



**ASST. PROF. CHANINTORN J. NUKOON**  
**DEAN**  
**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT (GSATM)**

Welcome to the August 2020 edition of ATM@AU. This month all Master's degree programs will conduct their Midterm Exams. Please contact your Program Directors, instructors or advisors for information about your exams and exam centers. Please make sure that you have all the information. Please take necessary precautions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Stay safe.

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**YOUR BIGGEST QUESTIONS ABOUT CORONAVIRUS, ANSWERED**

**Neel V Patel**

Here are answers to some of the biggest questions our readers have about the outbreak, which we collected in a survey sent out through social media and other avenues.



**Is the virus airborne?**

For a while, there was no consensus from scientists about whether coronavirus meets the scientific definition of "airborne."

[Read more](#)

**VOL.10: ISSUE 8**

**AUGUST, 2020**

**GSATM: NEW ACADEMIC CALENDAR FOR 2020-2021**



First Semester (1/2020): June 2020 – October 2020  
Second Semester (2/2020): November 2020 – March 2021  
Summer Session (3/2020): April 2021 – May, 2021

**\*This calendar is subject to change without notice. For further details contact you're Program**

**FACEBOOK'S 'RED TEAM' HACKS ITS OWN AI PROGRAMS**

**Tom Simonte**

Instagram encourages its BILLION or so users to add filters to their photos to make them more shareable. In February 2019, some Instagram users began editing their photos with a different audience in mind: Facebook's automated porn filters.

Facebook depends heavily on moderation powered by artificial intelligence, and it says the tech is particularly good at spotting explicit content. But some users found they could sneak past Instagram's filters by overlaying patterns such as grids or dots on rule-breaking displays of skin.

[Read more](#)

**GSATM\_News@AU:August,2020**  
**Graduate School of Advanced Technology Management (GSATM)**

**STANFORD RESEARCHERS DEVELOP A METHOD FOR PREDICTING UNPRECEDENTED EVENTS**

**Taylor Kubota**

A black swan event is a highly unlikely but massively consequential incident, such as the 2008 global recession and the loss of one-third of the world's saiga antelope in a matter of days in 2015.

Challenging the quintessentially unpredictable nature of black swan events, bioengineers at Stanford University are suggesting a method for forecasting these supposedly unforeseeable fluctuations.



"By analyzing long-term data from three ecosystems, we were able to show that fluctuations that happen in different biological species are statistically the same across different ecosystems," said Samuel Bray, a research assistant in the lab of Bo Wang, assistant professor of bioengineering at Stanford. "That suggests there are certain underlying universal processes that we can take advantage of in order to forecast this kind of extreme behavior."

The forecasting method the researchers have developed, which was detailed recently in *PLOS Computational Biology*, is based on natural systems and could find use in health care and environmental research. It also has potential applications in disciplines outside ecology that have their own black swan events.

[Read more](#)

**CROSS-TRAINING FOR SCHOLARLY WRITERS**

**Christina Lux and Tanya Golash-Boza**

In our roles as department chair of public health and associate director of the Center for the Humanities at the University of California, Merced, we often take walks together on our local bike path to talk about productivity and writing. Little did we know that March 16 was to be our last such walk for the foreseeable future. That week, we moved to remote work, public health meetings and classes shifted to virtual formats, and California governor Gavin Newsom declared a stay-at-home order effective March 19.

During our last walk, we talked about how the constant news emerging about COVID-19 was making it difficult to focus on writing.

[Read more](#)

**THOUGHT OF THE MONTH**

Nothing limits intelligence more than ignorance; nothing fosters ignorance more than one's own opinions; nothing strengthens opinions more than refusing to look at reality.



**Sheri S. Tepper**  
American Novelist  
(1929-2016)

**20 YEARS AGO, STEVE JOBS BUILT THE 'COOLEST COMPUTER EVER.' IT BOMBED**

**Steven Levy**

This month marks the 20th anniversary of the Power Mac G4 Cube, which debuted July 19, 2000. It also marks the 19th anniversary of Apple's announcement that it was putting the Cube on ice. That's not my joke, it's Apple's, straight from the headline of its July 3, 2001, press release that officially pulled the plug.



The idea of such a quick turnaround was nowhere in the mind of Apple CEO Steve Jobs on the eve of the product's announcement at that summer 2000 Macworld Expo. I was reminded of this last week, as I listened to a cassette tape recorded 20 years prior, almost to the day. It documented a two-hour session with Jobs in Cupertino, California, shortly before the launch. The main reason he had summoned me to Apple's headquarters was sitting under the over of a dark sheet of fabric on the long table in the boardroom of One Infinite Loop.

"We have made the coolest computer ever," he told me. "I guess I'll just show it to you."

[Read more](#)

**MONTHLY ENEWSLETTER**  
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**FROM THE EDITOR**

Welcome to the August 2020 edition of our eNewsletter. In this edition you will find a series of interesting articles about new trends in technologies, teaching and management. Christina Lux and Tanya Golash-Boza talk about productivity and writing skills. In another article Taylor Kubota explains how Stanford researchers have developed a method for predicting unprecedented events. Mr. Neel V Patel from MIT write how "Your biggest questions about corona virus answered?"

Call for Papers lists a series of upcoming conference that our students can attend. GSATM also publishes a biannual journal titled (AU-eJIR). Details of this journal can be accessed from our new link given below. Please send your comments and suggestions to-

[knagi@au.edu](mailto:knagi@au.edu)

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**AU-EJOURNAL OF**  
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