

NEWSLETTER

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The Research Cluster for Applied Ethics Vytautas Magnus University

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EVENTS BY THE CLUSTER

The call for papers that has been announced in October is still on-going and new submissions are welcome. The call for papers concerns moral rights for intelligent robots (1st of June 2018 is the deadline). Please find more information on our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/

researchgroupappliedethics/

Also, see our main website:

www.applied-ethics.com/

Funded Project: Future Law, Ethics, and Smart Technologies

The proposed project by the RCAE and their colleagues from the faculties of law and informatics - titled "Integrity Study of Future Law, Ethics, and Smart Technologies" - has now been reviewed and accepted by the Research Council of Lithuania. In total, nearly 600,000 Euros has been granted by the council for the implementation of the project. Some of the aims of this project are to substantiate the guidelines for legal regulations of information technologies and robotics that would increase the well-being of society without violating its fundamental values and to prepare the legal and ethical study modules for the improvement of qualification competences of information technologies and robotics. Researchers currently expected to be involved: prof. dr. J.-S. Gordon (principal investigator), dr. P. Astromskis, prof. dr. V. Fomin, dr. E. Gruodyte, dr. J. Kirsiene, dr. A. Pasvenskiene, dr. D. Amilevicius, M. Zaliauskaite, K. Mosakas, and V. Parsaityte.

Dissertation: Moral and Legal Rights for Intelligent Robots

At the end of November, Kestutis Mosakas, the research assistant of the RCAE, has been accepted for PhD studies in philosophy at Vytautas Magnus University. He is supervised by prof. dr. J.-S. Gordon. The dissertation seeks to explore the recent and rather pressing issue in applied ethics that concerns moral and legal rights for intelligent machines.

Project: Future Law

Dr. Astromskis has recently been focused on his project on future law, which involves not

only exploring a variety of complex problems in attempt to present models of legal regulation for future technologies that would secure the fundamental values of society, but also to develop a network of young researchers who would contribute and increase their own qualifications. See the website:

<http://ateitiesteise.lt/>

Research Stay

This January prof. dr. Gordon is starting his 4 months research stay at the Centre for Ethics at the University of Toronto.

Structural Changes

The RCAE is now a structural unit of the law department at Vytautas Magnus University.

Events in Lithuania

The Study Fair 2018

The Study Fair 2018, which is going to take place on the 17th of January in Zalgiris arena (starting at 10 am), is a great opportunity to learn about all the different study opportunities in Kaunas.

Course: Philosophy for Life

"Philosophy for Life" is a course that consists of lectures and practical activities that are meant to help broaden one's knowledge regarding the deep questions of one's existence and purpose, while exploring both Western and Eastern traditions of thought. The course is in Russian and takes several months. The activities for the next group start on the 25th of January. For more information, see the webpage:

<http://philosophy-for-life.lt/lt/>

Upcoming publications by the cluster members:

-Prof. dr. Fomin is one of the co-authors (with F.-X. de Vaujany, K. Lyytinen, and S. Haefliger) for the upcoming research commentary "Rules, Practices and Information Technology: (IT): A Trifecta of Organizational Regulation" (2018).

-Dr. Gruodyte, dr. Kirsiene, and dr. Astromskis are working on a textbook on ethics of law - first of its kind in Lithuania - which is meant to help the lawyer understand his or her role in society, professional values, as well as the ethical norms and standards, while putting the emphasis on responsibility before the client, legal system, and the society (2018).