

Incorporating Ethics in Defense M & S: New Frontiers in Standards

Dan M. Davis & Jennifer H. Nolan
Catholic Polytechnic University
1028 N Lake Ave MC 207
Pasadena, CA 91104
{ ddavis & jnolan } @catholicpolytechnic.org

Mark C. Davis & Robin G. Bitterlin
Wood Duck Research, Inc.
129 Wood Duck Loop
Mooresville, NC 28117
{ mark & rgb }@woodduckresearch.org

Judith L. Jacobus
Speech Analyst/Educator
1564 Merion Way.
Seal Beach, CA 90740
statelty07@dslextreame.com

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ABSTRACT: *The Defense Modeling and Simulation (M&S) Standards community is well-positioned to further contemplations of ethical behaviors in military technology. The explosively rapid evolution of technical adjuncts to contemporary combat has impacted all three of the traditional contributions of M&S: Training, Analysis and Evaluation, as well as presented emerging issues, hitherto not faced, i.e. the ethics of the proper use of AI controlled weapons. This rapidity has left little time to consider the need to recognize the potential impacts on M&S and ethical implications of AI culpability. This paper is a call for a more reasoned and grounded consideration of these issues. A survey of the concepts of interest, the existing ethical guidance, the theological/philosophical underpinnings and the novel issues of concern are laid out. Also covered are the historical and parallel issues as addressed by the medical, legal, police, and research communities. Some of the questions addressed are: Should simulations contain ethicality components of battlespace modeling? Should ethical quandaries be included in combat training exercises? Should human inputs during training be assessed for ethical behavior? Where does culpability lie if AI makes a morally important decision on the application of deadly force? Later sections of the paper include discussions of current practices and potential improvements in all these areas. A brief discussion is advanced for the possible results from various approaches considered on a spectrum of defense issues ranging from recruitment facilitation through combat efficacy and on to long-term pathological damage such as Veterans' Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.*

Law of War
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Author Biographies

DAN M. DAVIS is a Research Associate Professor at Catholic Polytechnic University (CPU) and is also active as a consultant at the Institute for Creative Technologies, University of Southern California (USC). He is currently focusing on large-scale DoD simulations and virtual human implementations. Prior to retirement, he was the Director of the JESPP project at USC for more than a decade. As the Assistant Director of Advanced Computing Research at Caltech, he ran Synthetic Forces Express, bringing HPC to DoD simulations. He has also served as a Director at the Maui High Performance

Computing Center and in computer research roles at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Martin Marietta. He was the Chairman of the Coalition of Academic Supercomputing Centers and has taught at the undergraduate and graduate levels. As early as 1971, Dan was writing programs in FORTRAN on one of Seymour Cray's CDC 6500's. While in the Marine Corps, he saw duty in Vietnam as a Cryptologist and retired in 2002 as a Commander, U.S.N. He received B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Colorado in Boulder.

JENNIFER H. NOLAN, PH.D. is the President of Catholic Polytechnic University and Professor of Psychology in their College of Arts and Sciences. Her earlier work specialized in memory, dementias, stroke and insulin resistance. She is a brain plasticity specialist and certified Cogmed provider. Previously, she was the C.O.O. and co-founder of a stroke and brain injury rehabilitation center. Dr. Nolan has taught university courses at the University of California Irvine, Loyola Marymount University, and Glendale Community College. She has conducted local and nationwide clinical trials, and published in both scientific journals and popular magazines. She received a BA in Psychology from Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles and a Ph.D. in Neuro-Psychology from the Dept. of Cognitive Science at the University of California, Irvine.

MARK C. DAVIS, PH.D. is the Chief Technical Officer at Wood Duck Research, Inc, and is semi retired after careers in the US Navy and as a computer design engineer for both IBM and Lenovo. Rising to the level of Distinguished Engineer at Lenovo, he was responsible for the design of laptop computer cross-disciplinary technology, including PC architecture, embedded systems, open source and virtualization. Previous work was with IBM in the areas of software development and architecture involving security, storage and virtualization. Dr. Davis has been granted well over fifty patents that were filed during his service at both companies. He is a graduate of the Duke University NROTC program and was commissioned as an Ensign, attended nuclear power school, and served as a Submarine Officer for twelve years, including one duty tour as a classroom instructor. He left the active duty as a Lieutenant Commander to pursue a PhD. Mark holds a BSEE degree from Duke University and a PhD in Computer Science from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where his advisor was Professor Fredrick P. Books.

Robin G. Bitterlin is retired from ...

She is associated with Wood Duck Research, Inc as a Research Ethics Advisor. ...

Her research interests focus on Medical Ethics as shaped by theological precepts and daily professional practices. ...

She has management experience in the commercial civil community. ...

She earned a B. S. Degree in Nursing from the University of California Davis and was licensed as a Registered Nurse.

JUDITH L. JACOBUS is retired from conducting speech therapy as a Speech and Language Specialist for more than two decades. Her experiences were in public schools settings in Orange County, California. She also previously taught for 12 years as a classroom teacher in multi-cultural communities there. Judith currently volunteers her professional skills for a local police department, so has extensive experience with dysfunctional adults and children in a variety of both every-day and traumatic situations. Her participation in amateur theatrics has more fully familiarized her with the characteristics of human behavior as they are projected via verbal, facial and body-language cues. This experience has also exposed her to the skill and art of the selection of appropriate persons for specific on-screen roles. Judith holds a lifetime Special Education Credential in Speech and Hearing Therapy, K-12 from the State of California. She earned a B. A. Degree in Speech Communications from the California State University Long Beach and an M. A. Degree in Teaching and Teacher Leadership from the Grand Canyon University in Glendale, Arizona.