Panel Title: Al x Radical Inclusion

Moderators: Christine Meinders and Selwa Sweidan of Artificial Knowing

Tags: #Inclusive AI, #Speculative Design #Feminist AI #Embodied Knowing

Anything trained by a human is going to have the same biases and influences as its human designer/developer, no matter how much they try to remain neutral. It is dangerous to assume that an Al is somehow a neutral distillation of human thought and activity (free from judgment or bias). With the rise of consumer facing systems, Al has the potential to both diminish or spread new forms of discrimination and unwanted bias, through fundamental choices in representation, design and development. This unwanted bias is evidenced in the gendering of Amazon Alexa's voice, the labeling of dark skinned people as "Gorillas" in photo-tagging software, and Western centric approaches to "normalcy" in the mental and physical health industries. What message are we sending to users when we prioritize specific voices, body types, or socio-economic demographics in our designs?

Artificial Intelligence has an inclusion problem. Binary concepts of gender, a lack of racial diversity and humanist perspectives are embedded in current Al approaches. How can we address this lack of inclusion using current Al design tools? This panel will discuss the challenges of inclusion in the Al design space, cultural design implications of the tools and approaches to Al creation, and explore how speculative approaches address the cultural and social perspectives in Al. This panel brings together authors, artists and researchers who write and engage in envisioning/innovating options that reframe and reimagine these conditions.

In this panel we will provide an interdisciplinary approach to knowledge creation, hearing from individuals in the tech and non-tech spaces. Panelists will share their research and engage in conversations around inclusivity in the Al design space.

Questions / Thoughts:

- What are the design implications of inclusive Al?
- Can we use existing or create new language around diversity and inclusion? (Are our words being taken from us?)
- Should the focus be on knowledge (including A-Life and Al)
- What is embodied AI? How can we design inclusively for bodies?

Confirmed Attendees:

Claire Evans: https://clairelevans.com/

Jessica Rajko: http://www.jessicarajko.com/

Stephanie Dinkins: http://www.stephaniedinkins.com/about.html

Proposed Attendees (awaiting response):

Joy Buolamwini: https://www.ajlunited.org/

Maja Mataric: http://www-robotics.usc.edu/~maja/

Kimberly Scott: https://sustainability.asu.edu/person/kimberly-scott

Rebecca Fiebrink: www.gold.ac.uk/computing/people/fiebrink-rebecca/