

To be a part of the Laidlaw Conference is to engage with like-minded researchers on contemporary issues across disciplines. Taking the initiative and opportunity to participate in the Conference periphery to regular lessons, I have significantly benefited from the diversity of perspectives and wealth of knowledge shared by different speakers and presenters throughout my time at Columbia University in the City of New York. Joining the conference has reaffirmed my intellectual curiosity to engage with interdisciplinary scholarship, particularly in the relevant field of Artificial Intelligence.

With the ‘existential threat’ posed by AI, I believe it is imperative to evaluate its implications for academia and ensure business compliance. Speaking to student researchers who have aggregated training data sufficient for AI corpus, I realised the imperative of encouraging development; unfortunately, the role of the law has been lacklustre in this respect. I am therefore encouraged to engage in the wealth of perspectives to incorporate innovation in the law. As I aspire to specialise in the emerging technology law practice and advocate for a ‘rights-based approach’ to development, the Conference has affirmed my belief in a socially driven approach to the development of Artificial Intelligence law, given its existential concern to all those involved.

I am furthermore grateful to have built an extensive Laidlaw network with student researchers from Toronto, Georgetown, Brown and beyond - to which I have found it incredibly valuable to hear from the unique methodological approaches to their particular subfields (though I have yet to hear from aspiring lawyers). This has further created an additional opportunity to engage with this network during the Leadership Training Programmes. Applying the leadership characteristics valuable to entrepreneurs and business leaders taught by the HK programme, the Laidlaw Conference has further enhanced my awareness of vices of one’s personality. As a rounded scholar with leadership aspirations, it is acknowledged that the conscientious development of personality is crucial.

I am therefore indebted to the opportunity provided by HKU and the Laidlaw Scholarship for this unique and valuable experience.