

BSBI Gazette

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Editorial



Professor Dr Kyriakos Kouveliotis FRSA
Provost & Chief Academic Officer,
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For this week's Editorial, I'm sharing one of the most amazing poems by E. E. Cummings, called:

"I carry your heart with me".

I carry your heart with me (I carry it in
my heart) I am never without it (anywhere
I go you go, my dear; and whatever is done
by only me is your doing, my darling)
fear
no fate (for you are my fate, my sweet) want
no world (for beautiful you are my world, my
true)
and it's you are whatever a moon has always
meant
and whatever a sun will always sing is you

here is the deepest secret nobody knows
(here is the root of the root and the bud of
the bud
and the sky of the sky of a tree called life;
which grows
higher than soul can hope or mind can hide)
and this is the wonder that's keeping the
stars apart

I carry your heart (i carry it in my heart)

Photo of the Week



Inspirational Quotes

The trouble with not having a goal is that you can spend your life running up and down the field and never score.

— **Bill Copeland**

The most important thing in communication is hearing what isn't said.

— **Peter Drucker**

The best executive is the one who has sense enough to pick good men to do what he wants done, and self-restraint to keep from meddling with them while they do it.

— **Theodore Roosevelt**



In the middle of
every difficulty
lies
opportunity.

— **Albert Einstein**

Article of the Week



Dr Anastasios Fountis

Head of Undergraduate Studies

Areas of expertise:

Business; STEM Studies; Cybernetics

HAIKU

1. In-tro-du-cti-on (5)

Definition: A haiku is a type of poetry that is brief, does not have rhyming couplets, and has three lines that total seventeen syllables, in the form of 5-7-5 Japanese characters. Traditionally, a haiku captures a fleeting moment in time and incorporates a *kireji*, which is translated as a "cutting word" and serves to pause the reader or provide a feeling of conclusion.

Prevalent Themes: Historically, haikus were frequently written about natural settings and the passing of the seasons. As time progressed, poets started experimenting with a wider variety of topics in their haikus. It is common for the poem to concentrate on a brief moment and juxtapose different images for the purpose of creating a dramatic effect and this is valid for both traditional and contemporary haikus.

2. Ex-amp-les, T-y-pes, Forms (7)



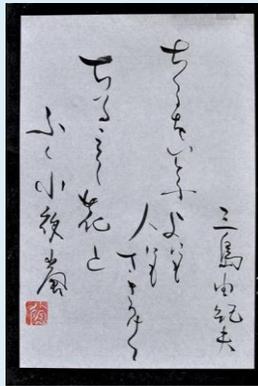
2.1 Matsuo Bashō: "Old Pond"

古池や蛙飛び込む水の音
ふるいけやかわずとびこむみずのおと
furu ike ya kawazu tobikomu mizu no oto

The 5-7-5 Rule with translation:

fu-ru-i-ke ya (5) **old pond**
ka-wa-zu to-bi-ko-mu (7) **frog leaps in**
mi-zu-no-o-to (5) **water's sound**

2.2 Yukio Mishima's *jisei* (death poem), written 24/11/70



散るをいとふ世にも人にもさきがけて
散るこそ花と吹く小夜嵐
Chiru o itofu (5)
Yo ni mo hito ni mo (7)
Sakigakete (5)
Chiru koso hana to (7)
Fuku sayoarashi (5)

A small night storm blows
Saying 'falling is the essence of a flower'
Preceding those who hesitate

3. Con-ver-sa-ti-on (5)

Writing in three lines (5)
with seventeen syllables (7)
might not be haiku.(5)

THE INVESTOR'S HAIKU

FI-NA-NCE TROU-BLES (5)
E-CO-NO-MIC MESS SOON (7)
WHAT I DO NO-W? (5)

THE WORKER'S HAIKU

RO-BOTS ARE CO-MING (5)
FULL OF FE-AR I SLE-EP (7)
MY JOB WILL CHA-NGE (5)

THE SCIENTIST'S HAIKU

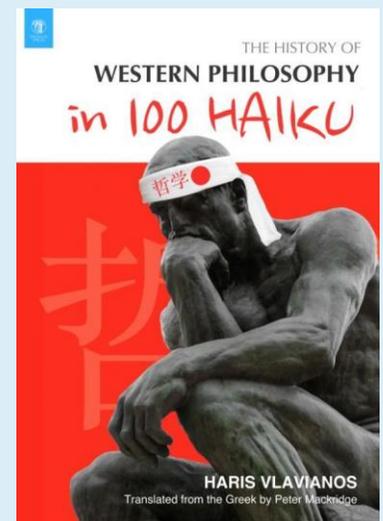
ALL DARK A-RO-UND (5)
THE U-NI-VER-SE EX-PANDS (7)
PA-RTI-CLES FORM US (5)

THE BSBI STUDENT'S HAIKU

IN BI ES BI AI (5)
STU-DENTS THERE, LE-ARN A-ROUND (7)
WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP? (5)

Links

- <https://thehaikufoundation.org/some-thoughts-on-line-and-syllable-count-in-english-language-haiku/>
- <https://education.yourdictionary.com/for-teachers/teach-kids-how-to-write-haiku.html>
- <https://www.grammarly.com/blog/how-to-write-haiku/>
- <https://runawayhorses.tumblr.com/post/147250937894/yukio-mishimas-jisei-death-poem-written>
- <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/25793409-the-history-of-western-philosophy-in-100-haiku>
- <https://nippoem.com/>



Websites of the Week

- 🕒 [Research Management Systems](#)
- 🕒 [Information Management: Whatness](#)
- 🕒 [IT Security: Why it's Important?](#)
- 🕒 [Leadership Styles](#)
- 🕒 [What are Mental Models?](#)

Videos of the Week



Knowledge Management in Business



Product Management Fundamentals



HR Management in 10 Minutes

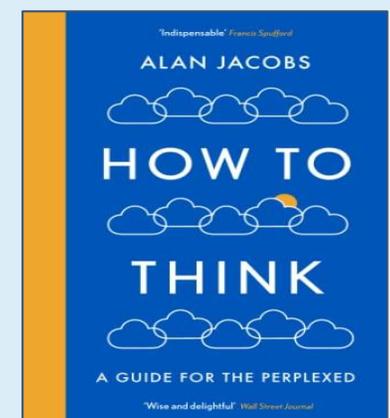
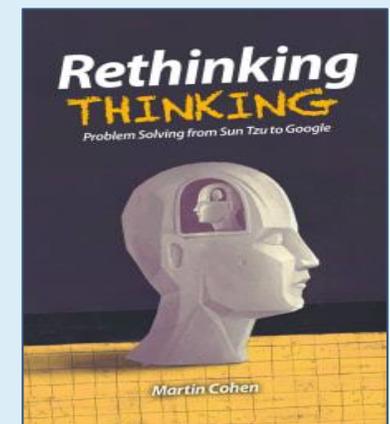
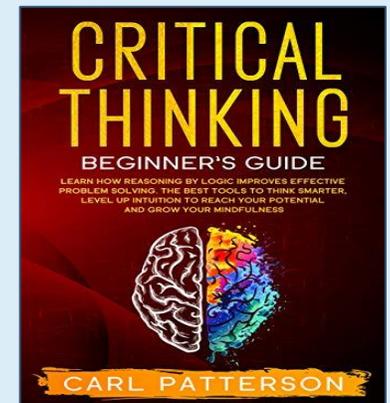
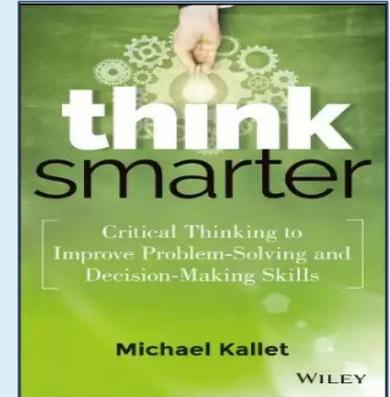


Mastering Marketing



Build your Confidence

Books of the Week



**BERLIN SCHOOL OF
BUSINESS & INNOVATION**

Week in Review

All you need to know about everything that matters



Dr Loubna Ali
Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Computer Networks, Information & Networks
Security, Information Systems

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Contemporary approaches to information systems

The study of management information systems was originated in the seventies and its main objective was to encourage the use of computer-based information systems in companies. Management information systems relied on three pillars: computer science, management science and operations. Contemporary approaches to information systems have described the technical approach as minor and suggested adding the behavioural aspect of information systems to the technical side. The goal of the contemporary approach has been to take advantage of behavioral issues in developing and maintaining information systems since problems such as strategic business design, implementation, use and management cannot be fully explored using a technical approach alone.

Behavioural disciplines such as economics, psychology, and sociology can also contribute critical concepts and processes. For example, economists study the impact of using information systems on the cost of products. On the other hand, psychologists are interested in how human decision-makers understand and use information. They also study the psychological state of employees and the effect of good working conditions on people's productivity.

Finally, sociologists study information systems in search of how teamwork can motivate the development of systems and also how these different systems affect individuals, groups, and organisations. The behavioural approach does not completely ignore technology. In fact, information systems technology is often the cause of a particular

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behavioural issue or problem. But the core of this approach is usually not geared towards technical solutions. Instead, it focuses on modifying attitudes, management, organisational policies and behaviour.



Dr Niloufar Aminpour
Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Gender Studies, 20th Century American
Drama, Literary Criticism

CULTURE / LITERATURE

The Relationship between Culture and Literature

Culture and literature are closely intertwined, as literature often reflects and shapes cultural values, beliefs, and practices. Literature is a powerful tool for understanding culture, as it provides insights into the ways in which people think, feel, and interact with each other and their environment. Culture refers to the shared beliefs, values, customs, and practices of a particular group of people, often shaped by history, geography, and social structures. Literature, on the other hand, encompasses a wide range of written and oral works, including novels, poetry, drama, and folklore.

It is often seen as a reflection of culture, providing a window into the social and cultural context in which it was produced. For example, the works of William Shakespeare are often viewed as reflecting the values and beliefs of Elizabethan England, with themes such as honour, duty, and love reflecting the social mores of the time. In turn, literature can also shape culture, as it has the power to influence attitudes, beliefs, and behaviours. Literature can also provide a platform for the expression of cultural identity and values. Many works of literature are rooted in specific cultural traditions and experiences, and they serve as a means of preserving and transmitting cultural knowledge and heritage. For example, the works of African American writers such as Toni Morrison and James Baldwin have played a

significant role in the articulation of African American identity and culture in the United States. Literature can also serve as a means of cultural critique and resistance. Writers have used their works to challenge dominant cultural norms and practices and to promote social justice and equality.

Finally, the relationship between culture and literature is complex and multifaceted. Literature can both reflect and shape cultural values and practices, providing insights into the social and cultural context in which it was produced, as well as serving as a means of preserving and transmitting cultural knowledge and heritage. Literature can also be a platform for the expression of cultural identity and values, as well as a means of critique and resistance against dominant cultural norms and practices.



Dr Mariusz Dramski
Dean of the Faculty of
Computer Science and Informatics

Areas of expertise:

Artificial Intelligence, Data and Process Mining,
Project Management

CYBERCRIME

Why do people fall for online scams?

In the media, we constantly find information about online scams and how to avoid them. We think we know everything. After all, we do not click on suspicious links, we do not reply to e-mails from strange addresses. Nevertheless, scammers come up with new manipulation techniques all the time. What are the main reasons why we let ourselves be deceived? First of all, lack of awareness. We just don't know we're being robbed. Criminals also use techniques such as emotional manipulation, exploiting our trust in power and authorities, lack of skepticism, technological illiteracy. Consider whether you are vulnerable to online fraud. We may think we are aware. We can even be specialists in IT security. But unfortunately we are vulnerable. We might just be having a bad day. We cannot

eliminate the risk, but we can take steps to reduce it. You must not share personal data, you must not click on suspicious links, etc. Sometimes the professionalism of scammers is really impressive - the scammer knows our data, knows the management structure of our company, and knows the circumstances. Then even an e-mail from a suspicious address ceases to seem suspicious to us. If you fall victim to a scam, don't be ashamed. Let's warn friends and family, let's inform the police. Even if we don't get our money back, we always have the opportunity to share our knowledge on how to avoid fraud in the future.



Dr Balaganesh Duraisamy

Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Database Systems, Artificial Intelligence, Li-Fi Technology

MACHINE LEARNING / DATA MINING

Best Data Mining and Machine Learning Open-Source Tools

RapidMiner: A powerful data mining tool that enables everything from data mining to model deployment, and model operations. Data science platforms like RapidMiner provide visual, code-free, and automated approaches for data preparation and modelling to help pave the way for these users to be productive. RapidMiner supports both visual data science and coding while enabling and governing the integration of both approaches and collaboration among respective users so they can be productive as a team.

Orange: An open-source data mining tool that is widely used for data analysis, visualisation, and machine learning. It is a powerful tool that provides a user-friendly interface for data exploration, preprocessing, modelling, and result visualisation. Some advantages of using the Orange data mining tool are that it's easy to use, has a large number of algorithms, comprehensive data visualisation, integration with other tools, open-source and community support.

WEKA: WEKA® (Waikato Environment for Knowledge Analysis) Data Platform can accelerate and simplify your innovation, research, or discovery in the cloud, on-premises, or bursting between platforms. Deploy WEKA on your cloud or server of

choice to help make your GPU and CPU compute clusters mind-bendingly fast and overcome complex data challenges to achieve first-to-market results. WekaFS is a POSIX(Portable Operating System Interface)-compliant high-performance clustered, parallel file system that has been built from the ground up to run natively on NVMe based storage. It leverages high-performance networking – either Ethernet or InfiniBand – to fully saturate the network links for maximum performance. It is an ideal solution for performance-intensive applications that demand high I/O and high concurrency to multiple clients. It is in widespread use across areas such as Life Sciences, Financial Analytics, GPU-based ML, DL and AI applications, EDA (Electronic Design Automation), and HPC (High-performance computing) applications.

KNIME: KNIME build software to create and productionise data science using one easy and intuitive environment, enabling every stakeholder in the data science process to focus on what they do best. Blend different data types: strings, integers, images, text, networks, sound, molecules, and more. Connect to all major databases and data warehouses such as SQL Server, Postgres, MySQL, Snowflake, Redshift, BigQuery, and more. Blend large data volumes: import and export HDFS data and perform SQL analytics within Hive and Impala, or create and run Apache Spark applications within KNIME.

Rattle: Rattle is a popular GUI for data mining using R. It presents statistical and visual summaries of data, transforms data so that it can be readily modelled, builds both unsupervised and supervised machine learning models from the data, presents the performance of models graphically, and scores new datasets for deployment into production. A key feature is that all of your interactions through the graphical user interface are captured as an R script that can be readily executed in R independently of the Rattle interface. Use it as a tool to learn and develop your skills in R and then to build your initial models in Rattle to then be tuned in R which provides considerably more powerful options. Rattle is Free (as in Libre) Open Source Software and the source code is available from the Bit bucket git repository.



Dr Kamyar Esmaeili Nasrabadi

Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Human Resource Management, Business Management, Tourism, Customs

ORGANISATIONAL COMMUNICATION

In this edition, we will review *Empathy* in communication. Empathy is a crucial communication skill that is often overlooked but is essential for creating strong interpersonal relationships and improving workplace dynamics. Without empathy, it is difficult to establish and maintain good relationships, as empathy is the foundation of understanding and connecting with others on an emotional level. It is the ability to understand and share the feelings, thoughts, and experiences of others, and it requires active listening, open-mindedness, respect, and self-reflection. Active listening is the foundation of empathy. It involves giving someone your full attention, trying to understand their perspective, and responding appropriately. When you actively listen, you demonstrate that you value and respect their opinion, and this can help to build trust and rapport.

Open-mindedness is another critical component of empathy. Being open-minded means being willing to consider other people's perspectives, even if they differ from your own. This is especially important in diverse workplaces where people come from different backgrounds and cultures. When you are open-minded, you show that you are willing to learn from others, and this can help to foster a positive and inclusive workplace culture. Respect is also an essential element of empathy. When you respect someone, you acknowledge their thoughts, feelings, and experiences, even if you don't necessarily agree with them. This can help to create a sense of psychological safety, where people feel comfortable sharing their ideas and concerns. Finally, self-reflection and self-awareness are key to improving empathy. When you reflect on your thoughts, feelings, and biases, you become more aware of how they may influence your interactions with others. This can help you to identify areas for improvement and to become more empathetic towards others. Empathy is a vital communication skill that can help to improve workplace relationships, foster a positive organizational culture, and diffuse conflicts. To improve empathy, individuals must practice active listening, open-mindedness, respect, and self-reflection. By doing so, they can build

stronger relationships with others and contribute to a more productive and collaborative work environment.

There is an interesting article [here](#), entitled Empathy, communication, deception, which is worth reading.



Mostafa Gaballa
Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Tourism, Hospitality, Travel

TOURISM

To mark International Women's Day, the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and UN Women have jointly reaffirmed their commitment to keep women's empowerment 'Centre Stage' of tourism development.

UNWTO research has previously shown the enormous potential of the tourism sector to empower women of all backgrounds. Fifty-four per cent of the global tourism workforce is female, the gender-wage gap is lower in tourism, and the proportion of women in leadership roles is higher than in other sectors. However, much progress is still to be made. Women are still concentrated in lower-paid, precarious, and often informal work. Furthermore, UNWTO research has revealed that the COVID-19 pandemic hit women in tourism harder than men. For instance, women were more likely to lose their job, have their hours or pay reduced and shoulder more care responsibilities in all the countries surveyed. For more information click [here](#).

UNWTO Secretary-General, Zurab Pololikashvili, said "UNWTO has worked with our partners to study and document the huge contribution women make to tourism. Now it is time for tourism to give back. With the 'Centre Stage' model we can help the sector work for women, and we will not stop until the girls of tomorrow have the same opportunities as the men of today."

The pioneering 'Centre Stage' project was launched in 2021 to address this imbalance and expand tourism's place in the development agenda and women's empowerment. Created by UNWTO, BMZ and UN Women, the project is geared towards creating a people-centred model for tourism development that puts the needs of women at its heart. In bringing together the public sector with tourism businesses and civil society organisations, the project directly trained 1,800 people, saw

2,826 women get a promotion, surveyed 27,000 people, and reached over 20 million in a global awareness raising campaign.



Swati Jeevan

Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Economics & Business Administration

Areas of expertise:

Information Technology, Innovation, Digital Transformation

BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY

What is Blockchain?

Most of us think of blockchain as a cryptocurrency because when we read or listen to the word about blockchain, the earliest term that comes to mind is Bitcoin. Nevertheless, they are two distinct things. But indeed Cryptocurrency is an application which is built on blockchain technology. This system's name accurately describes its structure. A series of blocks that hold data in chronological sequence make up its major part. It uses distributed ledger technology (DLT), which means that each node linked to the blockchain stores a copy of the chain. A network of nodes is called the blockchain. The nodes are hardware components that use software to connect to that blockchain. Every data exchange or transaction that takes place on the blockchain is verified by nodes. Blockchain is a decentralized and open system since the majority of public blockchains permit anybody to set up and run a node.

How does the blockchain function?

Blockchain's security and immutability add value for businesses. It offers businesses a centralized source of trust and can facilitate communication between businesses. Blockchain is just a cryptocurrency in the eyes of many. It can actually offer a lot of stability and has much more promise than this.

The fact that public blockchains are readily available and generally anonymous is one factor that deters many individuals. Issues with fraud, identity theft, and criminality may result from this. The development of private blockchains, however, represents the finest use of blockchain in commerce.

The most important blockchain Applications.

Blockchain may be used in a variety of business models. It may include everything from voting, governance, and education to intellectual property protection, data archiving, and contract interchange. Only a small portion of how blockchain might benefit businesses is represented by

cryptocurrencies. It can offer a trustworthy source, an unchangeable database, and a method of protecting the sensitive data we need to protect. Because of one thing—blockchain alone doesn't repair anything—blockchain has practically endless applications. Our treatment of data may change if a platform were powered by blockchain. For instance, supply chain tracking cannot be supported by blockchain alone. A platform which delivers operational effectiveness and data analytics. Yet it isn't secure, and there's no way to trust the data. Blockchain aids with optimisation, security, and support.

How Blockchain Might Reduce Costs for Your Company? The primary advantages of blockchain for many SMBs (Small to mid-Sized Businesses) are essentially practical—they include cost savings, increased productivity, and more. Early supporters of the blockchain have praised the advantages of managing identification on the decentralized ledger. The transition to a ledger-based ID system might swiftly solve the challenges caused by the obsolete and attack-prone nature of current systems. SMBs should take extra precautions to protect their operational and customer data since any breach might be disastrous or financially ruinous. Utilising the blockchain's encrypted storage makes it far simpler to safeguard your data. Because blockchain is decentralised, hackers will find it much harder to attack the system or even decipher a user's private information. You may also strengthen internal security by implementing stronger identification mechanisms.

There are businesses that employ digital ID and know-your-customer (KYC) technologies to build simple identification systems for businesses of all sizes. This enhances data accessibility, transparency, and IT cost management while continuing to adhere to the toughest certification standards. As a result of emerging from the shadow cast by cryptocurrencies, blockchain is now capable of realizing its full potential. There are many ways blockchain is already a force for change, but nowhere is this influence more obvious than in SMB operations. Without a plan, entering the blockchain world may appear dangerous, but the rewards might unquestionably be great.

References

- Heitner, D., Heitner, D. and F. and Legal, H. (2018). How Blockchain Can Save Your Business Money. [Link](#)
- Clark-Potter, K. (2020). Is Blockchain Technology Worth It? - Blockhead Technologies. [Link](#)
- Ali, F. (2022). The Top 6 Problems With Blockchain Technology. [Link](#)



Dr Ali Kamali
Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Information Systems; Project Management;
Supply Chain Management

ONLINE LEARNING

Online learning is used as an alternative to traditional in-class learning. Many countries around the world now use online learning to help students avoid missing classes under any circumstances. According to a study conducted by the author in 2019, students' initial perceptions of learning and perceived satisfaction with regard to student-teacher interaction and student-school interaction through using technology-based e-Learning. The research was conducted using both quantitative and qualitative methods to investigate the effectiveness of using online learning through conducting an empirical study to obtain primary data directly from students in order to evaluate a research gap for which the online learning project during lockdown needs to be addressed for better implementation in the future. According to the outcomes obtained through both quantitative and qualitative research, especially what was found through the primary data, some students expressed their concerns about internet connections and the difficulty of learning some subjects through online learning. Therefore, the author recommends the following developments for better online learning in the future:

- Provide broadband and WiFi in student households free of charge and provide access during a semester course.
- Strengthen student-teacher interaction through direct chats from a teacher to a student during the fall to build a friendly relationship that will help students ask any questions that need more explanation.
- Strengthen student-school interaction in order to stay updated on any issues that could be faced by students.
- Using a real-time summary on a weekly basis to monitor students and course progress. Schools and teachers are suggested to consider regular real-time responses from students in order to provide valuable insights into the students' opinions and help them understand their grasp of the content.

- It is highly recommended to create immersive online learning courses to cover a massive amount of information in front of students because the approach seeks to engage them on a deeper level of understanding and learning.
- Immersive learning offers a stimulating learning environment that often features games, stories, and interactive content mimicking real-life situations, and hence students can enormously expand their understanding and application of academic concepts.
- Teachers should be flexible regarding daily homework in order not to put pressure on students and consider family priorities at the same time. Also, it's important for teachers to be flexible with students by being more accommodating about when and how students submit assignments.
- Using blended learning as an approach to engage students in the learning process can help both teachers and students exchange skills before starting new topics. Also, the approach could enhance student engagement and learning through online activities integrated into the course curriculum and improve effectiveness and efficiency by reducing course time.
- Provide trainings for students who need to get familiar with the online learning applications and platforms, or those who engage in the online learning environment for the first time, and that should be arranged before the new fall semester.



Dr Konstantinos Kiousis
Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Human Resource Management, Leadership,
Counselling & Career Guidance, Modern
Educational Approaches

CULTURAL ICON

The significance of number 42.

The number 42 has become a cultural icon, particularly in the science fiction community, due to its association with Douglas Adams' novel, "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy." There, a supercomputer named Deep Thought is tasked with calculating the answer to the ultimate question of life, the universe, and everything.

After much contemplation, Deep Thought finally reveals that the answer is 42. While the number 42 may seem arbitrary, there have been attempts to connect it to various scientific phenomena. For example, in physics, 42 is associated with the famous equation known as the "Feynman diagram," which describes the behavior of subatomic particles and is used to calculate the probability of particle interactions in the study of particle physics. In astronomy, 42 is the number of years it takes for light to travel from one end of our galaxy to the other. This is known as the "galactic year" or "cosmic year" and it is an important unit of time used by astronomers to measure the movements of stars and other celestial objects.

In mathematics, 42 is a pronic number, meaning that it is the product of two consecutive integers and is also the sum of the first six odd numbers, as well as the sum of the first three terms of the sequence of natural numbers raised to the power of two. Ultimately, the significance of the number 42 and the ultimate question of life, the universe and everything, is a matter of interpretation and imagination. While it may have originated as a humorous literary device, it has captured the curiosity and fascination of many individuals and serves as a reminder of the vast mysteries that the universe holds.



Dr Monika Klein

Dean of the Faculty of Creative Industries

Areas of expertise:

Design Management, Creative Industries

AI & ART

Ist das Kunst oder kann das weg? AI generated art.

The question of whether something is considered art or not has been a topic of discussion in contemporary art for a long time. This inquiry often arises when certain works of art do not conform to traditional standards of what is considered art.

The question "Is this art or can it go?" originated from the accidental destruction of two works by Joseph Beuys, a German artist and former director of the Düsseldorf Art Academy. The first incident occurred in 1973, during a celebration at the "Museum für Gegenwartskunst Morsbroich" in Leverkusen, when two female SPD politicians mistakenly cleaned an old tub that Beuys had designed as an art installation.

The second incident happened in 1986 when Beuys' art piece called "Fettecke" was mistakenly disposed of, and sources vary on whether it was the janitor or cleaning lady at the Düsseldorf Art Academy who was responsible for the mishap.

Is this art?

Marcel Duchamp, a French-American artist, gained fame for his artwork "Fountain," which he showcased at an art exhibition in 1917. The artwork caused controversy due to Duchamp's rejection of traditional art forms and his support for the Dadaism movement that emerged after World War I.

Dadaism was a response to the conventional aesthetic and cultural values of Western society. Duchamp and his fellow Dadaists sought to challenge cultural institutions and traditional art forms by using absurdity, satire, and irony. Duchamp's "Fountain" was an example of this approach, as it presented a mass-produced object as a work of art, challenging the conventional belief that art had to be beautiful, unique, or crafted by skilled artisans. The artwork was rejected by the art establishment, causing a scandal and sparking a debate about what could be considered art. The controversy surrounding Duchamp's work continued throughout his career, as he continued to challenge traditional art forms and push the boundaries of what could be considered art. Despite the initial outrage and rejection of his work, Duchamp's influence on the art world has been profound, and his ideas continue to shape contemporary art.

Is AI as controversial and revolutionary as the Duchamp revolution?

AI-generated art refers to objects that are created by machines or computers using algorithms and what has become known as artificial intelligence. Technology has enabled machines to analyse and learn using existing art forms and to generate new objects on that basis. AI-generated art is finding recognition for its innovation, and there is an ongoing debate as to whether it can be considered true art. The argument is that art is a product of human emotion, experience and creativity, and machines lack these qualities. However, the machines that generate AI art are programmed by humans, and the algorithms used are based on human preferences and aesthetics. This means that machines are not completely independent of human influence. Another argument against AI-generated art is that it lacks the imperfections, emotions and flaws that make human art unique and attractive. Despite these perceived shortcomings, can AI art still evoke emotions and inspire thought?



Azadeh OveisGharani

Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Circular Economy, Regenerative Business, Sustainable Leadership, Business & Human Rights

SUSTAINABILITY / GENDER STUDIES

300 years away from Gender Equality.

On 2 August 2015, governments united to agree on an ambitious agenda that features 17 new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets to be achieved by 2030. These goals and targets seek to realise the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. There is a balance between three dimensions of sustainable development: Economic, Social, and Environmental.

The review of SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) with regard to Women has undertaken an assessment of progress to date. The findings are sobering. Progress towards achieving the gender equality goal has been slow and insufficient. The world is currently not on track to achieve gender equality by 2030. The secretary general of the UN, António Guterres, has warned, saying the increasingly distant goal of gender equality will take another three centuries to achieve. Women's rights are being abused, threatened, and violated around the world, maternal mortality, girls ousted from school, caregivers denied work and children forced into early marriage are among the many issues faced by women and girls. In many places, women's sexual and reproductive rights are being rolled back and, in some countries, girls going to school risk kidnapping, assault, and poisoning in schools.

Iran which was expelled late last year from the Commission on the Status of Women due to the country's repression of a female-led revolt since last September was unfortunately not mentioned in Mr António Guterres's speech: "Centuries of patriarchy, discrimination and harmful stereotypes have created a huge gender gap in science and technology," Guterres said, citing as an example how women represent only 3% of Nobel prize winners in those sectors.

He called for "collective action" worldwide by governments, civil society, and the private sector to provide gender-responsive

education, improve skills training and invest more in awareness for women's rights, which are also human rights.

The final question is - can we only rely on the UN and Governments for the improvement of life on this planet, or are there steps to be taken each day by each one of us towards a gender-equal world?

Reference: [Link](#)

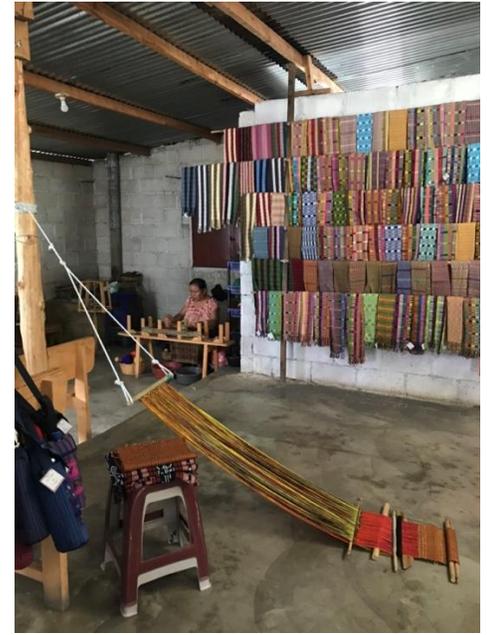


Photo: By author.

Atilán Guatemala, Textile weaving by women 2019.