ABSTRACT
This is the first time in history that AI has been recognized as an inventor. South Africa has become the first country in the world to award a patent to an invention by AI. This is a historical moment in time as this serves as an opening for many possibilities in the future – and as it stands, it is sooner than later. There is more room to be explored with AI given that the Law has taken this step. However, one might wonder if AI will eradicate the need for humans to do physical work and how socially ethical this is....

AI and the Law, very rarely do you see two words like these in a sentence together both professionally and casually. With Artificial Intelligence growing and designs starting to be originally made by an algorithm rather than the algorithm writer, a question of who owns intellectual property to the design looms out of the horizon.

The R8 University of Cape Town IEEE Student Branch in collaboration with the R3 University of South Florida IEEE Student Branch are hosting an online webinar themed, AI and the Law on the 15th of September 2021 at 16H00 SAST/10H00 ET/07H00 PT. Please register for the event and submit your questions here beforehand so that they can be addressed at the event. We have the privilege of hosting Dr. Ryan Abbott who represented the owner of the AI in securing the patent. Dr. Abbott is a Law professor at the University of Surrey, and he leads the Artificial Inventor Project (AIP), which has been advocating for AI owners to own patents on any AI-generated inventions

BIOGRAPHY
Ryan Abbott, MD, JD, MTOM, PhD is Professor of Law and Health Sciences at the University of Surrey School of Law and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He is the author of The Reasonable Robot: Artificial Intelligence and the Law published in 2020 by Cambridge University Press, and he has published widely on issues associated with law and technology, health law, and intellectual property in leading legal, medical, and scientific books and journals.

Click HERE to register and submit questions in advance.