**JRP Canada Podcast Transcript — Episode 2 with Angela Misri**

*[Upbeat intro music begins. It plays into the background of the voiceover]*

**Kayla Thompson** 00:02

Hello, everybody, I'm Kayla Thompson from the JRP Canada team, and welcome to another episode of our Meet the Researcher podcast, a series of interviews in preparation for our upcoming event. Between Ideals and Practices: Journalistic Roles in Transformative Times is a one-day pre-conference to ICA taking place at Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU) on May 24, 2023. Visit [jrpcanada.ca](https://jrpcanada.ca/) to register now. Joining us today is Angela Misri who will be one of our presenters at the Between Ideals and Practices conference. Welcome Angela

*[Music fades out]*

**Angela Misri** 00:37

*[Laughter]* Thanks for having me.

**Kayla Thompson** 00:39

Thank you for joining us on episode two. So Angela, you will be presenting some of your original research at the conference, can you give us a sneak peek of what you'll be talking about?

**Angela Misri** 00:49

Yeah, I'd love to. So I get to talk about AI (Artificial Intelligence) and creating journalism products and the ethics behind that. So journalists have very specific ethics. And some of them are very clear and very talked about and every newsroom has different ones. And some of them are a little bit like "I think we're all agreeing to the same thing." And what I found as I started to look into Canadian newsrooms, and how they were applying the AI technology that was coming in and everyone was talking about is that they weren't really talking about the ethics of it. They weren't really talking about transparency and do we need to tell our audience when this is AI and all that. So this is, from a very high level view, it's a look at the Canadian newsrooms that have started to talk about and bring in an experiment with AI to create journalism product, and then the ethics and the discussions around ethics around it.

**Kayla Thompson** 01:34

That's very interesting. And I'm so excited to listen to your presentation, because we've been hearing about ChatGPT, and all this new technology that's coming out, and it can really pose a risk to the journalism industry. So excited to hear about your presentation. And seeing as a conference is exploring factor shaping journalism and journalistic roles in transformative times, why do you think it's important to study journalistic roles?

**Angela Misri** 01:58

I think it's really - I mean, journalism is always changing, and what the expectations are from the audience are always changing. And I think you constantly have to be asking yourself, okay, "what are we delivering? What is it the audience wants? How does ChatGPT change what the audience needs from us?" Or even as journalism educators, how does this change what my students are going to bring to me? Is there trust levels that need to be adjusted? Do we need to rethink what the value is what what is ChatGPT and AI bringing to the whole journalism process? Where can it be of aid? Because it can I mean, I use AI all the time to like, transcribe my videos and help me figure out the structure of a story. Those are all valuable things. But if I'm handing over all of the creative writing to a ChatGPT-type of software, what am I doing? I'm basically nullifying my value as a creator. And I'm fooling the audience. So there's all kinds of things in there to talk about, about the role of the journalist and the role of AI in a journalists' work. And I think it's really important,

**Kayla Thompson** 02:54

Right. Thank you for adding that. So on the topic of presentations, Angela, is there any other presentation happening at our conference that you're looking forward to seeing?

**Angela Misri** 03:03

Well, from a selfish point of view, I'm really looking forward to Nicole's piece that she's going to be doing about getting journalists to participate in research studies. I found I had so much trouble, and I did not anticipate that it would be so hard to get journalists to participate. We approached more than 40 Journalists for this study that I'm writing about AI and ethics and only 10 actually got back to us and did the interviews. To me, that's insane. Because I don't know if I'm the only ham in the journalistic industry but I will talk to anyone about anything. So that was surprising. So I'm looking forward to hearing that from Nicole. And there's another one being done by someone out of Italy about objectivity. And I'm always curious about how objectivity is changing and how it's changing in the newsroom, and how we accept objectivity. When I first started out as a journalist, I was pushed away from reporting about my community, the South Asian community, because it was assumed I couldn't be objective about it, which was insane, because it gave me an in into the community that they didn't have access to. That is being questioned all over the place here, the allowance for our voice within our community is being questioned. And I'm really looking forward to hearing that discussion as well.

**Kayla Thompson** 03:23

Oh wow. Great. Yeah. Those are two really great conversations that we're all looking forward to hearing. So thank you, again, for joining us today. And is there anything else you'd like to add to this conversation about journalistic roles in transformative times and our upcoming conference?

**Angela Misri** 04:23

I just I'm really looking forward to talking about this stuff. I don't think we as journalists, and we were just talking about it just now, is we don't get enough chance to pick our heads up out of what we're doing and actually talk to each other about things we're seeing and things that are changing and adapting. And it's such a really concentrated opportunity to just dedicate to this, this is all I'm going to do for those periods, that I get to talk about this stuff. So I'm really excited about those ideas. *[Outro music fades in]* I'm really excited about the openness of everyone and the variety and diversity of humans we're going to hear from it's really, really cool.

**Kayla Thompson** 04:52

Thank you so much for joining us today Angela. We are so excited to have you as a speaker at our Between Ideals and Practices: Journalistic Roles in Transformative Times conference. And for those of you listening, if you have not already, please do not forget to register for the conference taking place on May 24 at TMU. We'll have presentations by researchers from around the world and affordable accommodations available in TMU's residence and for the duration of our conference, and ICA 2023. Check out details on our website [jrpcanada.ca](https://jrpcanada.ca/) for more.

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