## **Group presentations as videos for MG4G7: Contemporary topics in advanced technology management**

MG4G7 is a popular MSc elective exploring the management of advanced technologies. Students explore the management challenges of artificial intelligence and fintech (including open banking and blockchain) and also produce a poster and an essay on another advanced technology [link to the video piece].

Our students have now completed their second assignment for the course, which involves the creation of a group video. I normally share the group videos as they have been of considerable interest to colleagues. This year I thought it helpful to describe the extra constraints the students faced in completing this assignment following the move to online only teaching.

These videos are focussed on the application of AI for business. In preparing for the assignment, the students were given two excellent lectures by AI expert Ajit Jaokar (in what turned out to be his last in person lecture for a while). The students gave a preliminary version of the presentations in the seminars that week and received feedback from faculty and their fellow students.

We had also arranged an optional practitioner event for the course on 12 March. The speakers were (intended to be):

* Christine Chow, LSE Governor and one of the Top 30 Inspirational women in the City of London. Christine has over 20 years of experience in investment management, research and consulting. She has been pioneering sustainable and impact investment in Asia since 2003 and is a Member of the Court and Investment Committee at the LSE.
* Marcia Williams, an ex-Big 4 IT Auditor/Consultant with over 20 years’ experience in the UK, Bermuda and USA. She is currently Head of Project Assurance and Co-Founder at Greyfly Limited which is a startup company delivering project management consulting services with experienced professionals supported by Artificial Intelligence. Marcia studied MSc ADMIS at LSE 1991-1992.
* Jessica Montgomery, a Senior Policy Adviser at the Royal Society for artificial intelligence and machine learning at the Royal Society (the UK's national academy of sciences), with background in science policy and parliamentary affairs.

Unfortunately, 12 March was the day that the LSE announced that it was moving to online only teaching and that all optional events were to be cancelled and so the practitioner event had to be cancelled.

The following week, we had a fantastic interactive lecture given in Zoom by Raj Dhawan, Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of Soho House, a hotel chain and group of private members' clubs originally aimed at those in the arts and media, but which now has a broader remit of fostering creativity in all its forms. He spoke about his experiences of using AI to support his organisation’s practices. This went incredibly smoothly (it helped that Raj was used to using Zoom for work) and the students asked questions of the guest practitioner in much the same way as in the face to face lectures, both using the Zoom chat facility (which we monitored to allow the guest speaker to focus on his presentation) and asking questions directly to the speaker.

For those students who couldn’t attend at the allotted time, primarily due to time zone challenges, the guest lecture was also recorded and made available via lecture capture on Moodle.

With the move to online only teaching a number of students made plans to return home and this caused considerable coordination problems for the groups, with potentially all the group members travelling (and hence being unavailable) at different times. Nevertheless the vast majority of the projects were submitted on time and the remainder followed a few days later.

It is a testament to the quality of the students that everything went so smoothly.

Particular thanks are due to my co-seminar teachers – Professor Susan Scott and Dr Enrico Rossi, Professor Leslie Willcocks who helped with the peer review of the student’s individual essay plans, the MISDI office (Chloe Davies and Rob Kirkland) as well as Claire Gordon and the LSE Eden centre, especially Lee-Ann Sequiera whose insights were invaluable when I was originally designing this new course.

The videos are available at <http://personal.lse.ac.uk/whitley/aiselectionexternal2020.htm> alongside further details about the course and assignment.