

# 6th Annual PRIDE Conference at the University of Zurich

How will AI impact Doctoral Education? - the future is a BOT (Beyond Our Touch)

## Announcement

Artificial intelligence and machine learning are transforming our world, bringing profound changes and opportunities to science and education at a rapid pace. This **PRIDE conference** aims to specifically address the associated opportunities and challenges for doctoral education.

Doctoral students will conduct their extensive literature searches using AI-powered tools. These tools can quickly search and analyse large volumes of research, helping doctoral students to identify relevant literature, extract key information and identify research gaps more efficiently.

AI tools and technologies will provide doctoral candidates with powerful tools for data analysis, natural language processing and machine learning. These tools will encourage the use of sophisticated research methods that allow doctoral candidates to analyse large datasets, automate certain research tasks and gain deeper insights from their data, even if these methods are not fully understood.

AI-powered virtual collaboration platforms can connect doctoral candidates with peers and experts from around the world, enabling knowledge sharing, interdisciplinary collaboration and access to diverse perspectives, and may also radically change the nature of supervision and the role of supervisors.

Soon, AI-based tutoring systems will be developed to provide individualised advice and feedback to doctoral candidates, suggesting experimental design or data analysis and providing feedback on their written work.

The increasing prevalence of AI in doctoral education also requires greater attention to ethical considerations. Everyone in the university needs to understand the ethical implications of using AI tools, in research, but also in administration, such as issues of privacy, bias in algorithms, and the responsible use of AI in research. Incorporating ethical discussions and guidelines are thus key to address these challenges.

## DAY 1 AI and Doctoral Education | Wednesday, April 3 2023

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- 12:30 Welcome and Registration
- 13:00 **Welcome Note**  
Gabriele Siegert, Vice-Rector University of Zurich  
Lucas Zinner, PRIDE Network
- 13:30 **Introduction: How is AI shaping the future of doctoral education?**  
**Session 1: Supporting critical, creative, autonomous, innovative risk-taker – how is this possible with AI /endangered by AI?**  
Chair: Melita Kovacevic  
*Keynote: Robert Harris*  
*Second speaker: Jacques Lanares*
- 15:00 Coffee Break
- 15:30 **Session 2: Supervision and support – how AI can help boost productivity.**
- till 17:30 Chairs: Lucas Zinner, Kenneth Wann and Mathias Schroijen  
Speakers: Oguz A. Acar, Vincent Ginis, Victoria I. Marín Juarros
- Evening Social Dinner

## DAY 2 AI | Thursday, April 4 2023

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- 9:00 **Welcome and wrap up of day 1**  
Speaker: Claudine Leysinger
- 9:15 **Session 3: Ethical, responsible use of AI**  
Chair: João Pedro Pego  
Speaker: Carlos Soares
- 10:45 Coffee Break
- 11:15 **Session 4: The impact of AI on the practice of career development**  
Chair: Verity Elston  
Speakers: Danny Mirza, Tina Persson, Laetitia Renier
- 12:45 **General Assembly**
- 13:00 Lunch

- 14:00      **Session 5: How does it impact the professionals? (Role of Professionals as Researcher Developers)**  
Chair: Elizabeth Halton  
**Speaker: Tom Stoneham**
- 15:00      **Discussion Panel**  
Chair: Melita Kovacevic
- 15:45      Farewell Drinks

## **DAY 3** AI | Friday, April 5 2023

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- 9:00 –      **Workshop: “eDoer” - Navigating the Future of Doctoral Education through AI-Driven Program Development**  
15:00  
Trainers: Gábor Kismihók  
Mathias Schroijen

Utilizing eDoer, this workshop aims to equip participants to efficiently develop and draft programme content relevant to doctoral education and training. Topics of interest may include onboarding, academic writing, career development, mental health, and more.

eDoer is a community-based learning platform designed to simplify the creation, exploration and delivery of high-quality, personalized educational content. Through its experimental AI-driven interface, the platform offers personalized learning recommendations to both learners and educators, fostering a community that bridges formal and non-formal learning settings.

The workshop will begin with a comprehensive introduction to the eDoer tool, showcasing its features and capabilities. Participants will then engage in hands-on activities, working in groups to create content on the platform within a specific doctoral education topic of their interest. In the afternoon session, each group will prepare a brief presentation showcasing the workshop content they have developed.

The workshop will conclude with a collective discussion, including a Q&A session, providing participants with an opportunity to seek clarification, share experiences, and further explore the potential applications of eDoer in their respective institutions.

By the end of the workshop, participants will have gained practical experience in utilizing eDoer to develop doctoral training programme content, enhancing their ability to leverage AI tools for offering personalized and effective learning experiences in doctoral education.