



Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

Artificial Intelligence and Inequality: How Smart Machines Exacerbate Demographic Bias and Inequality

Kai Chan
4:00-5:30 PM
Monday, March 18, 2019
Karsh Room, Rideau Club
99 Bank Street, 15th floor
Ottawa, Ontario

(please note that the Rideau Club dress code requires men to wear a jacket)

To attend, please RSVP by March 14, 2019 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is often touted as the next General Purpose Technology that will fundamentally transform the nature of the economy and society in myriad ways, destroying jobs on a massive scale and boosting productivity. But at this stage in its development we do really not know the future economic and social landscape that AI will generate.

To shed light on what AI may bring, Kai Chan, economist and co-founder of a Montreal-based AI firm, will examine the impact on AI on inequality. He will discuss how AI generates riches, redistributes wealth, and distorts the labour market in multi-cultural societies. He will make the case that as AI displaces humans from their jobs, economic value will be transferred from labour to capitalists, particularly the 'super-elites'. In an era where capital is mobile while labour is less so, AI will exacerbate already-high levels of inequality if left unmanaged.

Dr. Kai L. Chan is a founder and partner at Aiowala Technologies, a Montreal-based AI company. He is also a distinguished fellow at INSEAD Innovation and Policy Initiative. Before returning to Canada on 2017, he has served in as a special adviser to the United Arab Emirates government on competitiveness and statistics, an associate and the in-house economist for a consumer finance merchant banking firm in Manhattan, and a consultant based in Singapore for a global management consulting firm. He holds a BSc in economics and mathematics from the University of Toronto, and a PhD in economics from Princeton University.