Event Report

Event: Aridity and the Desert: The Future of Innovation, Technology, and Humanity

Event Details:
Date: Tuesday, April 10, 2018
Time: 6:00pm - 8:30pm
Venue: The Teapot, 818 N. 5th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85003
Total Attendees: 27
Feedback responses: 19

What are 3 words that describe your experience from this event?

Top Answers:
1. Interesting
2. Educational/ Informative
3. Thought-provoking

- Enlightening, perspective challenge, educational
- Thought-provoking, educational, diversity
- Challenging, comfortable, anxious
- Collaborative, dialectic, structured
- Impacting, awareness, ethics
- Interesting, fun, collaborative
- Enjoyable, informative, cordial
- Interesting, unexpected subject, enjoyable
- Interesting, informative
What new awareness did you gain or what is your takeaway from this experience?

Top answers:
1. There is general concern regarding the use of technology and AI.
2. Technology provokes varied insights and perspectives.

- I became aware of the filter bubble.
- That this forum can work and can be inclusive. Looking for links now.
- How many people from all backgrounds want to do stuff like this!
- There are older white men still comfortable making misogynistic jokes around strangers.
- The role of ethics/ conduct plays in AI.
- There’s a long way to go to find a balance between humanity and tech innovation.
- Beware of AI.
- Awareness of the Project Humanity and increased awareness/ concern about AI.
- Everyone is concerned about the security and maluse of technology.
- Technology progress that I am not aware of.
- There are so many different perspectives to each side.
- Lots of opportunities to get out of my bubble provides lots of new things to research.
- Empty nester needs new things to focus on.
- Perspectives of technology, its impact, and potential benefits and pitfalls.
- Personal data online is collected in many ways.
- Different people have interesting nuances in their observations.
- Community fear on AI and tech is high. Important to highlight importance of humility.
- We can’t regulate or create perfectly.
- I love this means of examining underlying assumptions and beliefs.
How might this event impact your life work?

Top Answers:

1. Increase of awareness regarding risks of personal use of technology.
2. Learning from others is a positive and necessary thing.

- Increase my awareness and reflection technology.
- All interaction such as this is good- more needed.
- Building confidence and understanding what is motivating me.
- Gives me more awareness about the impact of technology.
- Learned a lot from people with diverse backgrounds.
- Education always enhances life.
- Will give more thought to my web search and results I receive.
- Makes me more conscious of impact of technology.
- More thoughtful about computer-use
- Reminds me to keep an open mind and stay positive.
- Change my perspective as I observe technology, interactions, the way others use/ utilize tech.
- Makes me think more about the ethics behind my science.
- Being more aware of how technology effects me and how I can make sure I don’t let it take power away from me.
- Makes me think more about technology- more than the crazy stories competing to get my attention on the internet.
- I will be using some of these ideas in the classroom.

Did the content of this event inspire you to change a behaviour or to take action towards change? If yes, please clarify.

Top Answers:

1. Put more thought into use of internet technology.

- Yes, I will use behavior to be less trouble
- Showed need to associate with others more frequently and to seek out appropriate venues.
- ?? maybe
- I’d like to have more of these discussions with diverse groups of people.
- Definitely gives me something to think about?
- Yes, will be more aware of the way I use technology (i.e. Facebook and other sites)
- No
- Yes – minimize presence on social media, be careful what you search for
• More thoughtful about results of computer searches and how it narrows my opinions
• It has made me more aware of what’s going on around me, causing me to question what I’m told.
• Change staying home when there is so much available
• Yes I haven’t used Facebook for a few years and plan to close my account
• No
• Thinking…
• Yes, I do want to manage my online data more
• Yes
• No

Other comments about this event.

• Reduction of choices to discuss would have facilitated group discussions
• Thank you
• Bravo! Great job
• Nice venue. Excellent food.
• Nice diversity of opinions and viewpoints
• Thank you—very interesting and worthwhile
• I’d love to have more students involved. Yet, I greatly enjoyed listening to and learning from others older than me!
• Thank you for hosting this event and many other events.
• Great night
• Great
• Humanity matters and we have to protect it before technology might take it away.
• Good food, nice venue, very nice people
• More time needed to switch groups and interact with more people

ASU student: 3
ASU staff: 0
Community: 15
Unspecified: 1