

Dr. Edmund Terem Ugar

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Introduction:

Dr Edmund Terem Ugar is a researcher and policy analyst specialising in artificial intelligence (AI) policies, ethics, governance, and regulations within the education and public health sectors in Africa. He has accrued extensive experience in turning complex information into clear, rigorous, coherent, logical, and client-ready writing. Dr Ugar's work sits at the intersection of technology, public policy, and human development, and he brings strong analytical skills (based on his philosophical studies), intellectual curiosity, and a commitment to ethical, context-aware solutions. Dr Ugar has a particular interest in education systems, AI literacy, and development from within and across Africa. He works collaboratively, learns quickly, values integrity and excellence, and appreciates mentorship in fast-paced, high-impact environments.

Research Interest

AOS: Applied Ethics, Artificial Intelligence (AI) Governance, Policy and Regulation, AI Ethics, Big Data, Generative AI, Language Models and Robotics.

Work Experience (Research)

2026

- Postdoctoral Researcher – School of Philosophy and Global Futures/AI Hub – North-West University
- Research Supervisor (Part-Time) – Postgraduate Diploma in Artificial Intelligence, The Management College of Southern Africa (MANCOSA). I am currently supervising seven students in the January-June intake.
- AI Ethics and Governance Fellow, Policy Innovation Centre, Abuja, Nigeria
- Africa AI Policy Fellow, Lawyers Hub & AI Policy Lab.

2025

- Research Supervisor (Fixed-Term) – Postgraduate Diploma in Artificial Intelligence, The Management College of Southern Africa (MANCOSA). I supervised six students this academic year, and all of them passed their research with distinctions.
- Policy Analyst (Fixed-Term) – Centre for Africa-China Studies, University of Johannesburg
- Artificial Intelligence Policy Advisor (Part-Time). Department of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg

2024

- Senior Researcher (Fixed-Term) on the project “Technology Transfer and Culture in Africa: Large Language Models in Focus.” Joint Project by the University of Johannesburg and University of Notre Dame-IBM Ethics Lab. April 2024 – April 2025.
- Research Advisor on AI policy in International Relations (Fixed-Term) – Centre for Africa-China Studies.

2022 – 2023

- Research Fellowship- Digital Medical Ethics Network, University of Tubingen and Potsdam, Germany. October-December 2023. Responsibility: Onsite researcher, attending weekly institute meetings and carrying out individual research
- Research Fellow- Centre for Philosophy of Epidemiology, Medicine, and Public Health-University of Johannesburg, South Africa and Durham University, United Kingdom. Responsibilities: Heading a Project on African Agency in Medical Artificial Intelligence and co-organising bi-annual symposia
- Research Assistant/Policy Analyst (Fixed Term), Centre for Africa-China Studies, University of Johannesburg, South Africa.

2021

- Research Assistant/Policy Analyst (Fixed – Term) – Centre for Africa-China Studies, University of Johannesburg
- Research Assistant - Philosophy Department's Ethics of AI Project, University of Johannesburg. Responsibilities: Researching Recent Materials on AI Ethics for the Group Discussions

2019 – 2020

- Research Assistant for the University of Johannesburg Philosophy Department's Ethics of AI Project. Responsibilities: Researching Recent Materials on AI Ethics for the Group Discussions

Education

2025

- **PhD Philosophy** (By five Research Publications – All double-blind peer reviewed and published) University of Johannesburg, South Africa.
Thesis title: Mitigating Discrimination and Exploitation in Medical Machine Learning Technologies: African Philosophical Tools to the Rescue
Supervisor: Prof Catherine Botha
Co-Supervisor: Prof Alex Broadbent
Examiners: Dr Thilo Hagendorff, University of Stuttgart
Prof Roberto DeRoock, University of California
Prof Titilola Ologede, National Open University, Nigeria

2022

- MA (No Corrections) – with distinction University of Johannesburg, South Africa.
Thesis title: Analysing Technological Colonialism in sub-Saharan Africa: Making a Case for a Combined Value Approach to the Design of AI
Supervisor: Prof Catherine Botha
Examiners: Prof Dr Ibo van de Poel, Tu Delft, Netherlands
Prof Munamoto Chemhuru, Great Zimbabwe University

2020

- BA Hons – With Distinction University of Johannesburg, South Africa.
Research Title: Jurisprudence in the Light of Ubuntu: An Appraisal of Laws Against Homosexuality
Supervisor: Prof Thaddeus Metz

2019

- BA Philosophy (Second Class Upper)
St. Joseph's Theological Institute (SJTI) NPC, Cedara, South Africa.

Some Selected Short Courses (Coursera)

2020

- Advanced Business Strategy
Darden School of Business, University of Virginia, United States
- Business Growth Strategy
Darden School of Business, University of Virginia, United States.
- Foundations of Business Strategy
Darden School of Business, University of Virginia, United States
- Initiating and Planning Projects
University of California, Irvine, United States
- Inspiring and Motivating Individuals
University of Michigan, United States.
- Moral Foundations of Politics
Yale University, Connecticut, United States.
- Philosophy, Science and Religion: Science and Philosophy
University of Edinburgh, Scotland
- Self-Awareness and the Effective Leader
Rice University, United States.
- Strategic Planning and Execution,
Darden School of Business, University of Virginia, United States
- Understanding Research Methods
University of London, United Kingdom

Lecturing Experience

2025

- Lecturer (fixed term), July-November: Department of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg. Course: Artificial Intelligence Ethics, Policy and Regulations. Class: Master's students in Engineering, Machine Learning, and Artificial Intelligence Designs. Responsibilities: Designing and teaching the Course; attending departmental meetings; managing a team of tutors; marking; and consultations with students.
- Lecturer (fixed term), July – November: Department of Philosophy, Northwest University. Course: Phenomenology and Continental Philosophy. Class: Second-year philosophy students. Responsibilities: Designing and teaching the Course; attending departmental meetings; managing a team of tutors; marking; and consultations with students.
- Lecturer (fixed term), February – June: Department of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg. Course: Introduction to Philosophy (Extended Degree Curriculum) and Philosophy of Technology (3rd year undergraduate degree). Responsibilities: Designing and teaching the Course (3rd year course); attending departmental meetings; managing a team of tutors (both modules); marking (both modules); and consultations with students (both modules).

2024

- Lecturer (fixed term), July-November – Department of Philosophy, Northwest University. Course:

- Social Construct of Reality. Class: Service Module for Second-Year Undergraduate Students. Responsibilities: Designing and teaching the Course; attending departmental meetings; managing a team of tutors; marking; and consultations with students.
- Lecturer (fixed term), February-July – Department of Philosophy, University of Pretoria. Course: Introduction to the Philosophy of Science and Medicine. Class: First-Year Medical/Health Sciences Students. Responsibilities: Designing and teaching the Course; attending departmental meetings; managing a team of tutors; marking; and consultations with students.

2023

- Guest Lecturer – Department of Philosophy, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. Theme: Bias in Machine Learning Technologies, Technological Colonialism, and the Personhood of Artificial Intelligence from an African Perspective (16th & 17th October)
- Guest Lecturer- Institute of Intelligent Systems and the Department of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg, South Africa. Theme: Ethical Issues in Artificial Intelligence: Sex Robots and Robot Friendship (11th October)
- Guest Lecturer- Institute of Intelligent Systems and the Department of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg, South Africa. Theme: Ethical Issues in Artificial Intelligence: Structural Bias (2nd August 2023).
- Lecturer (fixed term), April-June- Department of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg.
- Course: Value Theory/Ethics of Social Tech. Class: Second-Year Philosophy Students Responsibilities: Designing and Teaching the Course; Attending Bi-Monthly Meetings; Managing a Team of Tutors; Marking; Consultations with Students; Weekly Reports.
- Senior Teaching Assistant, Department of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg. Responsibilities: Tutoring undergraduate students, administrative activities in the department, and weekly consultations and mentorship with other tutors
- Guest Lecturer- Institute of Intelligent Systems and the Department of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg, South Africa. Theme: Core Ethical Theories in Technological Designs: African Ethical Theory Introduced (31st August).

2020-2

- Guest Lecturer- Department of Philosophy, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. Topic: The Personhood of AI: A Feminist Theoretical Perspective (13th April)
- Teaching Assistant-Department of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg, South Africa. Responsibilities: Teaching Ethics and AI Ethics for Undergraduate and Postgraduate Students.

Prizes and Awards

2025

- Commonwealth Scholarship – University of Johannesburg (R 80 000/ \$ 4323.59)
- University of Johannesburg Merit Bursary (R16 400/ \$932.83)

2024

- Recipient: Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg, Research Funds for Project on “Implications of Large Language Models in Higher Education within the Global South.” (R 60 000/\$ 3249.69)
- Co-Recipient: Notre Dame-IBM Technology Ethics Lab Funding for Project on “Technology Transfer and Culture in Africa: Large Scale Models in Focus (R 1 110 189/\$ 60 000)
- University of Johannesburg Merit Bursary (R16 400/ \$932.83)

2023

- Commonwealth Scholarship – University of Johannesburg (R 80 000/ \$ 4323.59)
- Humanities Dean’s Special Fund Scholarship for Doctoral Study.
- University of Johannesburg Merit Bursary (R16 400/ \$932.83)
- Best Tutor Award, Department of Philosophy. Best Tutor Certificate, University of Johannesburg.

2022

- University of Johannesburg’s Research Committee Scholarship, Total (R65,000/US\$3693.21)
- University of Johannesburg Merit Bursary (R10 700/ \$607.96)
- Dean’s Top Achiever Award, Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg.
- 1st Place Winner of the PhD Fourth Industrial Revolution Oral Presentation of the Research Capacity Development Postgraduate and Post-Doctoral Competition, Medal of Honour and (R5,000/\$280.31)
- Winner/Overall 1st Place (Chinese Ambassador Prize) of the Chinese Embassy Essay Competition for the University of Johannesburg Students, R30,000/\$1681.84
- Member of the Golden Key Honours Society
- University of Johannesburg Level Three CRLA Certificate (International Tutor Training Programme Certification).

2021

- University of Johannesburg’s Research Committee Scholarship, Total (R65,000/US\$3693.21)
- University of Johannesburg Merit Bursary, (R10 700/ \$607.96)
- University of Johannesburg Humanities Deans’ Top Achievers Award 2021
- University of Johannesburg Philosophy Department Tutoring Certificate 2020

2019-21

- Progetto Agata Smeralda Onlus Special Fund (Total US\$7800)
- University of Johannesburg Honours Bursary (R47,000/US\$2670)

Research Publications

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

2026

- Verhoef, A. & Ugar, E. (2026). Happiness in the AI age: Ricoeur and the question of the AI humanoid as the technological other. *Philosophies* 11(3), 83. <https://doi.org/10.3390/philosophies11030083>
- Ugar, E. & Mbanda, N. (2026). Promoting Responsible Ageing in South Africa: A Groundwork. *Ageing Horizon*. <https://www.ageing.ox.ac.uk/publications/view/963>
- Ugar, E. (2026). In Conversation with ‘Western’ Principlism in the Age of Healthcare Machine Learning: Transcending Individuality to Afro-Relationality. In: *The Palgrave Handbook on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence*, S Gouveia, ed. Cham: Springer.
- Ugar, E. & Masiza, Z. (Forthcoming). “A Roadmap Towards a Sub-Saharan African-BRICS Digital Teaching Methodology.” *Journal of BRICS Studies*.

2025

- Ugar, E. (2025). “On the ‘bullshit’ of the intelligent explosion and singularity discourse.” *South African Journal of Philosophy*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02580136.2025.2536950>

- A. Akpan, N. Akpan, & E. Ugar. (2025). Towards Ethical Use of Large Datasets for Actuarial Modelling in South. Proceedings of the Actuarial Convention. *South African Actuarial Journal*. <https://www.ajol.info/index.php/saaj/article/view/313211>
- de Oliveira, A., Geiger, L., & Ugar, E. (2025). “The United Nations General Assembly in a Multipolar World Order: An Analysis of Roll Call Votes on UNGA Resolutions Addressing Russia’s Military Actions in Ukraine.” *Chinese Political Science Review*, 1-38.
- Ugar, E. (2025). Promoting Responsible Use of AI in African Healthcare: Strengthening Patient Moral Agency.” *Asian Bioethics Review*, 1-20.
- Ugar, E. (2025). Challenges and Prospects of Deploying AI and Machine Learning for Clinical Diagnosis in African Healthcare.” *The Thinker*, 10(4):108-120.
- Azeez, A., Tokou, E. & Ugar, E. (2025). Resource Allocation for Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence Projects in African Context. In: *Trustworthy AI: African Perspectives*, D. Eke, K. Wakunuma, S. Akintoye, & G. Ogoh (eds.). Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, Pg 119-143
- Ugar, E. (2025). South Africa’s Xenophobia: A Call for an Ubuntu-Centred Intra-African Migration. (Special Issue). *Global Justice: Theory, Practice, and Rhetoric*, 15(1):20-430.

2024

- Ugar, E., & Malele, N. (2024). Designing AI for Mental Health Diagnosis: Responding to Critics. *Journal of Medical Ethics*. <http://jme.bmj.com/cgi/rapidpdf/jme-2024-110244?ijkey=D7i86emowdsDeIH&keytype=ref>
- Ugar, E. (2024). Towards a Human-Centred Approach to Data Extraction. Special Issue “Global Data, Law, and Decolonisation- Invited Contributor.” *Journal of Technology and Regulation*, 2024, 28-36. <https://doi.org/10.26116/techreg.2024.004>
- Ugar, E. & Malele, N. (2024). Designing AI for Mental Health Diagnosis: Challenges from Sub-Saharan African Value-Laden Judgment on Mental Health Disorders. *Journal of Medical Ethics*. <https://jme.bmj.com/content/early/2024/02/19/jme-2023-109711>

2023

- Kluge, N., Galvao, C., Santos, J., Del Pino, C., Pinto, E., Barbosa, C., Massmann, D., Mambrini, R., Galvao, L., & Ugar, E. (2023). Worldwide AI Ethics: A Review of 200 Guidelines and Recommendations for AI Governance. *Patterns*, 4(100857):1-14. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.patter.2023.100857>
- Ugar, E. (2023). Sex Robots and the Objectification of the Human Body: A Sub-Saharan African Perspective. *Arumaruka: Journal of Conversational Thinking*, 3(1):66-85.
- Ugar E. (2023). The Fourth Industrial Revolution and the Sub-Saharan African Response. *Filosofia Theoretica: Journal of African Philosophy, Culture, and Religions*, 12(1): 33-48, <https://dx.doi.org/10.4314/jft.v12i1.3>
- Ugar, E. (2023). Rethinking Remote Work, Automated Technologies, Meaningful Work and the Future of Work: Making a Case for Relationality. *Philosophy and Technology*, 36(32). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13347-023-00634-7>
- Ugar, E. & Bavaresco, A. (2023). Restoring Epistemic Credibility for Expert Communities in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Revista de Filosofia*, 40:238-249. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7860731>
- Ugar, E. (2023). Evidence-Based Medicine and Patient-Centred Care: A Patient’s Best Interest Analysis. *Revista Opiniao Filosofica*, 14:1-18. <https://doi.org/10.36592/opiniaofilosofica.v14.1072>
- Ugar, E. (2023). Law and Industry 4.0: Selected Perspectives on a New Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (Book Review). *Digital Policy Studies*, 1(2): 95-97.

2022

- Ugar, E. (2022). Remember Me: Memory and Forgetting in the Digital Age. *Journal of Ethics and*

- Emerging Technologies* 32(1):1-6.
- Ugar, E. (2022). Artificial Intelligence and African Normative Accounts of Personhood. In: Agemir, B. (ed.), *Bioethics, Neuroethics, & AI Ethics in a Post-Pandemic World*. Pp. 87-112. Porto Alegre: Editora Fundação Fenix.
 - Ugar E. (2022). The Epistemic Usefulness of Race in Approximating Disease in Medical Genetics. *Revista Opiniao Filosofica* 13(2022):1-17.

Opinion Articles and Policy Papers

- Verhoef, A. & Ugar, E. (2026). People are marrying holograms and making friends with chatbots. But can AI bring true happiness?" Conversation Africa. <https://doi.org/10.64628/AAJ.aywjgkc63>
- Ugar, E. (2025). In a therapy session with my African father. M&G. <https://mg.co.za/thought-leader/opinion/2025-08-08-in-a-therapy-session-with-my-african-father/>
- Ugar, E. (2025). Trump's colour-blind America: A dangerous illusion for people of colour. M&G. <https://mg.co.za/thought-leader/opinion/2025-02-05-trumps-colour-blind-america-a-dangerous-illusion-for-people-of-colour/>
- Ugar, E. & Klaas, Z. (2025). Therapy alone won't resolve men's mental health problems caused by socioeconomic stressors. M&G. <https://mg.co.za/thought-leader/opinion/2025-07-17-therapy-alone-wont-resolve-mens-mental-health-problems-caused-by-socio-economic-stressors/>
- Ugar, E. & Masiza Z. (2024). Sainly AI, is really the All-Knowing Oracle? Mail&Guardian. <https://mg.co.za/thought-leader/opinion/2024-12-06-saint-ai-is-it-really-the-all-knowing-oracle/>
- Ugar, E. & Masiza, Z. (2024). How Science Should Meet Politics in the 2024 General Election. Mail&Guardian. <https://mg.co.za/thought-leader/opinion/2024-04-22-how-science-should-meet-politics-in-the-2024-elections/>
- Ugar, E. (2023). The Undignified Trend of African Migration: A Crime Against Africans. *Independent Media/IOL*. <https://www.iol.co.za/news/politics/opinion/the-undignified-trend-of-african-migration-a-crime-against-africans-b4896a2b-fef6-4f02-aa55-002e08702e2b>
- Ugar, E. (2023). New Medical Technology Risk Exacerbating Inequalities. *Mail&Guardian*. <https://mg.co.za/thoughtleader/2023-07-31-new-medical-technologies-risk-exacerbating-inequalities/>
- Ugar, E. (2023). Reimagining the Fourth Industrial Revolution for Africa. *Joburg Post*. <https://www.joburgpost.com/articles/reimagining-the-fourth-industrial-revolution-for-africa>
- Ugar, E. (2023). Re-evaluating Meaningful Work in a Quiet Quitting Era. *Mail&Guardian*. <https://mg.co.za/thoughtleader/opinion/2023-07-13-re-evaluating-meaningful-work-in-a-quiet-quitting-era/>
- Ugar, E. (2023). Effective Method of Teaching Students in the Age of AI. *Mail&Guardian* <https://mg.co.za/thoughtleader/opinion/2023-06-25-effective-methods-of-teaching-students-in-the-age-of-ai/>.
- Ugar, E., & Matambo, E. (2022). South Africa's Data Sovereignty Regulations: Merits and Possible Limitations (Policy Brief 2). Johannesburg: University of Johannesburg Centre for African China Studies.
- Ugar E., & Matambo, E. (2022). China's Digital Security Law: Prospects and Recommendations (Policy Brief 1). Johannesburg: University of Johannesburg Centre for African China Studies.

Under Review and Publishers

- 'When the Dead Go Digital: Personal Identity of Deadbots in African Philosophical Thoughts' *Ethics and Information Technology*
- *Emerging Technology and Democracy in Sub-Saharan Africa: Addressing the Possible State of Panopticon*. (Book Chapter – Edinburgh University Press)

Work in Progress and Target Publishers

- ‘The Virtues AI Environment’ (Book – Harvard University Press [Target])
- ‘Towards a Fair Allocation of Healthcare Resources in South Africa’ (Journal Article – Philosophical Quarterly)
- ‘Mental Health, Algorithms, and Language: Forgetting the African’ (Journal Article - Synthesis)

Conferences, Workshops, Symposia, and Public Lectures

2026

- **Invited Convener:** University of Cape Town Ethics Lab Academic Retreat. Theme: Reimagining Responsibility: African Philosophy and the Ethics of Emerging Technologies. Stellenbosch, South Africa, 6-7 August 2026.
- **Invited Moderator:** North-West University Media Release. Theme: AI in Africa’s Classrooms: Empowering Education or an Overhyped Distraction? 25 June 2026
- **Invited Speaker:** AI Collectives. Title: AI, Happiness and the Other. Theme: Humans in AI Week, Barnard Inc Attorneys, Pretoria, South Africa, 4 June 2026
- **TEDx Speaker:** On the Shift from Human Relationships to Digital Companions. TEDx Sunninghill, Johannesburg. Theme: The Cradle of Humankind. 20th March 2026.
- **Invited Speaker and Panelist:** Applied Machine Learning Day. Talk: Whose Values Travel with Technology? Disruption, Power, Cultural and Democratic Sustainability in Africa. Wits University, Johannesburg, 26-29 January 2026.
- **Invited Panelist:** Data, Decolonisation & Digital Knowledge: AI in African Humanities. British Council and the University of Johannesburg, Commonwealth. 13 March 2026
- **Invited Panelist:** Living Digitally Well African Summit. Panel Title: Ethical AI for African Flourishing: Mental Health, Justice and Trustworthy Tech. 27-28 March 2026

2025

- **Invited Speaker:** Digital Innovation in Mental Health. Theme: “Belief Systems.” 22 July 2025.
- **Co-presenter** ‘Towards Ethical Use of Large Datasets for Actuarial Modelling in South. South African Actuarial Convention, Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, 5-6 November 2025.
- **Invited Keynote Speaker** “Regulating AI in Mental Health: An African Perspective.” IEEE Standard Association – University of Cape Town, Roamwork: 24th June 2025.
- **Invited Speaker** “Addressing Bias and Discrimination in Machine Learning Systems through Redistributive Justice” Nelson Mandela University Digital Humanities Hub: 21st May 2025.

2024

- **Invited Speaker** “Addressing Bias and Discrimination in Machine Learning Systems through Redistributive Justice” University of Cape Town, South Africa.
- **Invited Speaker** “Empowering Communities Through Open Access.” Navigating Open Access: Building Community Value in a Commercial World, University of Johannesburg Library and Academy of Science of South Africa: 24th October 2024.
- **Invited Research Visit:** “Ethics of Socially Disruptive Technologies” Partners across The Netherlands. Theme: “Artificial Intelligence African Philosophy of Technology.” Technical University Delft, Utrecht University, Wageningen University, the Netherlands: 7-11 October 2024.
- **Presenter** “Technology Transfer in Africa: What are the Implications?” Rethinking Ethics – Reimagining Technology, University of Twente, the Netherlands: 2-4 October 2024.
- **Presenter** “In Light of Medical Machine Learning Technology in Africa: African Agency Reconsidered.” 10th rTAIM Monthly Seminar, Online: 27th May 2024.

- Presenter “Artificial Intelligence and Medicine: African Philosophical Perspective and Regional Agency.” 11th International Philosophy of Medicine Roundtable, Online: 9th- 10th May 2024.
- **Invited Speaker** “Grounding Global Bioethical Policies on African Values.” 8th International Bioethics Colloquium: Bioethics, Neuroethics & AI Ethics, Porto Alegre, Brazil: 8th – 12th April 2024.
- Presenter “Towards an African-Centred Approach to Clinical Diagnosis.” 5th International Colloquium on Philosophy of Neuroscience. Rio, Brazil: 1st – 5th April 2024.
- Presenter “Artificial Intelligence and Medicine: African Philosophical Perspectives.” AI for Society Symposium: AI and Agency. Stellenbosch, South Africa: 16th January 2024.
- Presenter “Revisiting the Fair Inning Framework for Allocating Healthcare Resources: A Case of South Africa.” Philosophical Society of South Africa Annual Conference. Stellenbosch, South Africa: 17th -19th January 2024.

2023

- Public Lecture “Why the Afro-Relational Moral Theory Should Guide Bioethical, Biomedical, and Biotechnological Research and Design.” Institute for the Ethics and History of Medicine - University of Tübingen: 19th December 2023.
- Attended, “Artificial Intelligence, Trustworthiness, and Explainability Conference.” University of Tübingen: 24th & 26th October 2023
- Invited Co-Presenter, “Mentoring Temporary and Assistant Lecturers: Enriching the Teaching and Learning Experience.” University of Johannesburg Centre for Academic Development: 20th September 2023.
- Presenter, “Challenges and Prospects of Deploying AI and ML for Clinical Diagnosis in African Healthcare.” The 2nd Technology and Society in Africa Conference. Johannesburg: 19th-20th October.
- Invited Panelist, “The Counterfactuals of African Agency in Healthcare and Vaccine Production: Lessons from Evidence-Based Medicine.” 17th Biennial Conference and 50th Anniversary of African Association of Political Science “Geopolitics of Knowledge in the Covid-19 Era: A Window for Epistemic Tension and Self-Determination in Africa. Future Africa Campus, University of Pretoria-Pretoria: 12th-14th October 2023.
- Invited Speaker, University of Johannesburg Philosophy Colloquium Series, Johannesburg, South Africa: 13th September 2023.
- Presenter, “In Light of Medical Artificial Intelligence in Sub-Saharan Africa: Does Autonomy Matter?” Postgraduate Bioethics Conference: The Future of Bioethics. The University of Edinburgh and the Institute for Medical Ethics, Edinburgh, United Kingdom: 12th-13th June 2023.
- Presenter, “In Light of Medical Artificial Intelligence in Sub-Saharan Africa: Does Autonomy Matter?” Philosophy Society of Southern Africa Annual Conference; University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, South Africa; 16th -18th January 2023.
- Invited Keynote Speaker, “Developing Ethical Facial Recognition Technology for Clinical Diagnosis: A Rawlsian Approach.” 7th International Bioethics Colloquium: Bioethics, Neuroethics & AI Ethics, Porto Alegre, Brazil; 22nd -26th May 2023
- Presenter, “South Africa’s Xenophobia: A Call for an Ubuntu-Centred Intra-African Migration.” Migration and Ubuntu; University of Pretoria, Pretoria South Africa; 24th- 25th April 2023

2022

- Invited Keynote Speaker at the Essay Competition Awards Ceremony and Media Brief of the Communist Party of China in Pretoria-Chinese Embassy on 14th November
- Invited Keynote Speaker at the High-Level Dialogue of the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) in Pretoria-Chinese Embassy on 27th October 2022.
- Presenter, “Techno-Colonialism, and the Workspace: A Case for Sub-Saharan Africa.” Artificial

- Intelligence and the Future of Work; Delft University of Technology, Tu Delft, Netherlands; 21st-22nd September.
- Presenter, “Developing Facial Recognition Technology for Clinical Diagnoses: A Case for a Relational Moral Approach.” Research Capacity Development Postgraduate and Post- doctorate Annual Conference; University of Johannesburg; 16th September 2022.
 - Presenter, “Sex Robots and the Objectification of the Human Body: An African Perspective.” Second CFP-Technology and Sexuality-8th Annual International Conference of the Centre for Phenomenology in South Africa; 2nd -3rd September.
 - Presenter, “Technological Colonialism: A Case for Many Values AI”; Machines of Change: Robots, AI, and Value Change; Delft University of Technology, Tu Delft, the Netherlands; 1st- 3rd February
 - Presenter, “Artificial Intelligence and African Normative Accounts of Personhood, 6th International Bioethics Colloquium: Bioethics, Neuroethics & AI Ethics in a Post-Pandemic World; Pontifical Catholic University, Porto Alegre, Brazil; 1st-3rd December.

Professional Service/Activities

Peer Reviews (2022-6)

- Association for the Advancement of AI: 9th AAI Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society (Sweden)
- Oxford Encyclopedia of Global Public Health
- Philosophies (MDPI)
- Technology and Regulation
- South African Journal of Philosophy
- Medical Ethics
- Philosophy and Technology
- Filosofia Theoretica
- Data and Policy (Cambridge University Press)

Membership

- Philosophical Society of South Africa.
- Member of the AI Robotics Ethics Society (AIRES), Brazil. Responsibility: Research Collaborations.
- Institute of Business Advisors of Southern Africa

Conference Organisation

2024

- Co-organiser: Technology Transfer and Culture in Africa: Large Language Models in Focus.” Joint conference - University of Johannesburg and the University of Notre Dame-IBM Ethics Lab
- Organiser: Implications of Large Language Models in Higher Education within the Global South.” Workshop – University of Johannesburg

Leadership

2022-4

- Post-graduate Representative, Philosophy Department, University of Johannesburg.
- Secretary General – Nigerian Student Association, University of Johannesburg

2015 – 2016

- Participated in the Sharing Education and Leadership Learning Workshops, Ijebu-Ode Nigeria.
- Participated in Intercultural Living Seminars, Ijebu-Ode Nigeria.

Voluntary Service

2019 – 2023

- Community Engagement Service- Nelson Madella Day- Chris Hanni Hospital Soweto. In Partnership with the University of Johannesburg Community Engagement Office.
- Faces (Creating Global Awareness for Different Forms of Bullying). South African Broadcasting Corporation- SABC1
- Served on the Editorial Team of St Joseph's Theological Institute Academic Journal, *The Embizo*.

2015 – 8

- Volunteer Pastoral Caregiver, St. Mary's Hospital Marian-hill, South Africa.
- Volunteer Caregiver, Nigerian Prison Services, Ijebu-Ode, Nigeria.
- Volunteer Pastoral Caregiver, Nigerian Army, Ijebu-Ode Barracks

Media Appearances

2022 – 6

- Ugar Edmund. Technological Colonialism in Africa. Sputnik Africa (podcast). May 2026
Available: <https://en.sputniknews.africa/20260515/the-hidden-costs-of-technological-colonialism-in-africa--1085760238.html>
- Ugar, Edmund. Artificial Intelligence in Africa. NewzRoom Afrika. June 2023.
Available: <https://youtu.be/OpT2BbX-omE>
- Ugar, Edmund. Decolonising Education in Africa. *CGTN Africa*. 12th October 2022.
Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=weCeBIUpEE0>

Referees

Prof Catherine Botha

Professor of Philosophy,
University of Johannesburg
cbotha@uj.ac.za

Prof Alex Broadbent

Professor of Philosophy,
Durham University, UK
alex.broadbent@durham.ac.uk

Prof Hennie Lötter

Emeritus Professor of
Philosophy, University of
Johannesburg
hpplotter@uj.ac.za

Prof Moketsi Letseka

UNESCO Chair -Education,
University of South Africa, UniSA

letsem@unisa.ac.za

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