Call for Applications

SRI Working Group on Trust in Human-ML Interaction

The **Schwartz Reisman Institute for Technology and Society (SRI)** invites applications from doctoral and postdoctoral researchers at the University of Toronto to participate in an interdisciplinary working group focused on exploring trust as a pivotal concept in human-machine learning (ML) interaction. Directed by SRI Research Lead **Beth Coleman**, this group aims to conduct a comprehensive environmental survey examining how trust is conceptualized and operationalized across various academic disciplines, including human-computer interaction (HCI), behavioral sciences, economics, psychology, legal studies, and engineering.

Our goal is to establish a diverse cohort of University of Toronto doctoral and postdoctoral researchers from these and related fields to collaboratively address this critical research area. The working group's primary objective is to develop a deeper understanding of the multidisciplinary perspectives on trust and its role in technology and society.

The anticipated outcomes of this working group are:

- The **production of a white paper** providing a comparative international review of disciplinary approaches to trust, enhancing the understanding of trust in human-ML interaction.
- The **conception of new frameworks or insights** to guide future interdisciplinary research and policymaking in the area of trust in technology and society.

What do we offer?

- **Research award:** Each participant will receive a $1000 research award, to be used for research purposes as defined by the University of Toronto.
- **Financial assistance:** For those requiring financial support to participate, there is a provision in the application to discuss this need.

What do we expect from you?

- **Time commitment:** Participants will be engaged in the working group from January to May 2024, with monthly meetings held at SRI. Expected time commitment is 2-5 hours per week.
- **Interdisciplinary engagement:** Openness to diverse topics related to trust in human-ML interaction.
- **Dedicated learning:** Eagerness to learn about cross-disciplinary approaches within the research scope.
- **Insightful contributions:** Fresh insights and perspectives in group discussions and research.
- **Proactive attitude:** Active participation and initiative in collaborative and individual research efforts.

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How to apply

Interested candidates can apply to join the working group by completing the **online application form** and including the following:

1. **Curriculum vitae (CV).**

2. **Statement of interest (500 words), including:**

   - Disciplinary background (e.g., law, science and technology studies, computer science).

   - Interest in the working group project.

   - Potential domain of inquiry related to the working group project, focusing on how it relates to trust in the context of your field.

3. **Academic reference:** the contact name and email of a professor or professional you have worked with (letters of reference are not required).

4. **Writing sample:** an example of your academic or professional writing.

Priority will be given to applicants who are ABD (all-but-dissertation) or currently hold a PhD.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until January 22, 2024, 11:59 PM Eastern Time.

For questions about the working group, please contact **beth.coleman@utoronto.ca**.