

***Summer Institute in Technology Ethics (SITE) at Santa Clara University***  
**July 27-August 7, 2020, Santa Clara, California**  
**Markkula Center for Applied Ethics at Santa Clara University**

***CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR IN-RESIDENCE STUDY***

**We are now accepting applications for the in-residence SITE program from qualified graduate and post-graduate students in Philosophy and closely related fields.** Thanks to the generosity of the [Templeton World Charity Foundation, Inc.](#) through a Diverse Intelligences grant, a stipend will be provided to all applicants who complete the in-residence program. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis starting on January 10, 2020, closing on January 26, 2020 (link to [application form here.](#)) Decision notifications will be sent by February 17, 2020.

**SITE Program Description**

Rapid developments in artificial intelligence are generating unprecedented challenges and opportunities for human flourishing, amid a wave of urgent calls for expert guidance in the ethical use of AI and other emerging technologies. To meet these calls, the SITE project offers a two-week, intensive, interdisciplinary educational program for philosophers and technologists, guided by internationally recognized experts in technology/AI ethics.

Hosted by the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics at Santa Clara University, located in Silicon Valley, SITE will offer 25 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows an in-residence curriculum focused on fundamental and emerging research in technology ethics, with a special emphasis on the ethics of data and artificial intelligence. During their two weeks of intensive study, the in-residence participants will gain the capacity to develop independent research projects and curricula for rigorous introductory courses in this field.

The in-residence program for grad students and postdocs will be led by internationally recognized faculty experts in AI ethics. In parallel, Markkula Center experts in technology and AI ethics will offer a non-residence curriculum for working technologists. These two SITE cohorts will have multiple opportunities to interact and collaborate as well as engage with other stakeholders in public fora, with the goal of enhancing the rigor and interdisciplinary character of moral expertise in AI and technology ethics shared by academics and working technologists.

**Program Faculty**

The in-residence program is co-led by two distinguished experts in AI ethics: **Shannon Vallor** (currently the Regis and Dianne McKenna Professor of Philosophy at Santa Clara University, and the incoming Baillie Gifford Chair in the Ethics of Data and Artificial Intelligence at the University of Edinburgh) and **John Sullins** (Professor of Philosophy at Sonoma State University and co-Director of the Center for Ethics, Law and Society). Vallor received the World Technology Award for Ethics in 2015, and in 2011 Sullins was honored with the Herbert A. Simon Award for Outstanding Research in Computing and Philosophy by the International

Association for Computing and Philosophy. Both have worked as consulting ethicists with technologists in industry and academia, and have provided ethics expertise to policymakers and public agencies worldwide. The in-residence program will also benefit from enriching visits by distinguished guest faculty from a range of related disciplines. Confirmed guests include **Safiya Noble (UCLA), Rob Reich (Stanford), David Danks (CMU), Aimee van Wynsberghe (Delft)** and **Patrick Lin (Cal Poly)**; other distinguished guests will be announced in January.

### **Logistics and Application Details**

Participants will receive a flat stipend of \$2750. On-campus housing in dormitory-style apartments will be available for a modest rate. Breakfast and lunch will be provided Monday-Friday, as well as a welcome dinner and culmination dinner, along with two local fieldtrips.

SITE is committed to advancing diversity in this field and participants from underrepresented groups and communities are strongly encouraged to apply.

Applicants should have a B.A., M.A., or Ph.D. in Philosophy or other equivalent coursework preparation for intensive study in applied technology ethics. Knowledge of the fundamentals of moral theory will be presupposed by the curriculum, which will be heavily discussion-based but will include relevant readings in the field to be completed by students in advance of the program. Prior coursework in related technical or social science fields should be noted in the application but is not required. Accepted participants must be eligible to travel and study in the U.S. and must be able to attend the entire program in order to receive the full stipend.

The application form asks applicants to upload the following documents:

- Letter of interest (approx. 2 pages) articulating reasons for applying and related research interests
- Academic CV (include a short list of any related coursework or experience)
- Names, affiliations and contact info for 3 faculty who may be contacted for a reference if selected for the program
- A short writing sample on any subject (need not relate to tech ethics)

### **Application Timeline**

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis starting on January 10, 2020 and closing on January 26, 2020. Decisions will be sent by February 17, 2020.

### **Contact:**

For questions about applying to the in-residence program, please contact [site@scu.edu](mailto:site@scu.edu); Working technologists interested in the parallel, non-residential portion of the SITE program should email [site@scu.edu](mailto:site@scu.edu) to be added to a mailing list for an announcement with program and registration details in Spring 2020.