

Mythopoeic Society AI Policy

The Mythopoeic Society does not permit the use of Generative AI-created material in any content that we publish or archive, or that is presented in person or remotely at our conferences.

What this means is that we will not knowingly provide a platform for text, images, data files, audio, video, or other types of content that are created with Large Language Models, ChatGPT, MidJourney, or other GenAI tools that create content based on prompts.

We take this position for several ethical and legal reasons.

First, there are two ethical considerations about content.

- Much of the content used to train Generative AI programs has been ingested without the permission of its creators, and without attribution or payment to them.
- At the other end of the research process, the content generated by these programs is simply predictive in nature and cannot be relied upon to be accurate. In the case of text, Generative AI programs are well-known to “hallucinate” both quotations and sources. Not only is it unethical to present this as one’s own work, it places an extra burden on our Society’s editors to confirm the non-existence of these sources. Similarly, presenting creative work generated in whole or part by GenAI prompts as one’s own work is unethical.

Second, there is the ethical question of environmental impact. While the precise level of impact on our water supply and electrical grid may be disputed, it is clear that Generative AI requires vast amounts of energy, space, and other resources to operate, and that this economic and environmental burden falls disproportionately on those who can least afford it, all in the service of a commodity of questionable utility. We especially consider the Inklings’ concerns over environmental destruction in this ethical area.

Legally, we do not wish to take the risk of publishing, archiving, or providing a presentation platform for content created by Generative AI. Future liability in this volatile area concerns us.

Our commitment:

If we suspect or are alerted to the use of Generative AI in content submitted for publication and archiving, we will review the content using currently recommended tools. We may withhold the content from public view while we privately contact the creator to discuss the

situation before taking any final steps. Our final actions may include permanent removal of an item in part or in full, or rejection of an item before publication.

To quote the AI policy statement posted by the journal *Kairos*, “there is strong evidence that AI is bad for the environment, bad for scholarship, bad for language, bad for art, and bad for people.” We imagine that Tolkien and Lewis, at least, would feel the same way.

Each of our Society’s functions that have to do with publishing or providing a platform for dissemination of content may develop its own more detailed processes for handling suspected generative AI work.