# Alice in Cyberland – Cybersecurity and the Individual.

The technology that makes the World Wide Web possible was first created by Berners-Lee in 1990 and the first Web server became operational in 1991. Today, just more than 25 years later, an estimated 3.7 billion people use the Web on a regular basis. People from all walks of life are using the Web in almost every aspect of their daily lives. Never before has any innovation been adopted so fast.

Although the use of the Web has brought many benefits to humans, its adoption and diffusion has also had many undesirable and unanticipated consequences. This lecture will focus on these undesirable consequences. The lecture will firstly provide a broad overview of the current degree to which the use of cyberspace has been adopted worldwide, and more specifically in Africa and South Africa. This will be followed by an overview of the cyber-threat landscape with a specific focus on the impact of cybercrimes in Africa and South Africa.

Next a review of seminal cybercrime incidents which helped shaped the way in which society at large views cybercrime will be presented. The lecture will focus on the underlying vulnerabilities that made these incidents possible, and on the ways in which society has responded to these incidents. Lessons that could be learned from these incidents will also be explored.

The lecture will then examine common scenarios where individuals are exposed to risk in cyberspace. Advice will be given on how these risks can be mitigated from the individual, family, and societal points of view.

The lecture will conclude with reflections on the interdisciplinary nature of the challenges facing researchers and practitioners in the cybersecurity field and how this will impact the ways in which we deal with cybercrime and cybersecurity in the future.