems.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Research Fellow – Generative AI Lab, Queensland University of Technology
[April 2024 – Present]

- Lead AI strategy research initiative on GenAI & AI capability building across sectors
- Manage $38M AUD funding bid for new Centre of Excellence on Generative AI in Society, coordinating multi-institutional stakeholder engagement
- Co-Chief Investigator on $512K AUD Discovery Project examining generative AI's impact on academic publishing and knowledge systems
- Lead cross-sector AI transformation workshops, training senior staff at major public institutions on AI capability assessment, risk management, and strategic implementation
- Supervise PhD-level research teams and manage partnerships with Australia's Centre of Excellence in Automated Decision-Making and Society (ADM+S)
- Built and launched GenAI Arcade, an interactive AI literacy platform serving government and industry, managing full product lifecycle from architecture decisions to delivery

### Senior Research Officer, University of Sydney

[June 2020 – March 2024] | *Concurrent with PhD completion*

- Led major research project on Artificial Intelligence in tertiary education
- Advised New South Wales Department of Education on GenAI framework development
- Designed AI risk assessment toolkits for organisational implementation
- Co-founded Education Futures Studio providing policy advisory services

### Senior Research Officer, University of New South Wales (UNSW)

[April 2023 – March 2024] | *Concurrent with PhD completion*

- Led regulatory compliance consulting on medical technology governance frameworks
- Coordinated interdisciplinary research across engineering, law, and policy domains

### Lecturer, Convenor & Tutor, School of Arts and Media, UNSW

[May 2021 – March 2024] | *Concurrent with PhD completion*

- Managed up to 100 students per semester across multiple courses
- Designed and delivered curriculum for emerging technology courses
- Coordinated course delivery, managed teaching teams, and developed assessments

## EDUCATION

**PhD in Science & Technology Studies | Media & Information Technology (2023)**
- University of New South Wales, Australia
- Dissertation: Automating Education, Artificial Intelligence in Education Governance

**M.Sc. in Media and Communication Studies (2017)**
- Lund University, Sweden
- Dissertation on User experience of algorithmic systems

**B.A. in Communication Science (2015)**
- Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg, Germany

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- **Scientia PhD Scholarship (2018)** – UNSW's most prestigious doctoral funding – $250k AUD competitive funding for top 5% of doctoral candidates
- **ARC Discovery Project Co-Chief Investigator (2025)** – Generative AI and the future of academic writing and publishing – $512K AUD
- **Research Impact** – 531 citations, h-index of 7, cited in 18 international policy documents

## KEY AFFILIATIONS

- Affiliated Investigator, ARC - Centre of Excellence in Automated Decision-Making & Society
- Co-founder, Education Futures Studio (University of Sydney)

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

**Mix of peer-reviewed, conference, and media publications:**

[1] Burgess, J., Witzenberger, K et al. [2025] Voice AI and authenticity: current issues and emerging challenges. ARC Centre of Excellence | Australian Policy Online. https://apo.org.au/node/331920

[2] Witzenberger, K., Burgess, J., He, W. & Snoswell, A. (2025). Building Situated Capabilities: An Introduction to the GenAI Arcade.

[3] Witzenberger, K. & Richardson, M. (2025). Microsoft cuts data centre plans and hikes prices in push to make users carry AI costs. The Conversation.

*Full list of publications and author profile*: <Google Scholar profile>