Welcome to RAi Connect, our monthly newsletter.

Introducing the RAi UK Skills Programme Funding Call

The launch of the RAi UK Skills Programme Funding Call signifies a major stride forward in the realm of AI education and skill enhancement. This initiative is geared towards supporting the development of open educational resources, aimed at training a diverse range of stakeholders in AI, including developers, users, managers, and the wider public. By extending AI skills beyond technical domains, the programme seeks proposals that align with our goal and focuses the development of upskilling and reskilling opportunities for individuals and businesses across various sectors. Aligned with the UK’s AI Strategy, the programme prioritises proposals that contribute cutting across four key pillars:

1) National responsible AI skills frameworks;
2) Upskilling/reskilling within or across industries/sectors, or schooling with a focus on responsible AI;
3) Raising public awareness of responsible AI; and
4) Addressing equity and disadvantage in AI through education.

Successful projects should deliver Responsible AI skills resources that will be openly available to the RAi UK ecosystem. With a total available fund of £500,000 and awards ranging from £20,000 to £100,000 per project, the funding call presents a unique opportunity for innovators and educators to make a substantial impact on AI education in the UK. The submission deadline is 14 June 2024 at 16:00 UK time and ahead of that registration due date (mandatory) is 31st May 2024, and successful projects must begin by September 01, 2024, and last between 6-12 months. Please read the full call details here.

Skills Funding Call Webinar, May 01, 2024 - join this webinar to hear our Co-Lead Skills Programme - Dr Caitlin Bentley share further insights into the call. To register, click here.
Responsible AI Governance: A Response to UN Interim Report on Governing AI for Humanity. The UN's interim report, "Governing AI for Humanity," advocates for stronger international AI governance, providing guiding principles and institutional functions. RAi UK, responds by sharing insights from the wealth of expertise and experience of its multi-stakeholder community. RAi UK remains committed to contributing its insights and frameworks to shape the Responsible AI Governance.

Read our response here

RAi UK Community Building Event
April 09, 2024
We recently hosted an event for RAi UK Community, representatives from EPSRC, UKRI, AI hubs, and CDTs engaged in discussions on Generative AI, Healthcare, and Sustainability. Collaboration across disciplines is crucial for advancing AI innovation and the ecosystem requires flexibility to propel future growth in research and innovation. Explore our brochure showcasing innovative work and profiles of participating AI hubs and CDTs.

To read brochure, click here
March 22, 2024

Our first Partner Network event was an exceptional gathering with engaging discussions. Our partner perspectives panel offered captivating insights, while the roundtable sessions provided invaluable opportunities for shared learning. The Partner Network serves as the driving force behind our research programs, helping to feed projects and translating research into tangible real-world impact.

**Congratulations Professor Prokar Dasgupta!** We're delighted to share that our Leadership team Professor Prokar Dasgupta OBE has been honoured with the prestigious Innovators in Urology Award at the 39th Annual European Association of Urology Congress in Paris, France. He has also achieved a remarkable milestone by completing his 10,000th robotic surgery procedure. His contributions to surgery and science have been truly outstanding, and this prestigious award is a testament to his remarkable career.

**Opportunities**

An update on our latest opportunities, funding calls, projects, results and activities.

**Research Fellow in AI For Good**

Research Group: **Agents, Interaction & Complexity**  
Location: **Highfield Campus, University of Southampton**  
Duration: **Full Time Fixed Term for 2 years**  
Application deadline **May 09, 2024**

At Southampton, you will join an internationally renowned and multi-disciplinary team led by our CEO, Professor Gopal Ramchurn. The position centres on AI research, including machine learning, multi-agent systems, and causal AI, as well as contributing to multidisciplinary research projects that will not only include developing AI systems for good
**PhD Positions**

**2 PhD studentships offered by King's College London in association with RAi UK.**

Application deadline **31/05/2024**

Interviews will take place in late **June 2024**

Expected start from **October 2024**

These studentships are based in the Department of Digital Humanities at King’s and are linked to the RAi UK programme and the King’s Digital Futures Institute. The positions will be supervised by our Creative and Outreach Lead Dr Kate Devlin and a second supervisor from the Department of Digital Humanities, with advisory input and mentoring from RAi UK academics. Submit your CV, cover letter outlining your qualifications and interests, a one-page outline of possible research ideas, and examples of written and/or technical work to [kate.devlin@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:kate.devlin@kcl.ac.uk), with “RAI UK PhD application” as the subject.

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**In case you missed it!**

**FST Podcast**

The Foundation for Science and Technology (FST) featured Professor Jack Stilgoe in their podcast about driverless vehicles; the technologies currently being tested, questions of control, risk, regulation and what the future might look like. Listen to the episode [here](http://foundscience.org).

**Work FORCE Podcast: Is technology stealing your job?**

The Work FORCE podcast in their episode ‘Is technology stealing your job?’ featured Dr Caitlin Bentley. Enjoy the podcast [here](https://workforcepodcast.com).

**Women in AI: Kate Devlin of King’s College is researching AI and intimacy**

A spotlight on Dr Kate Devlin, by TechCrunch in their interview that focuses on remarkable women in the sphere of AI revolution. Get to know more through this engaging [Q&A article](https://techcrunch.com).

**Professor Jack Stilgoe was featured on two BBC radio shows!**

- **Trust Shifts** on BBC Sound
- **I’ll be back: 40 years of the Terminator** on BBC Radio4

Enjoy these shows by clicking the above hyperlinks!

Nominate your favourite speakers for our events or webinar series.

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**Save the date**
Responsible Tests for the Public Procurement of AI, May 1, 2024: organised by our AI, Law and Governance Working Group, the workshop aims to establish a framework of responsibility measures to facilitate government innovation aligned with public interests.

- **Integrating RRI and EDI into research:** May 2, 2024, Park Plaza Hotel, Nottingham-First RAi UK in-person to Principal Investigators/representatives of RAi UK Impact Accelerator and International Partnerships, and Early Career Researchers to meet members from RAi UK Leadership and Delivery team, and other RAi UK projects, and to engage with Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) and Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) as part of their projects. It aims to foster a supportive community, exchanging insights, best practices, and experiences.

- **BridgeAI Annual Showcase:** May 05, 2024, The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester- One year on since the launch, the BridgeAI Annual Showcase in Manchester will be a day of inspiration, networking, and knowledge sharing. This exclusive event will cover AI and its role in impactful innovation. Register here.

- **CogX Festival LA- Fundamentals of Responsible AI:** May 07, 2024, Professor Gopal Ramchurn and Professor Sana Khareghani will lead a session on the risks and opportunities with AI innovation, at the CogX Festival Stage 3. For full agenda, click here.

- **AI Hackathon in Transport**, May 15-16, 2024: hosted by the Department for Transport (DfT) in London, this two-day event, in partnership with Google and PA Consulting, aims to address real-world transport challenges using AI. Winning teams will qualify for seed grants to further develop their ideas (grants subject to eligibility). For more information, click here.

- **King’s Festival of Artificial Intelligence**, May 21-25, 2024: The festival will showcase the latest advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and their impact on society. Checkout the festival programme and sign up here. On May23, 2024, a panel discussion chaired by BusinessLDN ‘Can London Lead the Way in AI?’ will feature Professor Sana Khareghani, among others. The event aims to explore the potential for London to become a global leader in artificial intelligence innovation and implementation. Register here.

- **5th edition of the MobiliT.AI**, May 28, 2024: This international event brings together a community of experts in Artificial Intelligence for mission-critical systems in the transport and mobility sectors (aeronautics, automotive, rail, space, drones, etc.). This year’s themes are confidentiality by design, reliability, explicability and robustness and Professor Gopal Ramchurn is invited as a keynote speaker on the May 28, 2024. Register here.

- **AI Arts Festival 2024**: June 02, 2024, Register here. Join artists and musicians from the University of Southampton, the Winchester School of Art and around the world to explore some of the crucial questions, in a festival of installations, demonstrations, comedy sets, readings, discussions, concerts and more at the Theatre Royal and the Arc in central Winchester.
AI & Net Zero Collaborative Showcase

- Date: June 4, 2024, Venue: The Hallam - Cavendish Venues, 44 Hallam Street, London, W1W 6JJ. Organized by RAi UK, this event brings together UKRI funded projects, RAi UK researchers, and industry stakeholders. Each project will showcase their unique contributions and foresight in key domains: AI to build a sustainable future, and Sustainable AI that is energy efficient ethical, and environmentally friendly. Join us to exchange best practices, explore innovations, foster creativity, and expand your professional network.

- The RAi UK-funded 'Transparency Regulation Toolkits for Responsible AI' project will explore how SMEs interpret and apply AI transparency rules against the backdrop of changing regulatory landscapes in the UK and EU through two practical workshops. ‘AI Transparency Workshop’ for these, first preference is attendees from industry.
  - June 06, 2024 - Organised by University of Bristol. Register here.
  - September 19, 2024 – Organised by University of Antwerp, Belgium. Register here.

If you would like everyone to hear about your events, we can publish them in our newsletter. Send details to info@rai.ac.uk

Our events

What have RAi UK members been doing?

- April 18, 2024: Barton Peveril Sixth Form College’s latest addition to its campus, a £9.5million facility, was formally opened by our Leadership team, Dame Wendy Hall.
- April 18, 2024: Artificial Intelligence (Regulation and Employment Rights) Bill has been launched. Professor Gina Neff has contributed significantly to the inception of first Trade Unions Congress AI Bill that aims to regulate the use of AI systems by employers.
April 24, 2024: **Responsible AI: Ensuring Ethical Governance and Cultural Sensitivity.** Professor Sana Khareghani was among distinguished speakers at this event organised by WoMENAITLondon.

April 06, 2024: **Plenary Session takes on responsible AI and green urology.** Professor Prokar Dasgupta (GB) addressed this during his lecture “How do I see the urology theatre of 2030?”

April 22, 2024: **Technological risks are not the end of the world,** an article authored by Professor Jack Stilgoe for ‘Science’ Magazine.

### What has been happening in AI this month?

- April 26, 2024: **£7 million to back next wave of AI innovations – UKRI**
- April 26, 2024: **Rishi Sunak promised to make AI safe. Big Tech’s not playing ball,** news by Politico
- April 24, 2024: **Policy Paper: Ofsted’s approach to AI**
- April 22, 2024: **£8 million funding boost for AI to make boats smarter - GOV.UK** (www.gov.uk)
- **UK Government launches maritime AI fund applications.** news by Ship Technology
- April 12, 2024: **UK Artificial Intelligence (AI) Statistics And Trends In 2024,** a report on Forbes Advisor
- April 11, 2024: **CMA outlines growing concerns in markets for AI Foundation Models** press release on GOV.UK
- April 10, 2024: **£8m to develop responsible data access in professional services** by UKRI
- April 04, 2024: **UKRI new short-term visa scheme** by UKRI
- April 02, 2024: **UK & United States announce partnership on science of AI safety** press release on GOV.UK
- March 27, 2024: **Major research and innovation infrastructure investment announced** by UKRI
- March 22, 2024: **Geospatial Commission-funded tool demonstrates potential for AI to transform decisions about land use,** news story on GOV.UK
- **UK Stands to Lose 8 Million Jobs From AI, Analysis Warns** published by Bloomberg, UK

We’d love to hear your thoughts, stories or views. 

Get in touch

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