

Scott Robbins PhD, MSc

Curriculum Vitae

Centre for Science and Thought
University of Bonn, Germany
Web: <https://scottrobbins.org>

Employment

Post Doc Research Fellow, University of Bonn	2021 – present
PhD Researcher, Technical University of Delft	2017 – 2021
Researcher, Free University Amsterdam	2013 – 2016
Research Assistant to Dr. Johnny Soraker	2013
Computer Programmer/Analyst, Aqua Star	2008 – 2010
Software Engineer, Harborview Medical Center	2008
Application Developer, i2i Systems	2007 – 2008
Computer & English Teacher, Dharamsala India	2007
Web App Developer, Chevron Corporation	2006 (Summer)
Web App Developer, Chevron Corporation	2005 (Summer)
Web Developer, CA University Chico	2004 – 2006

Areas of Specialization

AI Ethics, Data Ethics, Robot Ethics, Applied Ethics, Ethics of Technology

Education

University of Twente (MSc, Ethics & Technology, Cum Laude). Thesis: <i>The Virtues and Vices of Technology in the Classroom</i>	2011 – 2013
California State University, Chico (MSc, Computer Science, Cum Laude)	2002 – 2006

Publications

[Citations: 380](#) | [H-Index: 7](#)

- “Our New Artificial Intelligence Infrastructure: Becoming Locked into an Unsustainable Future”. *Sustainability* 14, no. 8: 4829. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su14084829> **First Author**. With Aimee van Wynsberghe.
- “Machine Learning, Mass Surveillance, and National Security: Data, Efficacy, and Meaningful Human Control” in Clark, M., Henschke, A., Sussex, M. & Legrand, T. (eds), *The Palgrave Handbook of National Security* (2022): 371-388. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-53494-3_16. **Single Author**.
- “AI Ethics” in Skerker, M. & Whetem D. (eds), *Cyber Warfare Ethics* (2021). Howgate Publishing. ISBN-13: 978-1912440269 <https://www.howgatepublishing.com/product-page/cyber-warfare-ethics>. **Single Author**.
- “Facial Recognition for Counter-Terrorism: Neither a Ban Nor a Free-for-All” in Henschke, A., Reed, A., Robbins, S. & Miller, S. (eds) *Counter-Terrorism, Ethics, and Technology* (2021): 89-104. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-90221-6_6. **Single Author**.

- “Bulk Data Collection Ethics”. In Miller, S., Henschke, A. & Feltes, J. (eds), *Counter Terrorism: The Ethical Issues*. (2020): 169-180. Edward Elgar. UK.
<https://doi.org/10.4337/9781800373075.00020>. **Single Author.**
- “A Misdirected Principle with a Catch: Explicability for AI”. *Minds and Machines* 29 (2019): 495-514. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11023-019-09509-3>. **Single Author.**
- “AI and the path to envelopment: knowledge as a first step towards the responsible regulation and use of AI-powered machines”. *AI & SOCIETY* 35 (2019): 391-400.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00146-019-00891-1>. **Single Author.**
- “Critiquing the Reasons for **Artificial Moral Agents**”, *Science and Engineering Ethics* 25 (2018): 719-735. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11948-018-0030-8>. With Dr. Aimee van Wynsberghe
- “Nothing Comes between My Robot and Me’: Privacy and Human-Robot Interaction in Robotised Healthcare” in Leenes, R., van Brakel, R., Gutwirth, S., & De Hert, P. (Eds.). *Data Protection and Privacy: The Internet of Bodies* (2018): 93-122.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.5040/9781509926237.ch-004>. With Fosch Villaronga et. Al.
- “Designing for Democracy: Bulk Data and Authoritarianism” (**first author**), *Surveillance and Society* 15 (3/4). (2017): 582-589. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.24908/ss.v15i3/4.6606>. With Dr. Adam Henschke
- “Our sexual future with robots”. *Foundation for Responsible Robotics*. (2017). <https://responsible-robotics-myxf6pn3xr.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/FRR-Consultation-Report-Our-Sexual-Future-with-robots-pdf>. With Prof. Dr. Noel Sharkey, Dr. Aimee van Wynsberghe & Eleanor Hancock
- “Ethicist as Designer: a pragmatic approach to ethics in the lab,” *Science and Engineering Ethics* 20 (4) (2014): 947-61. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11948-013-9498-4>. With Dr. Aimee van Wynsberghe

Editing

Counter Terrorism, Ethics, and Technology. Henschke, A., Reed, A., Robbins, S., & Miller, S. (eds.). (2021) Springer. Dordrecht, NL. <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-90221-6>.

Professional Organizations & Memberships

Foundation for Responsible Robotics, <i>Organizing Committee & Founding Member</i> (https://responsiblerobotics.org)	2015 – Present
4TU Centre for Ethics & Technology, <i>Member</i> (https://ethicsandtechnology.eu)	2017 – Present
Dutch Research School of Philosophy (OZSW)	2014 – Present
Ideefiks (Study Association for PSTS Masters Program at UTwente), <i>Board Member</i>	2012 – 2013
PSTS Masters Program Committee, <i>Member</i>	2012 – 2013

Awards

Transdisciplinary Research Area 4 **32.394 Euros** (Individuals and Societies) (Bonn University). Received funding for international conference: [Recommender Systems – Ethical and Legal Issues](#) and associated Edited Volume.

Network Institute Academy Assistant grant entitled "Ethical Implications of Self-Improving Intelligent Robots". Received 2 funded assistants to work on the project.

Selected as the Department of Philosophy's candidate for the Twente Graduate School (TGS) PhD award.

University of Twente Scholarship Recipient (**10.000 Euros/Year**)

Conference Organization

Recommender Systems: Legal and Ethical Issues. December 2021. https://www.cst.uni-bonn.de/en/research/recommender-systems-2?set_language=en

Presentations

- “Privacy and Autonomy in Recommender Systems”. Panel Moderator. *Recommender Systems: Legal and Ethical Issues*. Bonn University, DE. December 2021. https://www.cst.uni-bonn.de/en/research/recommender-systems-2?set_language=en
- “Strategic Challenges of Digitalization - Foreign Policy in Times of Digital Transformation”. Panel Moderator. *Digitalization as a Strategic Challenge for State and Society – Foreign Policy in Times of Digital Transformation*. Bonn University, DE. November 2021. <https://www.cassis.uni-bonn.de/en/veranstaltungen/vergangene-veranstaltungen/events-2021/events-2021>
- Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism*. Panelist (Technology Panel). GIFCT Global Summit. Online. July 2021. <https://gifct.org/2021-global-summit/>
- “Recommending Ourselves to Death”. Speaker at *The Normativity of Fiction in the Making: Ethics and Aesthetics in the Work of Caveh Zabedi*. Bonn University, DE. April 2021.
- “What Machines Shouldn’t Do: **Meaningful Human Control** over AI”. Speaker at [Ethicom 2020](#) in Rioja, Spain. June 2020. <https://youtu.be/qLK58mbnNX4>
- “What Machines Shouldn’t Do: Meaningful Human Control over AI”. Colloquium Speaker at Delft University, NL. December 2019.
- “**Bulk Data Collection Ethics**”. Speaker at Georgetown University *Counter Terrorism Ethics Workshop* in Washington D.C., USA, November 2019.
- “The Ethics of **Machine Learning** for Counter Terrorism”. Invited speaker at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology *Ethics of Mass Surveillance* conference. Karlsruhe, Germany, April 2019. <https://web.archive.org/web/20190416113609/https://philevents.org/event/show/67830>
- “**Machine Learning**, Counter Terrorism, & Ethics”. Speaker at the Oxford University *Counter Terrorism Ethics Workshop* Oxford, UK, March 2019
- “Counter-terrorism and **Machine Learning**”, Speaker at the Georgetown University *Counter Terrorism Ethics Workshop* in Washington D.C., USA, November 2018.
- “**Bulk Data** Collection Ethics”, Speaker at the *Amsterdam Privacy Conference* in Amsterdam, NL, October 2018. <https://web.archive.org/web/20190309163018/https://www.apc2018.com/>
- “The **Ethics of Bulk Metadata Collection** for Counter-Terrorism”, Speaker at the Oxford University *Counter Terrorism Ethics Workshop* in Oxford, UK, June 2018.

- “Encryption and Counter Terrorism”, Speaker at the Oxford University *Counter Terrorism Ethics* workshop in Oxford, UK, February 2018.
- “**Privacy**, Healthcare & Human-Robot Interaction”, Panelist at the *Computers, Privacy, and Data-Protection* conference in Brussels, BE, January 2018.
- “**Bulk Meta Data Collection** and Analysis: Ethics & Efficacy”, Speaker at the *Counter Terrorism Ethics* workshop in The Hague, NL, September 2017.
- “Bulk Meta Data Collection for Counter Terrorism”, Speaker at the *Counter Terrorism Ethics* workshop in The Hague, NL, June 2017.
- “**Responsible Robotics** and Moral Philosophy”. Session Chair, Robo-Philosophy in Aarhus, DK October 2016.
- “Philosophical Concepts, Robot Design, and Ethics”, Speaker at the *International Conference on Social Robotics* Paris, FR, October 2015.
<https://web.archive.org/web/20161125222357/http://www.icsoro.org/icsr2015/workshops.html>
- “Moral Development and Situationism”, Speaker at the *Virtue and Moral Cognition* conference in Gdansk, PL, October 2015.
- “Evolutionary Debunking and Moral Realism”, Speaker at the *Dutch-Flemish Association for Analytic Philosophy* Conference in Rotterdam, NL, January 2015.
- “Evolution and the Justification of Moral Beliefs”, Speaker at the *European Epistemology Network Meeting* in Madrid, SP, June 2014.
- “No Free Lunch: Re-framing the Problem of Privacy Online”, Speaker at *Ethicomp* in Paris, FR, June 2014.
- “The Good Intuitor”, Speaker at the *New Moral Intuitionism* conference in Gdansk, PL, June 2014.
- “Don’t Believe the Hype: Evolution and Meta Ethics”, Speaker at the *Graduate Conference in Theoretical Philosophy* in Amsterdam, NL, May 2014.

Teaching

- “Topics in Robotics”, Essay Supervisor. Delft University of Technology, 2018.
- “**AI Ethics**”, Lecturer for *Ethics of Healthcare Technologies*, 2018.
- “Ethics for Engineers”, Tutorial Leader. Delft University of Technology, 2017-Present.
- “Ethics for Aerospace Engineering”, Tutorial Leader. Delft University of Technology, 2017 – Present.
- “Evolutionary Debunking Arguments”, multiple lectures for *Current Debates in Philosophy* course. Free University Amsterdam. April 2016.
- “Virtue Ethics”, Single Lecture for *Ethics* course. University of Twente. May 2015.
- “Virtue Epistemology”, Single Lecture for *Epistemology* course. Free University Amsterdam. April 2015.
- “Meta Ethics”, Single Lecture for *Ethics* course. University of Twente. April 2015.
- “Foundationalist Epistemology”, Single Lecture for *Epistemology* course. Free University Amsterdam, 2015.
- “Virtue Ethics”, Single Lecture for *Ethics, Technology, and Medicine* course. University of Twente. February 2013.

Supervision

Nils Herber. Masters Thesis: “Towards Explaining Automated Credit Decisions: The design of an Explicability Assessment Framework (EAF) for **Machine Learning** Systems”. Graduation Committee and Supervisor. (2019).

Professional Activities

Ethics & Information Technology, Reviewer (8x)

AI & Ethics, Reviewer (4x)

Science & Engineering Ethics, Reviwer (4x)

Philosophy & Technology, Reviewer

LACAP, Reviewer