

Women in the Smart World Forum 2024

Forum Title: Smart Women, Smart World

Forum Chairs

Prof. Runhe Huang, Hosei University, Japan
Prof. Zhi Jin, Peking University, China

Executive Chairs

Dr. Fang Liu, Beihang University, China
Dr. Weihong Gao, University of Portsmouth, UK
Dr. Khawla Alhasan, Arab Open University, Kuwait

Forum Presenters



Professor Runhe Huang (Moderator)
Hosei University, Japan

Topic: Supporting Vulnerable Groups with Advanced AI and IoT solutions

Professor Huang received her B.Sc. in Electronics Technology from the National University of Defense Technology, China, in 1982, and her Ph.D. in Computer Science and Mathematics from the University of the West of England, UK, in 1993. She is a full professor in Faculty of Computer and Information Sciences at Hosei University, Japan since 2003. She served as the head of the Department of Computer Science from 2008 to 2010 and currently holds the position of Deputy Director at Hosei University Library.



Professor Ying Zhang
Northwestern Polytechnical University, China

Topic: AI in the LLM Era: From Independent to Collaborative

Professor Zhang is the professor with the School of Computer Science of Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi'an, China and is recognized as a National Youth Talent. She received her PhD in Computer Science from National University of Singapore. She worked as the unit head of Cybersecurity cluster of Institute for Inforcomm Research (I2R) from 2017-2018 and a senior research fellow at National University of Singapore from 2019-2021. She is from Northwestern Polytechnical University, China.



Professor Binbin Zhou
Hangzhou City University, China

Topic: Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence Practice in Smart City

Professor Zhou is an Associate Professor at Hangzhou City University. Her main research areas include multimodal fusion, artificial intelligence, and brain-inspired computing. She has presided projects supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China and Zhejiang Provincial Natural Science Foundation and participated in several National Natural Science Foundation and National Key R&D Program projects. She is from Hangzhou City University, China.



Dr. Ismini Psychoula
Ofcom (Office of Communications), UK

Topic: Responsible AI and Its Impact on Women and Girls

Dr. Psychoula is a Senior Technical Advisor at Ofcom where she works on multidisciplinary projects that integrate Machine Learning, Privacy Enhancing Technologies, and Responsible AI in the context of online safety. Prior to her current role, she worked as a Research Scientist in industry, leading Privacy-Preserving Machine Learning and Explainable AI projects. Her expertise is in artificial intelligence, privacy, and data governance.



Yasmine Rifai
Microsoft, Kuwait

Topic: Shaping the Future: The National AI Strategy Framework

Yasmine Rifai is an AI-centric digital transformation leader and Microsoft's Technology Lead for the Public Sector, with over 13 years of experience in technology and nearly a decade in the public sector. She excels in orchestrating digital business transformations and securing high-value deals through strategic negotiation and a customer-focused approach.



Dr. Khawla Alhasan

Arab Open University, Kuwait

Topic: Smart Tech, Smarter Skills: Soft Skills Driving Success in AI Era

Dr. Alhasan is a General Program Coordinator in the deanship of Computer Studies at the Arab Open University. Her research interests are Artificial Intelligence, Smart Cities, Digital Transformation and Adaptive eLearning. She led regional projects such as AI implementation in Education, and Micro credentials. She was awarded IEEE Outstanding Service, “Registration Chair”, at the 2019 IEEE Smart World Congress.