



Work in the Age of Intelligent Machines

Join our NSF-funded project on
Work in the Age of Intelligent Machines (NSF 17-45463).

The project addresses the interaction between **work** and technology design in the age of intelligent machines. By **intelligent machines**, we mean autonomous machines, such as robots and vehicles, as well as the embedding of algorithms and machine learning processes to support autonomous behavior by intelligent systems of all kinds.

The specific goal of the project is to build a **research coordination network** (RCN) that will bring together investigators from computer science, engineering, the social and behavioral sciences and beyond, to communicate, coordinate and integrate their research and educational activities across disciplinary and organizational boundaries.

More ambitiously, our charge from NSF is to facilitate **research convergence**, the integration of knowledge, techniques, and expertise from multiple fields to form new and expanded frameworks. Only convergent research can simultaneously consider technical, individual, group, organizational, and societal issues to build the deep and systematic knowledge required to engage the complex questions that need to be addressed to design work that best leverages expanding technological capabilities of intelligent machines, and to design technologies that best serve work and workers. To achieve the aim of growing a network and incubating novel and necessary convergent research, the network will support three diverse activities over its five-year term.

1. An annual **Convergence Conference** to highlight the contribution of convergent research on the socio-technological landscape of work in the age of increased automation. *Autonomous Vehicles in Society*, to be held at Michigan State University in East Lansing MI, 18-19 May 2018 (see <https://waim.network/AVS18> for details). **PhD students can apply for a travel grant to support attendance.**
2. **Workshops** at varied disciplinary conferences to expand the reach of the network and to consolidate, test, verify and evolve research ideas as they develop. Workshop at the European Conference on Information Systems on Hybrid Intelligence, 25 June 2018 in Portsmouth UK. Check the website for announcements of future workshops.
3. **Shared online resources** to support the community and its research efforts. The website <https://waim.network/>; a listserv (see <https://waim.network/listserv> for to join) and a Twitter feed (@waimrcn).

Join the network now by signing up on the website

<https://waim.network/user/register> (or the QR code below).

Joining the network as a participant means simply that you are interested in the topic, want to hear about our events (workshops and conferences) and might want to connect with like-minded researchers. Or become an **active participant** by attending the conferences or workshops or by contributing resources to the website. Or contact us to become a **network leader**, by organizing a workshop at a conference in your area or contributing to an annual conference. NSF funding is available to help.

Steering committee: Kevin Crowston, Ingrid Erickson, Jeff Nickerson
(waimrcn@gmail.com)

