



Generative
AI

AI
Policies
Ethics
Regulations
Governance

SIG-IEP

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER REPORT

ASIS&T SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP IN SIG INFORMATION ETHICS AND POLICY
ISSUE 1 | NOVEMBER 2023 | VOLUME 1



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November 13, 2023

SIG-IEP ANNUAL NEWSLETTER REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear fellow SIG-IEP Officers and Members,

I am thrilled to share the SIG-IEP annual newsletter report and our exciting lineup of planned activities for 2024. This is your chance to stay updated on all the latest developments and participate in the discussion. We look forward to working with you and making 2024 a year of progress and success.

The annual business meeting on November 5, 2023, was a great success with all officers presents. The meeting provided a crucial opportunity for the officers to come together, brainstorm new ideas, and make important decisions for the benefit of SIG-IEP. By listening to each other's expertise, the new officers could share their insights, making the meeting an important milestone for the SIG-IEP in planning upcoming activities.

We are confident that we can make the most of the situation. With new planning activities in place, we are determined to optimize our resources and utilize them effectively for our 2024 activities. With careful planning, respect, honesty and collaboration, we can achieve our goals and ensure that our efforts are achievable and manageable.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jelina Haines

Catalyst 2030 Australasia Policy Advocacy

SIG-IEP Chair | ASIS&T Membership Committee | SIG Cabinet Steering Committee

email: jhaines8@gmail.com

website: <https://community.asist.org/people/jelina-haines1>



SIG Information Ethics and Policy (IEP)

SIG Information Ethics and Policy (IEP) helps ensure that ASIS&T members are aware of ethical issues, legislation, policies, governance and regulations affecting the information field and members of the information professions. SIG-IEP provides a digital space that encourages research on and discussion of current and emergent information ethics and policy issues as they affect society. The goal is to promote information awareness of public and private entities' state/provincial, national, and international policies (<https://www.asist.org/sig/sigiep/>)



SIG-IEP EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

WELCOME

2023-2024 SIG-IEP EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Please feel free to contact us.



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SIG-IEP

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Summary of SIG-IEP 2024 annual budget and expenses

SIG-IEP's current financial standing for 2024

Total available funds for 2024= \$2742.32

(Carryover from Prior Year 2023= \$1668.58, plus an annual allocation of 853.74 plus 200 (webinar income) = \$2742.32

Plan expenses 2024

Webinar - guest speaker honorary fee (non-member)	\$ 300.00
SIG-IEP Awards 2024	\$1100.00
SIG-IEP promotional materials	<u>\$ 700.00</u>
Total expenses	\$2600.00
Available funds for carryover (end of October 2024)	\$ 142.32

Note:

SIG-IEP Awards 2024

1. SIG-IEP Long Student Paper Award = \$600.00
 2. SIG-IEP Short Student Paper Award = \$400.00
 3. SIG-IEP Student Poster Award = \$100.00
- Total award: \$1100.00

The award is for next year's ASIS&T annual meeting...

87th Annual Meeting of the
Association for Information Science and Technology
25-29 October 2024
Calgary, Canada

Theme: Putting People First: Responsibility, Reciprocity and Care in
Information Research and Practice

Website: <https://www.asist.org/am24/>

Information Ethics and Policy

...J. Haines
Moral Principles led to shared decision-making and action

Information Ethics and Policy *....J.Haines*

In today's digital age, protecting information has become more crucial.

Ethics, policies, governance and regulations are interrelated. By implementing these principles, we can ensure that sensitive information remains secure and confidential and navigates online safely. **Ethics** focuses on **privacy, safety, fairness and accountability**.

Policies can be a valuable tool for establishing robust rules that **promote ethical principles and values** in mitigating the risks associated with information data.

Governance pertains to the set of **rules and procedures** that oversee the operation of an organisation or society, encompassing the development, implementation, and supervision of technological systems.

Regulations are laws or rules that governments enact to regulate the development, particularly the use of technology.

Ethical considerations in developing policies and regulations are fundamental to ensure adequate **information governance** is implemented, aligns with ethical principles, and identifies and mitigates potential negative consequences before they occur.



Ethics and policies in generative AI

....J.Haines

Generative AI is a powerful technology with the potential to revolutionize many industries. However, it also raises several ethical and policy concerns.

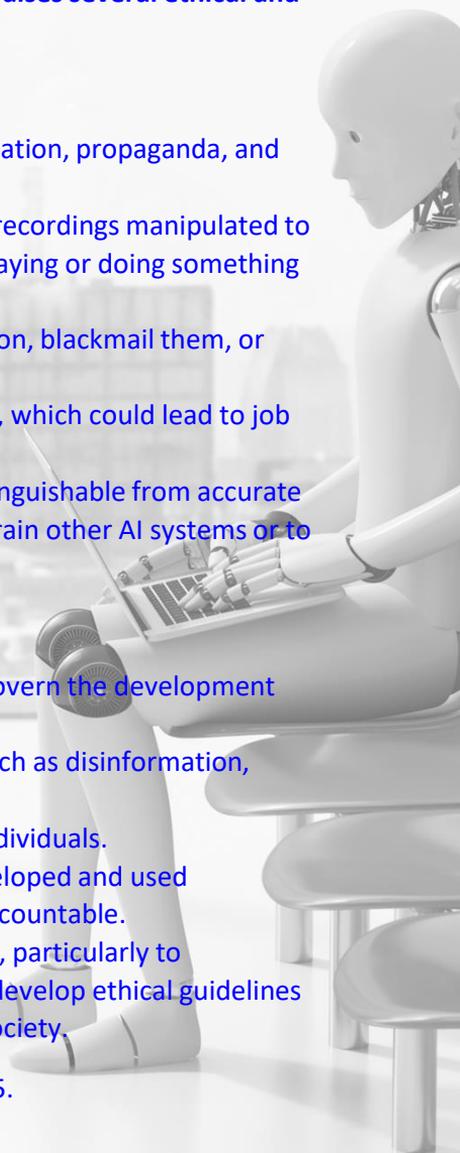
Generative AI's most significant concerns.

- creating harmful content, such as disinformation, propaganda, and hate speech, violating privacy rights.
- can be used to create fake videos or audio recordings manipulated to make them look or sound like someone is saying or doing something they never actually said or did.
- can be used to damage someone's reputation, blackmail them, or even interfere in elections.
- Automation of jobs and displacing workers, which could lead to job losses in a variety of industries.
- Can be used to create synthetic data indistinguishable from accurate data. This synthetic data could be used to train other AI systems or to impersonate real people.

Addressing the above concerns

- develop ethical guidelines and policies to govern the development and use of generative AI.
- Prevent the creation of harmful content such as disinformation, propaganda, and hate speech.
- Informed policy to protect the privacy of individuals.
- Ensure that generative AI systems are developed and used responsibly, ethically, transparently, and accountable.
- public dialogue about these issues is crucial, particularly to marginalised communities, so that we can develop ethical guidelines and policies that reflect the values of our society.

Further reading of the issues is located on slide 15.



SIG-IEP activity plan for 2023-2024

The membership count of SIG-IEP has now risen to 352.

Activities achieved for the remaining months of 2023

- Annual Newsletter Report completed
- SIG-IEP Officer's Role and Responsibilities are now completed, shared with the new officers, and posted in SIG-IEP iConnect Library Folder for future reference.
- SIG-IEP ByLaws have been drafted and sent to Pamela for approval, and we are awaiting a response.
- SIG-IEP Project Business Meeting scheduled On 26th of November 2023

Activities plan for 2024

- brainstorming for a special project funding application and a fortnightly meeting is arranged in preparation for the ASIS&T Special Project grants application.
- Create SIG-IEP email address. Create and update Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube pages and SIG-IEP website
- Drafting the award selection criteria and guidelines (March - post the SIG-IEP call for award paper submission)
- Preparation for SIG-IEP annual reporting
- SIG-IEP newsletter frequency (2 newsletters plus 1 annual newsletter report in a total of 3 newsletters in a year).
- 4 webinars in a year – 1 upcoming webinar is scheduled in January
- Intention for submitting panel discussion for the ASIS&T 87th annual meeting in Calgary, Canada, 2024

Brainstorming for SIG-IEP Project

The current discussion and tentative title is focused on marginalised communities:

“Tracing the Digital Resources and Connecting the Historically Marginalised Communities and their Scholarly Literature”, which will focus on Ethics, Policies, Assessment and Governance.

SIG-IEP Members are invited to brainstorm ideas related to the tentative title.



STAY TUNED....UPCOMING WEBINAR 2024

GUEST SPEAKER



NINA ROSSI
PRINCIPAL LAWYER

Nina Rossi has worked briefly in government for IP Australia as a trademark examiner and then the following 12 years in private practice across various legal fields, including business/corporate law, disputes, franchising, and intellectual property. However, Nina's first interests have always been in the space of Intellectual Property and digital. Nina has largely worked from Sydney, NSW, but has assisted clients across Australia and internationally. Such clients have ranged from SME businesses to larger FMCG retail chains, particularly in regard to franchising work. Nina also presently works on contract as an in-house counsel, assisting with contracting and all aspects of large business legal and operational/compliance requirements.

Webinar title:

AI and Law/Regulation in Australia and Globally – The Trajectory to date



SIG-IEP MEMBER'S COLUMN



The spectrum of semantic and syntactic labour

Julian Warner

It concludes that the knowledge created puts us in a 'better place to address Norbert Wiener's challenge, 'render unto man the things which are man's and unto the computer the things which are the computer's' (Wiener, 1964/1966, p.73). As a preliminary position, we might stress and then make productive use of the human capacity for connection and combination while drawing on the potential for discrimination or separation and on the scale of activities computationally possible. We emphasised the complementarity of human semantic labour and machine syntactic processes (Journal of Documentation. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JD-03-2023-0057>)

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