

## **26th International Interdisciplinary Seminar** **Are humans still needed? The new challenges of AI**

Organised by:

*The Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies (IIS) (Zürich and Geneva),  
and Netherhall House (London).*

**Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Academic sessions and tutorials in [Netherhall House](#), London (10.00 – 17.30 h.)

Is science impossible without scientists? Is the universe impossible without science?

10.00 Welcome address and opening note.

*Antoine Suarez (IIS, Zürich and Geneva)*

10.15 Can mathematics be considered a product of human mind? On Gödel's theorem.

*Diego Artacho (Imperial College, London).*

Discussion

10.45 Can we look at the world as a product of God? On Jacob Bekenstein's perspective.

*Emanuele Gaz (Hebrew University, Jerusalem)*

Discussion

11.30 Coffee Break.

12.00 The anthropic principle, dark energy, and exoplanets (online)

*Leonardo Senatore (ETH Zürich).*

Discussion

13.15 Buffet lunch.

14.30 The central role of the observer in quantum physics.

*Antoine Suarez (IIS, Zürich and Geneva).*

Discussion

Functional and philosophical aspects of AI.

15.30 How does ChatGPT work? AI's hopes and dreams

*Jean-David Ponci (IIS, Zürich and Geneva).*

Discussion.

16.15 Coffee Break.

16.45 A Philosopher's View on AI.

*Alfred Driessen (emeritus, University of Twente).*

Discussion.

17.30 End of sessions.

## Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Academic sessions and tutorials in [Netherhall House](#), London (10.00 – 17.30 h.).

Computer Science, Medicine, Law, Marketing.

10.00 Deep learning : Is there a difference between computer image recognition and that of a child?  
*Jean-David Ponci (IIS, Zürich and Geneva).*  
Discussion.

10.45 Do AI systems have free will?  
*Ramy Ktlama (Free University, Amsterdam)*  
Discussion.

11.30 Coffee Break.

12.00 Does Embodiment make the crucial difference between human and artificial intelligence?  
*Flavio Keller (University Campus Biomedico, Rome)*  
Discussion.

13.15 Buffet lunch.

14. 30 Short presentations by students:

Ethical Issues on AI.  
*Juan Antonio Otero (HSLU, Luzern)*

Legal issues on AI.  
*Francesco del Corso (Suor Orsola Benincasa University, Naples)*  
*and Giovanni Orlacchio (University of Naples).*

15.30 Discussion.

16.00 Coffee break

16.30 Generative AI (online)  
*Rafael Cortina (Google Cloud, University of California, Berkeley).*  
Discussion.

17.30 End of sessions.

## **Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Academic sessions and tutorials in [Netherhall House](#), London (10.15 – 15.00 h.).

Philosophy, Art, and Literature.

10.00 Elements for a theory of the intelligence (online).

*André Rubbia (ETH Zürich)*

Discussion

10.45 Programming consciousness.

*Alessandro Guida (University Campus Biomedico, Rome).*

The impact of AI on education.

*Ignacio Monge (University of Geneva)*

Discussion.

11.30 Coffee Break.

11.45 Searching for the self: what makes us human and different from an AI?

Insights from Edith Stein's Philosophy.

*Florian Gahbauer (University of Latvia, Riga).*

Discussion

12.15 Concluding remarks.

*Jean David Ponci (IIS, Zürich and Geneva).*

12.45 General Discussion and Visions.

13.00 Lunch

14.15 End of the Conference.