

Written evidence submitted by Dr Michaela Black

Dr Michaela Black is Senior Lecturer within School of Computing, Engineering and Intelligent Systems at Ulster University for over 20 years. She has a BSc (Hons) in Computing Science, DPhil in the area of Machine Learning with British Telecom with a Patent posted: Rationalization of data used in model of time varying event behaviour (US 7024426 B2) & Data rationalisation (US 20020183999 A1). Michaela has published around 50 publications including book chapters, journals and conferences.

Michaela has over 20 years experience of teaching at tertiary level and is strong STEM ambassador mentoring and engaging with primary and secondary level pupils and educators to inspire young people to engage in education, using STEM and Gamification as an avenue of engagement and strongly encouraging young females to student STEM and pursue a career in STEM.

Her research covers Health Informatics, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Data Mining, Big Data, Health Informatics, Gamification, Telecoms, Education, Games and User Profiling. She is PI on newly awarded PM18 Big data for Supporting Public Health Policies - MIDAS (Meaningful Integration of Data, Analytics and Services) project of €4.5million which has just completed by delivery an BiG Data Platform across 4 International regions to enable Policy Makers to access and use rich joined data sets to create and evaluate new policies: <http://www.midasproject.eu/>.

Michaela is also grant holder of an international consortium who have been awarded €3.6million Horizon 2020 project PH27 PCP project – MAGIC – Mobile Assistance for Groups and Individuals in the Community.

She is PI on Educational project IMHAPPY which received just over £1M funding by Department for Communities (DfC) to improve educational engagement and attainment of youth and families in area of social deprivation: <http://www.compeng.ulster.ac.uk/cie/imhappy/index.html>.

Within her research she has supervised and successfully completed of 6 PhD studentships including Handling Latency for Online Learning with Concept Drift, and has given several invited talks on Big Data and presented to a range of conferences and workshops. Her consultancy work ranges from Horizon2020 applications, SBRi Gamification of Medicines, to InterTradeIreland FUSION projects. Michaela is involved in a number of regional, national and international Connected Health research projects with particular expertise in Mobile Technology for Health, Education, Gamification and Adaptive AI.

May 2020