Kian Loong Lua

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Education:

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech)
Doctor of Philosophy in Science and Technology Studies (expected 2022; Current GPA: 3.86)
Master of Science in Science and Technology Studies May 2018
Graduate Certificates:
Economic Development May 2020
Global Planning and International Development May 2019
Technology Management (In progress)
Urban Computing (In progress)

University of Missouri-Kansas City
Master of Arts in Economics December 2014

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Bachelor of Science in Economics and Physics May 2012

Recent Work/ Professional Experience:

***Graduate Assistant,* Virginia Tech,** Blacksburg, VA **August 2016- Present**
Teaching:
- STS 2054 – Engineering Cultures (Spring 2019)
- STS 1504 – Intro to Science and Technology in Society (Fall 2018)
- STS 2454 – Science, Technology & Environment (Spring 2018)
- STS 3105 – Science and Technology in Modern Society (Fall 2017)
- STS 1504 – Intro to Science and Technology in Society (Fall 2016)

Planning and Organizing:
- Science, Technology, and Society Spring 2020 Seminar Series
- Science, Technology, and Society Fall 2019 Seminar Series and Symposium

***Graduate Research Intern,* Literacy Kansas City,** Kansas City, MO **March – July 2015**

Application Engineer,
Westermann Bolting Technologies (WestermannBG), Dallas/Ft Worth, TX **July 12 – May 13**

Recent Key Coursework:

CS (Computer Science) 5024 Ethics and Professionalism in Data Sciences (Spring 20)
ISE (Industrial and Systems Engineering) 5134 Management of Information Systems (Sp 20)
CS 5834 Introduction to Urban Computing (Fall 19)
Econ (Economics) 6104 Labor Economics (Fall 19)
Econ 6054 Development Economics (Sp 19)
ISE 5164 Innovation Studies: Transfer and Application of Emerging Technologies (Fall 2018)
STS (Science, Technology, and Society) 5614 Intro to Science and Technology Policy (Sp 17)
STS 6614 History of Technology: Infrastructure, Maintenance and Labor (Sp 2018)

Statement of Interest:

I am a student in the Science and Technology Studies PhD program at Virginia Tech's Department of Science, Technology, and Society. I want to attend the NBER Young Scholars Workshop on the Economics of A.I. because my PhD dissertation will be related to artificial intelligence (A.I.) and how it transforms work and the workforce. More specifically, I will be studying, from an interdisciplinary but mainly sociological perspective, the impact of A.I. on white-collar workforce or professionals. My tentative research plan is to analyze existing narratives regarding A.I.'s effect on the future of work, and supplement that with interviews to understand on-the-ground experiences with workplace A.I. Despite the sociological focus of my research, a solid understanding of cutting-edge knowledge in the economics of A.I. and how A.I. impacts work would be essential in helping me form my arguments and hone in on the relevant research questions for my dissertation. My current graduate program has little connection to economics and the latest research in A.I., but I do have degrees in economics and have taken some graduate courses in economics and computer science at Virginia Tech, hence I have basic understanding of labor economics and machine learning. I have also been reading papers and books about A.I. and the future of work and the workforce. This past spring semester, I completed a final research paper for the ISE 5134 Management of Information Systems course about the connections between technological change – in particular in information technology and A.I. – productivity in the U.S., and the future of work. I believe that attending this workshop would not only further shape my thinking in A.I. and work, but also increase my ability to deal with economic ideas and issues that I will encounter in my research.