

## Session 2: Integration

8<sup>th</sup> January 2022

### Leading:

Winnie Fung (Lumina College)

Irene Fan (SCALE InnoTech)

### Scenario:

Human machine interface;

Cyborgs, enriched humans, automated environment;

Brain and machine integral.

### Provocation:

*Once upon time, humanity was stuck with the hand it was dealt: a brief, brutish, painful life; limited by shortsightedness, forgetfulness, fragility, and deformity. Now – thanks be to progress – we are free. Free to bind ourselves to a bright, efficient, effective future. We have cameras to see everything; hard-drives to remember everything; technologies to fix everything. There is nothing that can slow us down, impede our advance, or end our days. Now we deal our own hand.*

*And yet, free to deal any hand, there is only one hand we deal. There is nothing we lack, except anything that can that can slow us down, impede our advance, or end our days.*

### Film:

Blade Runner 2049 (2017).

### Book:

Waters, Brent (2011). “Chapter 11: Whose Salvation? Which Eschatology? Transhumanism and Christianity as contending salvific religions.” In Ronald Cole-Turner (ed.) *Transhumanism and Transcendence: Christian hope in an age of technological enhancement*. Washington DC: Georgetown University Press.

### Questions:

- What is the connection between saying humans *can* be upgraded, and saying humans *should* be upgraded?
- What is the “up” in “upgrade”?
  - Is integration of humans with technology always progress?
- Can humanity be combined with machinery without loss?
- What are Christian views of weakness and of physical death?
  - How does technology interact with / change / challenge those views?