

CHINA CROSSROADS

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AI and the Future of Work

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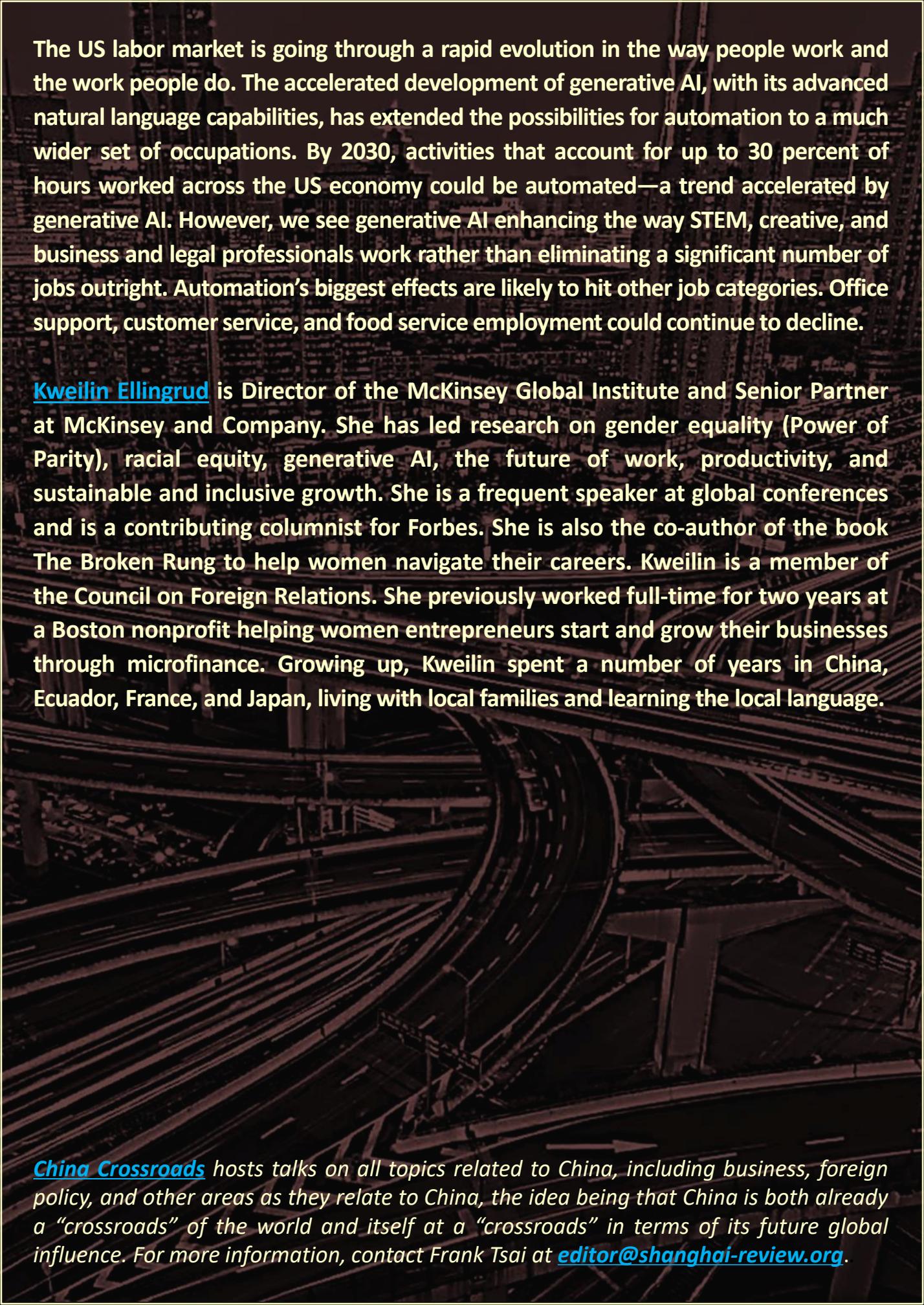
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The US labor market is going through a rapid evolution in the way people work and the work people do. The accelerated development of generative AI, with its advanced natural language capabilities, has extended the possibilities for automation to a much wider set of occupations. By 2030, activities that account for up to 30 percent of hours worked across the US economy could be automated—a trend accelerated by generative AI. However, we see generative AI enhancing the way STEM, creative, and business and legal professionals work rather than eliminating a significant number of jobs outright. Automation’s biggest effects are likely to hit other job categories. Office support, customer service, and food service employment could continue to decline.

[Kweilin Ellingrud](#) is Director of the McKinsey Global Institute and Senior Partner at McKinsey and Company. She has led research on gender equality (Power of Parity), racial equity, generative AI, the future of work, productivity, and sustainable and inclusive growth. She is a frequent speaker at global conferences and is a contributing columnist for Forbes. She is also the co-author of the book *The Broken Rung* to help women navigate their careers. Kweilin is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. She previously worked full-time for two years at a Boston nonprofit helping women entrepreneurs start and grow their businesses through microfinance. Growing up, Kweilin spent a number of years in China, Ecuador, France, and Japan, living with local families and learning the local language.

[China Crossroads](#) hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a “crossroads” of the world and itself at a “crossroads” in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at editor@shanghai-review.org.