



Utrecht
University

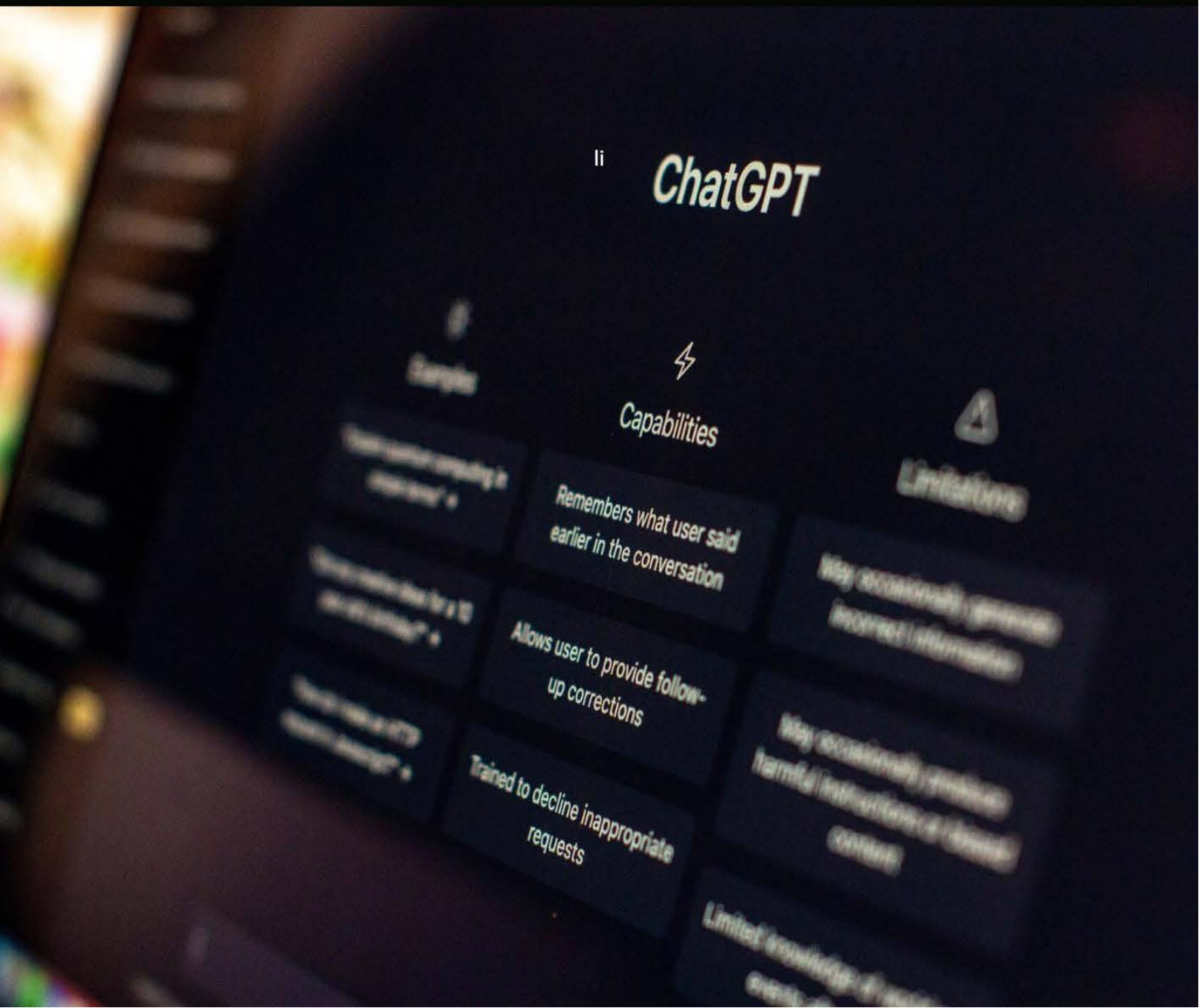


International Conference
on Robot Ethics and Standards
2023

ICRES Student Workshop

How do you want to be governed?

A Multidisciplinary Discussion on the Pacing of
Innovation: A ChatGPT Case-Study



Proposal for an ICRES Student Workshop:

How do you want to be governed?

A multidisciplinary discussion on the pacing of innovation:

A ChatGPT case study

Executive Summary

Should we slow down the development of artificial intelligence? The common phrase “*AI today is the stupidest it will ever be*” perfectly encompasses AI’s exponential growth. This became increasingly obvious in November 2022 when OpenAI deployed ChatGPT, an AI-powered chatbot. The ChatGPT template has been adapted to numerous fields in just five months. Its “offspring” has become a virtual therapist (Wysa), a companion (Snapchat My AI), and its further potential is yet to be seen. What was initially a virtual assistant has increasingly implanted itself into “the human experience” and is continuously learning how to get better.

Some embrace this rapid innovation, while others call for a halt in development to consider broader societal impacts and facilitate regulation. An open letter by 1000 AI experts called for “a six-month pause in developing systems more powerful than OpenAI’s newly launched GPT-4”. Geoffrey Hinton, a renowned researcher in neural networks and computer science dubbed “the Godfather of AI”, highlighted that the current acceleration of development in an unregulated environment creates opportunities for actors to abuse these technologies. Scepticism surrounding ChatGPT continues to grow as countries and companies banning its use due to privacy concern.

The first edition of the ICRES student workshop “ How do you want to be governed?” addresses this question from a multidisciplinary perspective. It brings together Utrecht University master’s students from various disciplines to discuss the topic: Should we pace innovation? The case study of ChatGPT and its by-products. It gives students the opportunity to apply their research to a current societal issue and provide their perspective on the regulation of technology. They will also be given the opportunity to present their findings at the [International Conference on Robot Ethics and Standards \(ICRES\)](#) in July. Moreover, co-author a piece which will be published on the Conference’s official website.

Students can participate in this project in two ways, either as a researcher or a workshop participant. Student researchers will submit a short paper on their chosen research question

and present their paper during the workshop. The presentations will be used to lead the discussion during the workshop. Selected researchers will present their findings at the ICRES conference and publish their work on the ICRES website, incorporating any feedback or interesting points of discussion received during the student workshop. Workshop participants will take part in brain-storming sessions and other activities that will be used to develop the researchers' ideas further.

The student workshop is set to take place Tuesday 4th of July 2023 12:00 – 18:00. The ICRES conference will take place on the 17th – 18th of July, 2023.

In addition to facilitating a multidisciplinary dialogue, a secondary aim of this project is to map out a methodology for future professionals to work with other disciplines and how to find a “common language”. Moreover, how they can efficiently communicate with colleagues from other fields to achieve a common objective; the tasks assigned to the participating students will be designed in such a way as to prompt such reflections. The findings of this discussion will also be presented at the ICRES conference.

For any further questions, you can contact the workshop organiser, Simona Janssonaite, at s.janssonaite@uu.nl

Timeline of the Project

10 May 2023	Call for applications for participants from the following all faculties and departments Deadline: 24 May 2023 9:00 (CEST)
24 May 2023 9:00 (CEST)	Deadline for applications
26th May 2023	Announcement of accepted researchers and proposed topics
26th May 2023	Announcement inviting students to attend the workshop
2 July 2023 23:59	Submission of approx. 2000-word paper outlining the main line of argumentation and presentation of views.
4 July 2023 12:00 – 17:00	Student-led workshop
5 July – 16 July 2023	Researchers collate their findings into a short 10 min presentation incorporating discussion points during the workshop and their findings.
16th July 2023	Submission of presentation
17th -18th July 2023	ICRES Conference
19th – 26th July 2023	Researchers finalise their papers which will be published on the ICRES website.
26th July 2023 23:59	Researchers submit their papers which will be published on the ICRES website.

Application Requirements

- Highly motivated master's student who has an interest in technology and how their respective discipline plays a role in the industry
- Enthusiastic about working with other disciplines
- Good command of the English language. Both writing and speaking
- Capable public speaker and able to present their ideas
- Available and physically present in the Netherlands on the 4th of July to participate in the student-led workshop
- Ideally available on the 17th and 18th of July to participate in the ICRES Conference

Application Procedure

- Applicants can send their applications to s.jansonaite@uu.nl containing the following attached:
 - Approx 500-word motivation letter outlining
 - Your name and study
 - Why you would like to participate in this project?
 - Proposed research question and how it relates to the central discussion: “Should we pace innovation?” using ChatGPT or any other large language models (LLM) as examples.
 - CV