



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE



北京大學
PEKING UNIVERSITY



Thursday 3 and
Friday 4 April 2025

LSE-PKU Conference:

Global Approaches to Generative AI in Higher Education

Speakers and Contributors





Biographies of speakers and contributors

Martin Anthony

Martin Anthony is Director of the Data Science Institute and Professor of Mathematics at LSE, where he has held various leadership and governance roles, including seven years as Head of the Mathematics Department and three years as Vice-Chair of LSE's Academic Board. Martin's research interests are primarily in the mathematical underpinnings of machine learning, in which he has published widely, including three monographs on computational learning theory and artificial neural networks. A committed educator, he has taught a wide variety of courses at all levels at LSE, is a recipient of teaching excellence awards, and has written two successful undergraduate textbooks.

Marcos Barreto

Marcos Barreto is an Assistant Professor (Education) in the Department of Statistics at LSE. He has a PhD in Computer Science (UFRGS, Brazil) with specialisation in Health Data Science (University College London, UK) and Higher Education (LSE, FHEA). Postdoctoral research in Big Data Linkage & Analytics (University College London, UK) as a Royal Society's Newton International Fellow. His research interests comprise big data linkage and integration methods and tools, AI applied to healthcare and socioeconomic data, and pedagogical aspects of multimodal learning supported by generative AI tools. Currently acting as Department Lead on AI in Education and Strategic Lead in Knowledge Exchange and Impact (Teaching). w: <https://marcosebarreto.github.io/>

Kate Borthwick

Kate Borthwick is a Professor of knowledge exchange and enterprise in digital education at the University of Southampton. She is the Chair of the cross-institutional University Generative AI in education working group and the academic lead for GenAI. She is the Director of Open Online Courses and lead for the University's partnership with Futurelearn. She chairs the University Digital Education Advisory Group which advises senior leadership on strategy in relation to digital education. She is a linguist by background and a lecturer and researcher in digitally-mediated language learning and teaching.



Jeni Brown

Jeni Brown is Head of the Digital Skills Lab (DSL) at the London School of Economics and Political Science, where she leads an outstanding team of professional and student staff dedicated to the DSL mission of creating digitally confident social scientists. Jeni's (work) passion is supporting the creation of innovative and challenging programmes to develop digital fluency, job-specific skills, and technical confidence in learners at all levels.

Emma Brunskill

Emma Brunskill is a tenured professor in the Computer Science Department at Stanford University. Brunskill's work focuses on reinforcement learning and sequential decision making under uncertainty, inspired by the positive impact AI might have in education and healthcare. Brunskill has received multiple awards, including a Rhodes Scholarship, a NSF CAREER award, Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Award, a Microsoft Faculty Fellow award, and an alumni impact award from the computer science and engineering department at the University of Washington. She also serves on the board of the International Conference on Machine Learning. Brunskill and her lab have received 10 best paper nominations and awards for their AI research and for their AI for education contributions.

Jon Cardoso-Silva

Dr [Jonathan Cardoso-Silva](#) is an Assistant Professor (Education) in the Data Science Institute at the London School of Economics (LSE), where he co-leads [GENIAL](#) (Generative AI as a Catalyst for Learning), a research initiative exploring the transformative potential of generative AI in higher education. At the LSE Data Science Institute, Jonathan integrates empirical learning approaches with AI-enhanced methodologies in undergraduate education in the data science courses he leads, [DS105](#) and [DS205](#). His recent work examines how ChatGPT influences student programming practices, illuminating both the opportunities and challenges these technologies present for contemporary education, and what it means for education in general. Through his innovative teaching practices and research, Jonathan actively shapes discussions around meaningful, effective, and ethically sound AI integration in academia.



Patrick Carmichael

Dr Patrick Carmichael is Managing Director of Camtree, the Cambridge Teacher Research Exchange, which promotes, supports and publishes close-to-practice research by educators around the world. Camtree is also home to a digital library of which the DI-IDEA Hub is a part. Formerly a schoolteacher, Patrick has held professorial positions in several UK universities and his research and writing encompasses technology-enhanced teaching, learning and research; teacher professional development; research methods; research ethics; and the role of the university in the changing world of work.

Julia Chen

Julia Chen (PhD FTCL PFHEA) is Director of the Educational Development Centre at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and Chair of the Hong Kong Teaching Excellence Alliance, appointed by the HK University Grants Committee (UGC). Her research interests include leveraging technology and learning analytics for quality enhancement. She leads several large-scale multi-university projects, including one on GenAI. Julia has won numerous awards, such as the QS Reimagine Education Awards 2022 Breakthrough Technology Innovation in Education Silver Prize, the Hong Kong UGC Teaching Award 2022 (Collaborative Team leader), and EdTech Heroes Learning Experience Award 2023, to name a few.

Martin Compton

Currently leading on AI and innovation in Education at King's College London and with over 30 years in education, Dr Martin Compton has taught at various levels and in a number of countries. He focuses on examining the implications for higher education teaching, assessment and feedback of emerging technologies like generative AI, advocating for compassionate pedagogy and joyful learning with a 'freedom to learn' philosophy.



Claire Gordon

Dr Claire Gordon is Director of the Eden Centre for Education Enhancement which leads on academic staff development, curriculum enrichment, digital innovation and inclusive practice at LSE. She jointly spear-headed the School's educational response to the Covid-19 pandemic, Curriculum Shift 2020/2022, is the founding advisory editor of the [LSE Higher Education Blog](#), and is co-leading the School's response to generative AI and education. In summer 2024, she co-led a project with colleagues at LSE and KCL to develop a [Manifesto for the Essay in the Age of AI](#). Additionally, Claire chairs the Governing Board of the [Atlantic Fellows for Social and Economic Equity at LSE](#). Claire's research interests include academic leadership and educational change, reward and recognition in higher education and the synergies between research and education. She is a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Li Guiquan

Li Guiquan is an Associate Professor at the School of Psychological and Cognitive Sciences, Peking University, where he also serves as Assistant Dean. He is a member of the Industrial Psychology Committee of the Chinese Psychological Society and a board member of the Beijing Psychological Society. His research focuses on leadership, followership, individual behaviour, and motivation, with publications in Journal of Applied Psychology, Personnel Psychology, Journal of Product Innovation Management, among others. He has led projects funded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China and serves as a reviewer for leading management and psychology journals. In recent years, he has been particularly interested in the intersection of artificial intelligence and psychology.

Velislava Hillman

Dr Velislava Hillman is a Visiting Fellow in the Department of Media and Communications at the London School of Economics and Political Science and founder of Education Data Digital Safeguards (EDDS), an initiative assessing AI and educational technologies. A Berkman Klein Centre alumna at Harvard University, her research explores algorithmic, data-driven systems' effects on education policy, learning and pedagogy worldwide. She collaborates with organizations such as EdTech Impact, Open Development Cambodia, ChildFund Australia, and UNESCO. Dr Hillman is also the author of Taming EdTech (2024), published by Bloomsbury Academic.



Ho Shen Yong

Dr. Ho Shen Yong is the Executive Director of the Institute for Pedagogical Innovation, Research, and Excellence (InsPIRE) at Nanyang Technological University (NTU). He led faculty preparations for the impact of AI on teaching and learning. Dr. Ho joined NTU in 2011 as a Physics lecturer after his PhD at University of Toronto in 2009 and postdoctoral research at the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign and NUS. A passionate educator, Dr. Ho has received many teaching awards, including the Nanyang Education Award (Gold) in 2018. He became Principal Lecturer that year and Provost's Chair in Physics since 2019.

David Lefevre

Dr David Lefevre is Professor of Practice in Digital Innovation at Imperial College London, specializing in AI applications in education. He has a long history in EdTech having founded the Edtech Lab in 2004. This team pioneered digital learning at the College and the launch of the College's first online degree programme, the Global Online MBA. David has co-founded two successful Edtech start-ups: the digital publisher Epigeum and the platform company Insendi. He currently co-leads an international research project into AI adoption in Higher Education, works on developing pedagogical interfaces for AI and is co-founder of the 'Human+ AI' tutoring company, Tutello. David also serves as trustee to a British Council advising on digital innovation.

Allison Littlejohn

Allison Littlejohn is Pro Vice Provost for the UCL Grand Challenge in Data Empowered Societies and a Professor of Learning Technology in UCL's Institute of Education and Society. She is the Ruth Wong Visiting Professor in Teacher Education by the National Institute of Education (NIE), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore (2025); a Visiting Professor at the University of Wollongong Australia; and a Visiting Professor at the Open University, UK. Her research is in the area of professional and digital learning within public and private organisations, exploring new ways of knowing with digital technologies. <https://profiles.ucl.ac.uk/76327-allison-littlejohn>



Elena Magrini

Elena is Head of Global Research at Lightcast, leading thought leadership activities internationally. She advises organisations on how to navigate labour market changes and improve their economic strategy. Elena has a decade of experience in labour market economics, future of work and economic development. Before joining Lightcast, Elena was a senior analyst at the UK think-tank Centre for Cities and a senior policy manager at the West of England Combined Authority. Elena holds a Bachelor's in International Economics from Bocconi University and a Masters in International Public Policy from UCL.

Emily Osborn

Emily Osborn is a faculty member in the Department of History and the College at the University of Chicago, and the Deputy Dean of the Office of Research and Teaching Innovations. Her area of scholarly expertise is the material, technology, and political histories of Francophone West Africa. She serves as the Faculty Director of UChicago's Senegal Study Abroad CIV and has been awarded the Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. Osborn is currently chairing a university-wide AI and Education Working Group, which is charged with assessing teaching and learning in a landscape of AI.

Robin Paige

Robin Paige, PhD is the Executive Director of the Chicago Center for Teaching and Learning, Associate Dean in the College, and Associate Senior Instructional Professor at the University of Chicago. Since 2022, Robin has led the Center through a period of growth with the expansion of pedagogical programs and support aimed at helping faculty to develop their teaching practice and identity as scholar-teachers. She has over twenty years of experience in university teaching and a diverse background in higher education with academic leadership and educational development experience at a wide variety of institutions in the United States.



Ravi Pendse

Professor Ravi Pendse is vice president for information technology (VPIT) and chief information officer (CIO) of The University of Michigan. Dr. Pendse serves as an executive officer of the university and provides university-wide leadership and strategic direction for information technology. He has extensive experience as a successful and collaborative university leader. Prior to joining U-M, he served as Brown University's vice president for computing and information services and CIO and Wichita State University's vice president for information technology and CIO. He is a professor, researcher, teacher, and advisor to students. Dr. Pendse's successes include securing more than \$21 million in external research grants, developing university courses, earning several teaching awards, and publishing numerous scholarly articles and papers co-authored by students.

Alison Powell

Alison Powell is Associate Professor in Media and Communications at the London School of Economics and directs the MSc stream in Data & Society. Alison studies knowledge politics and technology innovation with a focus on participatory and inclusive design. Recent projects include the JUST AI Network which diversified data and AI research in the UK, and the book *Undoing Optimization: Civic Action and Smart Cities* (Yale University Press, 2021), which argued for a new ethics of 'smart cities'. Alison's current research examines sociotechnical change in education, healthcare and urban design.

Pavlos Protopapas

Pavlos Protopapas is a faculty member at Harvard University specializing in data science, machine learning, and computational engineering. He teaches a variety of courses, including CS109A, CS109B, and Advanced Topics in Data Science, and is involved in developing courses on Physics-Informed Neural Networks and MLOps. Pavlos has also taught internationally in countries such as Chile, Colombia, India, and Rwanda. His research focuses on the intersection of astronomy, machine learning, and statistics. In addition to his academic work, he contributes to online education platforms like HarvardX and the Harvard Extension School.



Mairéad Pratschke

Mairéad Pratschke has been working at the intersection of digital technology and education for 25 years, as an academic researcher, learning designer, consultant, author and speaker. Her career has straddled the worlds of education, technology, professional and executive education, lifelong learning and edtech start-ups.

Author of [Generative AI and Education](#) (Spring 2024), she is focused on the impact of AI on our societies, economies and political cultures; on the future of work and learning; and on how to meet the challenges and opportunities that this wave of technological change presents.

Mairéad is a Visiting Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science ([LSE](#)) Data Science Institute ([DSI](#)) and a Research Fellow at the USA's National AI Institute for Adult Education and Online Learning ([AI-ALOE](#)). She sits on the AI-ALOE External Advisory Board ([EAB](#)), the Irish Digital Learning Institute ([DLI](#))'s Industry Advisory Council, and the Government of Portugal's National Council on Pedagogical Innovation in Higher Education ([CNIPES](#)). M.Pratschke@lse.ac.uk

Qin S. Joe

Qin S. Joe is the Wai Kee Kau Chair Professor of Data and President of Lingnan University in Hong Kong. He was professor at the University of Texas at Austin and University of Southern California for 25 years. His research interests include data science and machine learning, industrial AI, and smart manufacturing. He is a member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts and Fellow of the Hong Kong Academy of Engineering, and the U.S. National Academy of Inventors. He is the recipient of the 2022 AIChE CAST Computing Award, 2022 IEEE CSS Transition to Practice Award.

Dorottya Sallai

Dorottya Sallai is an Associate Professor of Management (Education) in the Department of Management at the London School of Economics and Political Science. She has received several recognitions for teaching excellence, including LSE's Outstanding Teaching Award. She is the Department of Management's Education and Assessment Innovation Lead and Chair of the AI Working Group. Her work in management education focuses on innovation and the integration of digital technologies and AI into teaching, learning, and assessment practices.



Clay Shirky

Clay Shirky is Vice Provost for AI and Technology in Education at NYU, overseeing instructional technology and online education. He chairs the Future of Technology-Enhanced Education Committee and supports schools in using technology for recruitment and learning. Shirky is also an Associate Professor at NYU's Arthur L. Carter Center of Journalism and Tisch School of the Arts. He previously served as NYU Shanghai's CIO. An author of books like *Cognitive Surplus* and *Here Comes Everybody*, he was named one of Foreign Policy's "Top 100 Global Thinkers" in 2010 and has written for major publications.

Samantha Smidt

Sam is Academic Director of King's Academy which is the education development team at King's College London. She joined King's in 2022 after nearly seven years in a similar role at UCL. Before that she was at the Open University for many years in the Faculty of Science and the office of the PVC Learning and Teaching. A physicist by background, Sam gradually moved into Education over many years. She has many years' experience of capacity building work around online and distance learning and has worked on projects and consultancies in a wide variety of countries. She is particularly interested in programme design and supporting academics to consider a whole programme approach to learning design. Most recently she has been leading a whole-university assessment transformation project. Sam is a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, and a member of AdvanceHE's Fellowship and Accreditation Expert Advisory Group

Alan Spivey

A Professor at Imperial College London in the field of Synthetic Chemistry, Alan is also the Associate Provost (Learning and Teaching). As part of this role, he is currently leading the development of Imperial College's EdTech ecosystem for delivering digital online and blended education and chairs Imperial's working party for AI in Education.



Sun Hua

Professor Sun Hua is Director of Office of the Provost, Director of Center for Excellent Teaching and Learning of Peking University, Secretary General of Digital Intelligence International Development Education Alliance (DI-IDEA) and Director of China Center for Edgar Snow Studies. Previously Professor Hun held the roles of Student Affairs Administrator in School of Journalism and Communication of PKU for 10 years, the Deputy Director in Office of Planning and Policy Research of PKU for 2 years, the Deputy Director in Office of Education Administration of PKU for 5 years and Executive Dean of Yuanpei College of Peking University for 5 years. Professor Sun Hua's research interests include Higher Education Management and Cross-Culture communication.

Tong Meng

Tong Meng is an Associate Researcher and Deputy Director of the Center for Excellent Teaching and Learning at Peking University. She has been involved in and completed several research projects such as "Research on First-Class Discipline Level Assessment and Performance Evaluation Based on Big Data" and "The Fourth Industrial Revolution and the Future of Higher Education in China." Dr. Tong is also the principal investigator of "PKUQUEST"(an online intelligent TA platform at Peking University) for "AI + Higher Education" application scenarios sponsored by the Ministry of Education.

Simon Walker

Simon Walker is Professor of Educational Development and Assessment Lead at the London School of Economics and Political Science and Senior Academic Advisor at the University of Southampton. Formerly he was the Director of Programme Development at UCL and a senior consultant at Jisc, the UK sector body for digital education and leadership. He has been a regular participant in the Beijing Forum for several years and has worked closely with colleagues from Peking University on educational development. He was awarded a Higher Education Academy National Teaching Fellowship in 2006 and is a Principal Fellow of AdvanceHE. He is the founding editor of the Journal of Educational Innovation, Partnership, and Change.



Wang Bo

Wang Bo is Vice President and Provost of Peking University. He received his Ph.D. from the Department of Philosophy, Peking University, where he is currently a professor. He was awarded the title of Cheung Kong (Changjiang) Distinguished Professor by Ministry of Education of People's Republic of China. Wang Bo specializes in Chinese philosophy. He is in charge of several significant research projects including the compilation of The Confucian Canon and A History of Hermeneutics in China. He has published more than 100 academic papers in Chinese and English journals.

Jaeho Yeom

Dr Jaeho Yeom is the President of Taejae University and the Chairman of the Council for the Establishment of the Digital New Order at the Ministry of Science and ICT in Korea. He holds a Ph.D. in political science from Stanford University, served as the 19th president of Korea University from 2015 to 2019, and currently holds key positions as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of SK Inc., Chairman of the Board of the Seoul Peace Prize Culture Foundation, and as a trustee at Seoul National University within The Board of Trustees.

Zhang Linfeng

Zhang Linfeng is the Founder and Chief Scientific Officer at DP Technology and serves as the Dean of the AI for Science Institute in Beijing. Linfeng holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Peking University and a Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from Princeton University. He has dedicated his career to AI for Science and has been recognized as one of the top 2% of scientists globally by Stanford University. In 2020, DeePMD, which Linfeng served as a core developer for, won the ACM Gordon Bell Prize, and was also named one of China's Top 10 Scientific Advances.



Zhang Ying

Zhang Ying is an Associate Dean and Professor of Behavioral Science and marketing at the Guanghua School of Management. Professor Zhang received his PhD from the University of Chicago and is an expert in social cognition and decision making, with an emphasis on how social environment and technology can interact to impact human cognition and motivation. He has published extensively in both psychology and management journals.



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