PROJECT # TBC

SUPERVISOR/S: Professor Mark Harcourt

PROJECT TITLE: Addressing the Potential Adverse Income Effects of Artificial Intelligence: Policy Options

FIELD: Labour economics/ human resource management

DIVISION/SCHOOL: WMS - School of Management & Marketing

PROJECT LOCATION: Hamilton

PROJECT ABSTRACT:

This project will look at the potential adverse income effects of artificial intelligence. It will look at which occupations and industries might be particularly at risk of automation, in whole or in part. It will discuss what sort of adverse employment effects might be expected and over what time-frame. It will also try to calculate what sorts of income losses might occur and for which groups and communities.

The project will draw heavily on existing research but applying those concepts to local data on occupational and industry numbers.

We will also look at various solutions to the problems of income loss that artificial intelligence might produce. These range from the universal basic income to centralised collective bargaining (by unions), as permanent solutions, to various training and educational programmes (including active labour market policies), as temporary solutions.

This project will have policy implications of considerable national and even international importance, given the wide-ranging changes that artificial intelligence might prompt.

STUDENT SKILLS:

- Engineering / IT knowledge of artificial intelligence
- Knowledge of labour economics, including various theories about the impacts of technological change (e.g., from Acemoglu and Autor)
- Excellent writing skills and experience writing long essays (or even dissertations), with top marks awarded

PROJECT TASKS:

1. Write a policy-oriented article about the impacts of artificial intelligence and potential policy solutions that mitigate these adverse effects
2. Create a conference poster, discussing the nature and labour market effects of artificial intelligence, focusing on employment and income effects and potential policy solutions.
3. Learn about all the different implications of artificial intelligence & potential policy solutions to adverse effects

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

- Student's Research Poster (as per clause 6 of the Scholarship regulations)
- Article in a policy-oriented article, outlining various solutions to the adverse impacts of artificial intelligence
- Conference poster paper related to the above