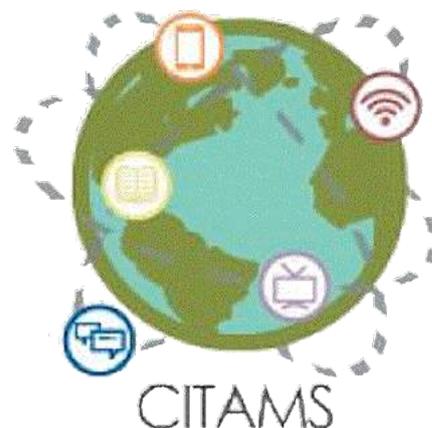


**Communication, Information
Technologies, and Media
Sociology section of the ASA**



FEATURED ARTICLES

Letter from the Chair: Andrew Lindner	2-3
Meet Our New Grad Student Editor: Yiping Xia	3
Election & Award Winner Announcements	4-10
Interview With Student Paper Award Winner: Morgan Johnstonbaugh	11-12
Interview With 2020 MacArthur Fellow Mary Gray	13-16
Teaching With Tech Spotlight: Brittany Battle	16
ASA Preview: Sessions of Interest	17-25
Media Sociology Symposium Preview	26
Recent Work from CITAMS Members	27-30
Looking Forward	30
Call for Papers: Racializing Media Policy	31

Helpful Links

[CITAMS Homepage](#)

[CITAMS ASA Section Page](#)

[SDT: Social Scientists on the Job Market](#)

Newsletter Editors

Marcus A Brooks, University of Cincinnati

Yiping Xia, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Tova Petto, Skidmore College

Letter from the Chair: Andrew Lindner

There's always an air of excitement leading up to ASA's Annual Meeting: the joy of learning about new findings, the opportunity to meet colleagues, and the rattle of nerves in presenting your own work. With just weeks until this year's virtual conference, this is an undeniably great moment for CITAMS and our members! CITAMS membership is at an all-time high with over 400 members. In this issue of the newsletter (pgs. 4-10), we celebrate a remarkable group of winners of this year's section awards. Additionally, the section's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee is finalizing a report (to be shared with all section members in August) that includes a set of recommendations to Council with the aim of making CITAMS a more inclusive scholarly community.

This issue offers a guide to the diverse and compelling line-up of programming at this year's ASA. It begins on Thursday, August 5th with the Virtual Media Sociology Symposium, featuring Keynote Speaker Ralph Schroeder (Oxford Internet Institute). CITAMS Section Day at ASA is on Saturday, August 7th and includes sessions on Media Sociology and Digital Sociology organized by Francesca Tripodi (UNC) and Tim Recuber (Smith College), ten refereed roundtables on a wide range of topics, and the CITAMS Business Meeting where we'll celebrate our award winners and provide some updates. That evening, we are offering a special CITAMS networking session to connect graduate students with faculty members and industry professionals. See the ASA Guide to learn more (pgs. 17-26).

As a faculty member at a teaching-centered institution myself, I know that research tends



to take center stage at conferences like ASA and creativity in pedagogy is often less visible. AY2020-21 was an incredibly tough year to be a teacher and the work that CITAMS members did in the classroom deserves some recognition. For that reason, I'm delighted that this issue kicks off what I hope will be an ongoing spotlight in the newsletter on innovative approaches to teaching (pg. 16).

Each ASA also marks a turning point in section leadership. I am happy to welcome Secretary-Treasurer Celeste Campos-Castillo (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), Council Members Melissa Brown (Clayman Institute/Stanford University) and Cassidy C. Puckett (Emory University), and Nominations Committee Member Charles Gomez (CUNY Queens College), all of whom will join section leadership.

Letter from the Chair: Andrew Lindner

Several CITAMS officers, Council members, and members of the Nominations Committee who have served the section well will complete their terms in August. Thank you to Anabel Quan-Haase (Western University), James Witte (George Mason University), Matt Rafalow (Google), Jeffrey Lane (Rutgers University), and Tony Cheng (Yale University). Special mention goes to Dustin Kidd (Temple University) who has done an extraordinary job as Secretary-Treasurer and is such a devoted section member, he will be returning as Chair-Elect.

It has been a unique opportunity for me to serve you as Chair this year. I have learned so much about the people, relationships, and bodies of research that make up our section

and have come away more optimistic about CITAMS.

I pass the role of Chair to Jenny L. Davis who I know to be insightful, kind, and indefatigable. Jenny will be an outstanding leader for CITAMS.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our virtual conference!

Andrew M. Lindner
CITAMS Chair



MEET OUR NEW GRAD STUDENT EDITOR: YIPING XIA



I am a PhD candidate at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Wisconsin-Madison. I research news audience through a sociological lens, with additional expertise in social media disinformation, in particular issues regarding identities and authenticity. I have Ph.D. minors in Sociology and Science and Technology Studies (STS). My doctoral project is a community-based study of audience engagement with news. I ask: What are people doing with news in their daily life? Do people with different types of social networks vary in news engagement? Does it matter what communities they are primarily involved in? The project is based on fieldwork in a Chinese-Canadian community in the Toronto area. I tweet as @Xiayp.

Election and Award Winner Announcements

2021-2022 CITAMS Council Election Results

We are pleased to announce the incoming CITAMS council. Congratulations to our incoming council members and thank you to all of the applicants.

Chair-Elect

Dustin Kidd



Secretary-Treasurer

Celeste Campos-Castillo



Nominations Committee

Charles Gomez



Council

Melissa Brown & Cassidy C. Puckett



Election and Award Winner Announcements

WILLIAM F. OGBURN MID-CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

Deana Rohlinger

Florida State University

Deana A. Rohlinger, Professor of Sociology at Florida State, has been a leading scholar on social movements, digital politics, and democratic processes in the field of communications, information technology and media. Most broadly Dr. Rohlinger's work, which is found in two sole-authored books, four edited or co-edited volumes and forty-nine peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters, has widely influenced the discipline's understanding of the range of media influences engaged by political actors. Dr. Rohlinger has also brought a new emphasis on agency on the part of activists and how they choose to use media, rather than simply thinking about how the media attend to or ignore activists. She tackled early on the variation in political ideology with regard to digital activism. The committee also commends Dr. Rohlinger for linking her work to the discipline more broadly, particularly as an active member of the ASA section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements. In these efforts she reinforces the significance of studies of communication, information technology, and media as more than a specialized sub-discipline but rather as central to the discipline as a whole. Her book, *Abortion Politics, Mass Media, and Social Movements in America*, is but one example. Lastly, the committee recognizes Dr. Rohlinger's wide-ranging mentoring efforts that contribute to the development of a diverse cohort of new scholars in our field.

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Matthew J. Salganik

Princeton University

Matthew J. Salganik, Professor of Sociology at Princeton University and Director of Princeton's Center for Information Technology Policy, is a leader in the development of innovative research methods. With his doctoral dissertation on the role of information in shaping the formation of status hierarchies, Dr. Salganik was a pioneer in the use of websites for experimental studies. Along with Douglas Heckathorn, he played a critical role in the creation of respondent driven sampling, a way to use social networks to estimate population parameters for such hard-to-reach and invisible populations as HIV positive or IV drug users. With several collaborators, Dr. Salganik, created the "scale-up-method," to estimate the size and network boundaries of ill-defined populations. He also developed the "wiki survey" as a tool that combines quantitative and qualitative approaches to online surveys, providing opportunities for respondents to co-create the survey instrument for future respondents. Dr. Salganik's collaborative approach to social science research is marked also by his co-leadership of the Fragile Families Challenge, which brought together one hundred and sixty research teams to predict life outcomes for children, parents, and families. Finally, the committee recognizes Dr. Salganik's *Bit by Bit: Social Research in the Digital Age* (Princeton University Press, 2018) as a landmark work in the emerging field of digital sociology and computational social science.

Committee Members:

Jim Witte (Chair), Paul DiMaggio, Jen Schradie

Award Winner Announcements

BEST PAPER AWARD WINNER

Ya-Wen Lei (Harvard University)

"Delivering Solidarity: Platform Architecture and Collective Contention in China's Platform Economy," *American Sociological Review* 2021

How does a business model shape the ability of employees to express dissent? Lei examines the online food-delivery industry in China, comparing two types of food couriers within that industry: service platform couriers (SPCs) and gig platform couriers (GPCs). Where the SPCs are part of a stable workforce, the GPCs are part of a flexible workforce. The author of this article focuses on the top two food delivery companies in China, both of which utilize both service platforms and gig platforms. The author introduces the concept of 'platform architecture' to address the research question, which allows for a comparison of the dissenting ideas and practices of SPCs and GPCs. Data include 68 in-depth interviews with couriers, online and on-the-ground ethnographic observations, and case analysis of 87 strikes and protests. The author compares the two platform structures in terms of three dimensions: technological control, legal control, and organizational control. The article finds that differences in the platforms based on these three dimensions result in higher protest levels by GPCs.

BEST PAPER, HONORABLE MENTIONS

Kailey White (University of Chicago)

Forrest Stuart (Stanford University)

Shannon L. Morrissey (University of Chicago)

"Whose Lives Matter? Race, Space, and the Devaluation of Homicide Victims in Minority Communities," *Sociology of Race & Ethnicity* 2020

Amid ongoing social movements and international protests over the murders of Black and Hispanic citizens at the hands of police and vigilantes, these authors provide some of the most rigorous evidence to date of the magnitude by which US society devalues minority residents' lives. Drawing on an original data set containing all news articles (n = 2,245) written about every homicide victim (n = 762) in Chicago during 2016, the authors use multilevel models to assess the extent to which victims' race and neighborhood racial composition are associated with the level of attention, or "newsworthiness," devoted to their deaths. Using two measures of newsworthiness—the amount of coverage and

Award Winner Announcements

BEST PAPER, HONORABLE MENTIONS, cont.

recognition of “complex personhood”—the authors find that victims killed in predominantly Black neighborhoods receive less news coverage than those killed in non-Hispanic White neighborhoods. Those killed in predominantly Black or Hispanic neighborhoods are also less likely to be discussed as multifaceted, complex people. The article quantifies the longstanding claims animating the Black Lives Matter movement while pinpointing how news-reporting reproduces colorblind racism.



Sarah Brayne (University of Texas at Austin)

Angèle Christin (Stanford University)

“Technologies of Crime Prediction: The Reception of Algorithms in Policing and Criminal Courts,” *Social Problems* 2020

In this study, Brayne and Christin examine how police officers, judges and prosecutors respond to the introduction of predictive algorithms into different segments of the criminal justice system. Examples of predictive technologies include software programs that help police departments to predict who is likely to be a victim and where crimes are likely to occur, as well assessment tools used by courts to predict risk of recidivism by court defendants. The authors draw on two ethnographic case studies: one of the LAPD and one of the court system in Marcy County to understand how police departments and criminal courts justified their use of predictive technologies and strategies for resistance by people on the ground. The authors find overlap in people’s justifications for the use of predictive algorithms: especially, the idea that algorithms are more objective and efficient than human judgment. However, professionals objected to what they perceived as a “function creep” wherein data used to guide decision-making may be used to surveil criminal justice workers instead. Workers also expressed concern that algorithms encouraged the devaluation of experiential knowledge. In response, some workers engaged in strategies of resistance, including ignoring the risk scores when making decisions, obfuscation such as when police officers deliberately remove the antennae from their cars so that data about their location cannot be collected, or producing alternative forms of data. The authors conclude that while predictive algorithms are primarily justified as a way of removing discretionary power and bias in criminal justice procedures. The reality of how people use these technologies on the ground suggest that such technologies are displacing discretion to less visible parts of the organization.

Committee Members:

Dustin Kidd (Chair), David Grazian, Phillipa Chong

Award Winner Announcements

BEST STUDENT PAPER AWARD WINNER

Morgan Johnstonbaugh (University of Arizona)

"Men Find Trophies Where Women Find Insults: Sharing Nude Images of Others as Collective Rituals of Sexual Pursuit and Rejection"

We are pleased to announce that Morgan Johnstonbaugh is the 2021 winner of the Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology Best Student Paper Award for “Men find trophies where women find insults: Sharing nude images of others as collective rituals of sexual pursuit and rejection.” In the paper, Johnstonbaugh shows that, although both men and women occasionally share nude images of the opposite gender, they participate in two very different rituals. For men, sharing nude images with peers is a means of demonstrating sexual prowess, while women tend to share images to receive support in response to unwanted sexual advances. The study elegantly illustrates how both of these different gender-specific meanings build gender solidarity while at the same time reproducing or resisting unequal gender relations. This paper offers an insightful discussion into how the same cultural object can have radically different meanings depending on the gender of the person. Johnstonbaugh effectively combines the theory of interaction rituals with careful data collection to produce a new understanding of ways that sexual pursuit and rejection have been modified by the new technologies of the Internet era.

BEST STUDENT PAPER, HONORABLE MENTION

Bo Yun Park (Harvard)

"Crafting the Message: The Data Science Behind U.S. Presidential Elections"

The 2021 Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology Best Student Paper Award Committee recognizes Bo Yun Park with the distinction of Honorable Mention for “Crafting the Message: The Data Science Behind U.S. Presidential Elections.” This paper makes original theoretical and empirical contributions by analyzing how big data analytics shapes the production of candidates’ messages in U.S. presidential elections. Park compiles a unique and impressive set of data—interviews with political strategies, observations of professional meetings, and text analyses of speech debates—and finds that data science is no longer simply being used for voter mobilization. Instead, data analytics are increasingly shaping the content of political messages and tone of political discourse as campaigns optimize communications for the new digital environment. Theoretically, Park incorporates concepts from cultural sociology to reveal new patterns in this timely and policy-relevant area of research.

Committee Members:

Andrew Lindner (Chair), Grant Blank, Tony Cheng

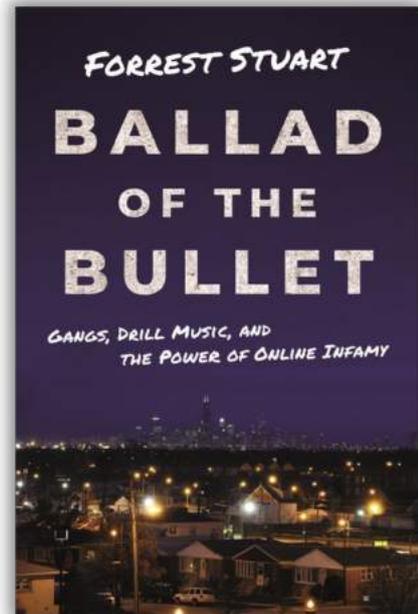
Award Winner Announcements

BEST BOOK AWARD WINNERS

Forrest Stuart (Stanford)

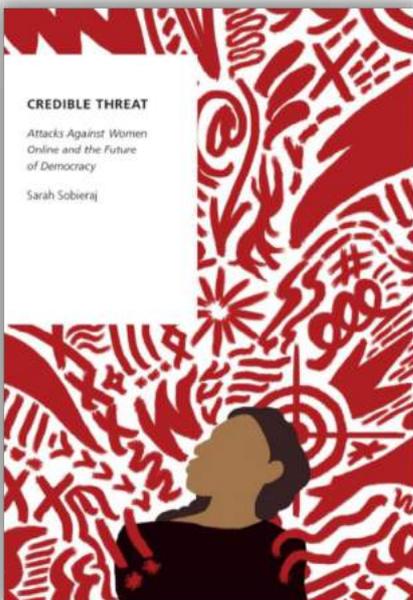
Ballad of the Bullet: Gangs, Drill Music, and the Power of Online Infamy.

We are happy to announce that Forrest Stuart is a winner of the 2021 Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology Book Award for his provocative book, *Ballad of the Bullet: Gangs, Drill Music, and the Power of Online Infamy*. This outstanding work skillfully combines theory and research on cultural production and inequality and extends it through a rich ethnographic account of gang members' social media use. Stuart follows a group of thirty young men in Chicago he calls the "Corner Boys," who produce and distribute "drill music" (or "shooting music") via social media, chasing online celebrity. Stuart finds that the men embrace negative stereotypes and assert criminality online as a way to leverage resources - including cash, housing, guns, sex, and even social mobility. But online notoriety most typically results in jail, injury, or death. Overall, Stuart offers a theoretically rich treatment of how the new digital economy is constituted in the context of urban poverty. *Ballad of the Bullet* is a must read for those interested in social media, cultural production, inequality, urban sociology, and criminology.



Sarah Sobieraj (Tufts)

Credible Threat: Attacks Against Women Online and the Future of Democracy.



It is an honour to announce that Sarah Sobieraj's book *Credible Threat: Attacks Against Women Online and the Future of Democracy* is a winner of the 2021 Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology Book Award. Sarah Sobieraj investigates a pressing social problem, how women are silenced online through toxic behaviors like threats, harassment, and intimidation. She draws on extensive interviews with over 50 women to demonstrate the long-term effects of online threats. The interviews provide rich data on the experiences of women online and the ways that online threats are disruptive to their lives. The book provides a nuanced account of the labour women engage in to cope with online toxicity from preventative labour to ameliorative labour. The book demonstrates the serious implications that silencing the voices of women has for open debate and ultimately democracy itself. *Credible Threat* makes an outstanding contribution to our understanding of the intersection of gender, technology, and democracy.

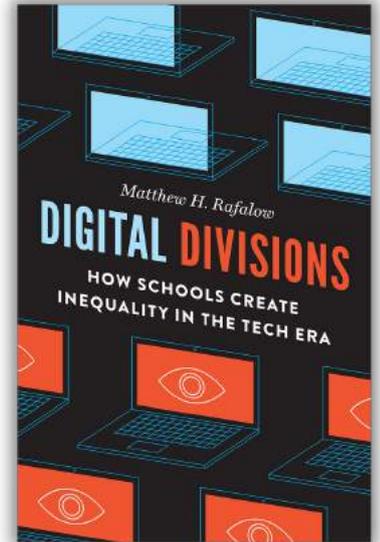
Award Winner Announcements

BEST BOOK AWARD WINNERS, cont.

Matthew H. Rafalow (Google & Stanford)

Digital Divisions: How Schools Create Inequality in the Tech Era

We are excited to announce that Matthew Rafalow's book, *Digital Divisions: How Schools Create Inequality in the Tech Era*, is a recipient of the 2021 Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology Book Award. *Digital Divisions* takes on a pressing issue in a world increasingly shaped by technology: the role schools play in preparing future generations for life and work in the digital age. The book is based on a comparative ethnography of three middle schools serving different populations. Drawing on extensive classroom observations and over 100 interviews, Rafalow finds that rather than serving as an equal arbiter of digital knowledge, the schools approached technology use differently. Building on scholarship about social reproduction, educational inequality, cultural capital, and the digital divide, this important and beautifully written book is a must read for those interested in how institutional cultures and teachers' differential expectations pertaining to race and class combine to shape students' life chances in notable yet unequal ways.



Committee Members:

Anabel Quan-Haase (Chair), Stephen Barnard, Cassidy Puckett

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY AWARD

Dr. Sandra L. Barnes (Vanderbilt)

“Gary, Indiana: A Tale of Two Cities”



Dr. Sandra L. Barnes has been selected as the winner of the 2021 CITAMS Public Sociology Award. The award committee recognizes Dr. Barnes for her outstanding use of documentary filmmaking to advance public understanding and engagement with topics of racism, classism, inequalities in urban spaces and public institutions, and community resilience, social progress,

and upliftment. Dr. Barnes created an Emmy-nominated, publicly available film, “Gary, Indiana: A Tale of Two Cities,” a moving, 60-minute documentary that employs the “sociological imagination” to understand structural inequality and community resilience from the perspective of Black people, churches, and communities of Gary, Indiana. This film is available on YouTube (viewed over 273K times) where Dr. Barnes also disseminates documentaries on educational inequalities. Along with blogging and children’s books/media, Dr. Barnes uses various media tools and outlets to bring sociological issues to the public and to educational settings, demonstrating the importance of media development and dissemination to advance public sociology goals. We recognize and appreciate Dr. Barnes for her commitment to social change and use of media in this process.

Committee Members:

Jeffrey Lane (Chair), Jenny Davis

An Interview With Best Student Paper Award Winner

By Yiping Xia

@Xiayp

We spoke with Morgan Johnstonbaugh about Morgan's Best Student Award-Winning paper, "Men Find Trophies Where Women Find Insults: Sharing Nude Images of Others as Collective Rituals of Sexual Pursuit and Rejection".

How do your findings speak to the research interests of the CITAMS community?

In this paper, I draw on 55 in-depth interviews with college students to examine how and why young people share nude and semi-nude images of others. I find that men and women often attach distinct meanings to nude images shared in intimate heterosexual interactions and these meanings shape collective rituals of sexual pursuit and sexual rejection. While men's rituals of domination reproduce unequal gender relations, women's rituals of commiseration resist unequal gender relations.

These findings speak to the research interests of the CITAMS community because they illuminate the increasingly influential role that technology plays in behaviors that have historically taken place in-person. For instance, while Grazian (2007) explored the ritual of "girl hunting" and Ronen (2010) explored the concept of "cooling out" at college parties, it was not clear if and how these interactions would translate to the digital sphere. This paper begins to fill this gap in the literature and provides a foundation for adapting sociological theory to understand how social actors strategically navigate intimate digital interactions.



Is this part of your dissertation project? What led you to this subject of research?

This paper stems from my dissertation research on how and why young people engage in sexting which I broadly define as the electronic sharing of nude or semi-nude images and the written or spoken communication that accompanies them. I was attracted to this research topic because I noticed that while more and more young people appeared to be engaging in digital intimacy, almost all of the common knowledge and discussion about sexting framed it as a risky and dangerous activity that should be avoided at all costs. I wanted to find out what motivated young people to sext and how they mitigated potential risks. I found that young people engage in many diverse sexting interactions (some very satisfying, others not so much) and often sexted strategically to avoid having their images shared without their consent.

An Interview With Best Student Paper Award Winner

What do internet researchers miss when they don't consider those "gendered rituals" in online interactions, and what do sociologists of gender miss out when they lack understanding of digital technologies?

When internet researchers don't consider gendered rituals, they may miss the different ways in which women and men use digital technology. These differences may be far-reaching and influence how people engage in and interpret digital content and interactions. Although these differences were quickly apparent when studying young people's sexting practices, these differences may be more subtle, yet just as influential, in other types of online practices.

When gender scholars don't incorporate digital technologies into their work, they miss how digital technologies may reinforce and/or disrupt gender dynamics that are well-documented in in-person interactions. Analyzing interactions that are fully online or contain digital elements (like sharing nude images of others) will expose the creative ways individuals interact in digital spaces and how gender rituals, roles, and expectations

evolve as our interactions increasingly take place online.

What are you working on next?

I will be completing a 6-month user experience research co-op at Wayfair.

What types of jobs are you looking for after graduation?

I will be searching for a job in industry when I graduate in May 2022. I'm looking forward to using my mixed methods research skills to help businesses and consumers navigate digital spaces and use technology to achieve their goals.

Any other fun facts you'd like to share?

I currently live in New Orleans, and I'm an active member of the Mardi Gras community! I am the Chief Membership Officer of the Krewe of House Floats and a member of the Krewe of Goddesses. You can learn more about my work here: www.morganjohnstonbaugh.com



See Morgan present this award-winning paper at this year's ASA Virtual Conference:

Session: Sexualities and Gender Asymmetries

Date: Sun, August 8

Time: 11:00am to 12:25pm EDT (10:00 to 11:25am CDT)

Location: VAM, Room 27

An Interview With 2020 MacArthur Fellow Mary Gray

By Marcus A Brooks
@thisismarcusb

In this issue we continue our coverage of CITAMS members who have been awarded the prestigious MacArthur Foundation fellowship. Mary L. Gray is an anthropologist, Senior Principal Researcher at Microsoft Research and Faculty Associate at Harvard University's Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society. We spoke with her about the importance of doing interdisciplinary work across academic fields and the private sector, what ethnographers have to offer to studies of Big Data, and get a sneak peek into her upcoming projects.



As an anthropologist, how did you first get involved with CITAMS, and what are the benefits of being in professional organizations outside of your field?

My way to CITAMS was through the section on sexuality and the STS section. My earlier work on queer youth uses of new media technologies around identity formation received an American Sociological Association Award from the sexuality section. I was trained by Susan Leigh Star and Steve Epstein, among others, so I think it's an interesting, maybe a side door, that I've always identified as an anthropologist and my home base is the American Anthropological Association, but like many so-called Americanists, as somebody who studies cultural formations in the United States, that means I'm always in conversation with sociology, because so much of sociology, so much of that history, has been based in the U.S. and it certainly takes up cultural questions.

I think it's really an interesting route that I feel like I came through sociology because I was trained by sociologists. I certainly use and draw from those frameworks. They inform how I think about things. And methodologically there's a kindred kind of kissing cousins of doing ethnographic research and also case study methods. And so I've been a part of ASA for a really long time. I think this is the crux of the issue, that anyone studying technologies and societies benefits from bringing together the disciplines that have studied society and approaches to technology that never let us forget that they are always social and cultural objects. So, I'm constantly harping on my students about the need for the disciplinarity of sociology, anthropology, and, again, kind of adjacent social sciences that take a qualitative but also critical approach to technologies. I think they've long been missing from the conversation around technologies.

An Interview With 2020 MacArthur Fellow Mary Gray

As someone who works within the tech sector as well as the academy, what is the importance of collaborating with people outside of academia, especially in technology, with the people who are building those technologies which we study?

I think that's the heart of it. It's that in many cases when we're talking about technologies that have substantial social impact, some for better and some for worse, are typically talking, talking about technologies built by the private sector. And that means that they are proprietary. They are always behind the firewalls of corporate structures. Sometimes we're lucky and we're studying non-governmental organizations or governmental agencies that have important technologies. But, particularly now there isn't a world outside of capitalism. I think an important reality to contend with that when thinking about how to study technologies is that they are shot through with the logics of capital and with markets that shape what is available to individuals, to the general public, to citizens, to consumers. And in fact, the construction of those identities is coming in relationship to private companies, often producing the technologies that we use in our everyday lives. So that undeniable fact about reality, that probably many of us would like to change, is the power structures of that reality. To me, it becomes incredibly important for scholars to be able to build bridges in some cases and in other cases they should be there to the storm the gate of technology companies. We all have a really important role to play in being able to broker the relationships that make these institutions, the technology company, an object of analysis.

Statistical analysis of Big Data has long been a cornerstone of internet research. As someone whose work is primarily rooted in ethnography, what do ethnographers and other qualitative researchers have to bring to the study of big data?

Gosh, there's so many scholars who have commented on this so I feel like I should be citing the long list of people have - I'm thinking of Jenna Burrell, certainly Virginia Eubanks, Tressie McMillan Cottom. There's enough of us that, and certainly people before us, who are noting the importance of qualitative analyses, particularly an ethnographic take on the meaning of quantitative data. And, if anything, sociology can learn from its own internal methods wars on this front. The thing that's quite distinct about sociology is that it's held together a computational quantitative approach to what can we learn from the data produced through these large-scale measurements and a qualitative take that in all cases is meant to be able to interpret differently the things we cannot measure. So, the value of thinking about ethnographic approaches to the so-called "big data" world is that when we use them to iterate, we can start really developing a rich set of theories, and not just lenses on these worlds, but interventions that account for both what we can measure, but also account for what is ultimately too dynamic to measure - and in fact, I think always escapes measurement. Which is those human dimensions that are about relationality, like big data just frankly, is not built to absorb the relations that produce meaning, it cannot tell people what something means it can just tick off something that's happened. And I think these two ways of being able to bring material to bear on interpreting the world, big data and ethnographic approaches, their value is quite complementary. They really should not be siloed off, but they should iterate. And I think we historically have not done a good job of iterating between the two. So, the irony is that the study of technologies has led to this obsession with big data. And what is big data? It's just an attempt at creating large buckets of generalizability. And there's always been a need for some new techniques that would allow us to zoom out and zoom in more effectively. That's what we could be doing instead of kind of pitting these

An Interview With 2020 MacArthur Fellow Mary Gray

approaches against each other and thinking one is better than the other.

What would your answer to people who ask: do you study technology or do you study society?

I think that if I was going to define what I specifically study, it's cultural formations of social relationships. And to me the tech thing of that is that we produce artifacts socially that facilitate us connecting and in producing those artifacts - right now it's social media and a hundred years ago it was the telegraph - we produced these artifacts that are these expressions of us creating connections, imagined and otherwise, with each other. And so studying technology is a way of studying the social, but I think it's important not to separate those out as either technology or society, because there's nothing about technology that's not shot through with sociality. Everything from what we decide to build, who builds it, how it's used, how it's repurposed, where it's completely absent and that we don't even think twice that it's not available - all of those are deeply social. There's nothing about the artifact of technology that doesn't hold in it all of that social reality. And there's nothing about society that's not facilitated with these technologies, especially today. An anthropological view would say that's always been true. We've always been toolmakers. We understand the meaning of society by these objects, so I feel like it's actually very important that we don't separate those. It's not one or the other.

As somebody who started out studying rural queer folks in Appalachia and then going into a digital labor what do you see as the common threads or ties that that bring those works together?

It's funny because it only superficially is technology. The through line, the real thread that binds them is that I am really driven by questions

that have to do with the politics of visibility. So, questions that have to do with what makes us more heard, or seen, or less understood. Most of my early work was a very basic question of, why isn't the Internet making political organizing easier? I was very much involved in queer organizing at the time, and so it was me being a political organizer trying to understand why isn't the Internet making it possible to do things in rural places that I thought, if I believe the story of the Internet, it's supposed to be making it possible. I wasn't in graduate school at that time. I was doing field organizing. I was a queer youth organizer. I was interested in what are the political possibilities of this moment around certainly identity and what role is technology playing vis-a-vis the possibility of political action, collective action. Oh, you're trying to be queer where you are? How do you accomplish that? What does that mean to you and what role does technology play? Technology becomes a way into a much more important set of questions around what is it that will animate the possibility of a political action, a collective action. That, and what story is going to be hooked to the wagon of technology in this case, needs to be watched. As soon as technology becomes the "it" that saves things we're in trouble. That is the thing for me to track. And that was true for studying digital labor. Right. It's like if we started thinking, oh, this is this is going to mean jobs for everybody or this is going to be liberation for everybody that's exactly the place to intervene as a scholar and say there are some good things happening and we should not ignore the cost of seeing what's in the wake of this enthusiasm.

What can we look forward to from you next? What are you working on now?

I'm working on this project looking at a group of community-based organizations in North Carolina that provide wraparound services, kind of nonmedical aid. What I'm working on is trying to understand what are the practices and principles

An Interview With 2020 MacArthur Fellow Mary Gray

that have shaped what we generally call human subjects research. Why is that so challenging to the computer science and engineering as disciplines, and through this particular field project thinking what would it look like to do otherwise - to have a different set of practices and principles that really prioritize the agenda setting of a community based organization as a stakeholder and building technology. It's a very basic question. It's like, why is it so hard to prioritize an accountability and a direct yield, a deference, to the domain expertise of community

members when you're trying to build something to help? Is that incompatible with the logic of capital? It's become a kind of a galvanizing call within computer science, the human communication interaction stuff and trying to understand what it would look like to have technologists have a different sense of what they build, why they build, who they build for. That's what I'm pursuing, but through this very specific intervention of like, OK, let's try and build something with this community group that's helping people very much on the margins who have not had access to medical care.

Teaching With Tech Spotlight

As a section which recognizes the linkages between research and teaching, we are happy to present our latest ongoing feature, Teaching with Tech Spotlight. Understanding that technology provides new opportunities for us to think about classroom assignments, in this section we will spotlight technology-centered classroom assignments and provide a full rubric so that our readers can incorporate these assignments in their own classrooms. You will find a summary of the assignment in this section of the newsletter and the full assignment prompt will be available at the CITAMS website, <https://citams.org/teaching-with-tec/>. We thank **Brittany Battle (Wake Forest University)** for providing our first teaching tech assignment.

Name of project: Abolition and Transformative Justice Virtual Teach-In

What course/level is the project designed for?
Upper-level seminar called "Defund, Transform, Abolish?: (Re)Imagining Justice

What inspired you to come up with this project?
Community engagement and education are central components of transformative justice and abolitionist practices, so it was important to incorporate those goals in the course. Since virtual spaces have become so common with the pandemic, it was much easier to devise a way for the class to engage with the broader community. I have learned so much through being able to access virtual spaces around these topics, so I wanted to extend that possibility with my students.



How does this project incorporate technology?
The project required students to host a virtual teach-in event, using the method of their choice (e.g. Zoom meeting or webinar, Facebook live stream, etc). Students were also responsible for creating an electronic registration for participants and flyers which were posted to social media to advertise for the event. Some groups made presentations using Google slides, Prezi, or other mediums which were shared during their teach-ins.

ASA Preview: Sessions of Interest



Below you can find a list of sessions we find may be of interest to our members, including those sponsored by CITAMS (note that CITAMS-sponsored sessions are all those listed schedule for Saturday, August 7th.). For registration information and the full conference program visit the the American Sociological Association Website at asanet.org.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7th

1113. Section on Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology. Open Paper Session on Digital Sociology
VAM, Room 12, 11:00am-12:25pm

Session Organizer: Timothy Recuber, Smith College
Presider: Timothy Recuber, Smith College

Algorithmic Reparation

Jenny L. Davis, The Australian National University
Apryl A. Williams, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
Michael Yang, The Australian National University

Algorithms in Action: Reassembling Contact Tracing and Risk Assessment during the Covid-19 Pandemic in China

Chun Cheng Liu, University of California San Diego

On the Contesting Conceptualization of the Human Subject: Between 'Homo-Microbis' and 'Homo-Algorithmicus'

Dan M Kotliar, Stanford University
Rafi Groszlik, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

On the Genealogy of Machine Learning Datasets: A Critical History of ImageNet

Emily Denton, Google
Alex Hanna, Google
Razvan Amironesei, University of San Francisco
Andrew Smart, Google
Hilary Nicole, Google

ASA Preview: Sessions of Interest

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7th

1369. Meeting. Section on Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology Business Meeting **VAM, Room 68, 12:45-1:15pm**

Come learn about what CITAMS has been up to, what we have planned for the coming year, and join us in celebrating this year's award winners.

The following Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology (CITAMS) refereed roundtable Sessions were organized by Andrew M. Lindner and Jenny L. Davis.

1457. CITAMS Refereed Roundtable Session. **Contested Media** **VAM, Room 56, 1:15-2:10pm**

Table President: Sarah R. Johnson-Palomaki, University of Virginia

A Discursive Evolution of 19th Century Opium Advertisements in Local Newsprint
Andrew Robert Burns, Louisiana State University

Occasional Heroes: Working-Class Nostalgia and Subordination in Neoliberal Film
Peter R. Ikeler, SUNY-Old Westbury
Josh Scannell, The New School
Jefferson Charles
Felicia Crivello

You're Cancelled: Entertainment Media, "Problematic" Creators, and Political Play through Cultural Critique
Sarah R. Johnson-Palomaki, University of Virginia

Varieties of Resonance: The Subjective Interpretations and Utilizations of Media Output in France
Bo Yun Park, Harvard University
Adrien Abecassis, Harvard University
Manon Revel, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

1458. CITAMS Refereed Roundtable Session. **Data Societies** **VAM, Room 57, 1:15-2:10pm**

Table President: Emilio Lehoucq, Northwestern University

Algorithmic Fairness Across Contexts and Social Media: Do Americans Think Predictive Automation is Fair?
Emilio Lehoucq, Northwestern University

ASA Preview: Sessions of Interest

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7th

Framing AI and Digital Sovereignty – A Survey on National AI Strategies in Russia, Germany and China

Viktor Tuzov, City University of Hong Kong
Fen Jennifer Lin, City University of Hong Kong

Making Space for the Future, Reimagining the Smart Nation

Amelia Hassoun, University of Oxford

“There are some things that I would never ask Alexa” – Privacy and Smart Speaker Assistants

Saba Rebecca Brause, Weizenbaum Institut
Grant Blank, University of Oxford

Big Data & Belmont: On the Ethics and Research Implications of Consumer Based Datasets

Remy Stewart, Cornell University

1459. CITAMS Refereed Roundtable Session.

Identity and Gaming Communities

VAM, Room 58, 1:15-2:10pm

Table Presider: Christine Tomlinson, University of California-Irvine

Becoming a Pokémon Trainer: Leisure and Well-being among Older Adults in Hong Kong

Gina Lai, Hong Kong Baptist University
Ka Fung, Caritas Institute of Higher Education

Expectations, Norms, and Personal Accountability in Twitch Culture

Christine Tomlinson, University of California-Irvine

Patching You Up, As Usual: Women and Gendered Labor in an Online Shooting Game

Jessica Austin, University of Colorado Boulder

Women in Gaming: We Have Always Been Here

Michelle Jacqueline Alexander, University of Oregon

1460. CITAMS Refereed Roundtable Session.

Inequalities in a Digitized Society

VAM, Room 59, 1:15-2:10pm

Table Presider: Laura Robinson, Santa Clara University

Affluence, Equality, and Technological Integration: A Cross-National Meta-Analysis of Gender Differences in ICT Self-Efficacy

MacKenzie Antoinette Christensen

Mobile does not substitute computers: mobile underclass, sequential digital inequalities, and e-government engagement in Brazil

Matias Dodel, Universidad Catolica del Uruguay

The role of the mobile internet: Mobile dependencies, internet use and outcomes

Darja Grošelj, University of Ljubljana
Grant Blank, University of Oxford

ASA Preview: Sessions of Interest

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7th

Social media and hiring: an online experiment on discrimination based on social class
Diana Roxana Galos, University of Konstanz

Disconnected, Discouraged, and Defeated: How Social Class and Digital Inequalities Depress Well-Being
Jen Schradie, Sciences Po - Paris
Katharina Tittel, Sciences Po Paris

1461. CITAMS Refereed Roundtable Session.
Meaningmaking and Social Constructions
VAM, Room 60, 1:15-2:10pm

Table President: Grant Lattanzi, Georgetown University

How Narrative Construction in the News Maintains Social Movement
Rebecca S.K. Li, The College of New Jersey

“That’s not real”: Sensemaking to Reduce Harm from Comparison on Social Media
Amy Lynne Johnson, Stanford University

Digital Calendars and Symbolic Representations of Time
Grant Lattanzi, Georgetown University

Recombinant memetics through corpora analysis
Mariam Orkodashvili, Vanderbilt University

1462. CITAMS Refereed Roundtable Session.
Media and Social Change in a Pandemic
VAM, Room 61, 1:15-2:10pm

Table President: Laura Grindstaff, University of California-Davis

After the Pandemic: The Future of Community and Work
Rachael A. Woldoff, West Virginia University
Robert C. Litchfield, Washington and Jefferson College

Changing the Subject: Causal Relationships Between COVID-19 Topics
Sabrina Mai
Carter T. Butts, University of California-Irvine

Did the Screens Win? An Autoregressive Model Linking Leisure, Relatedness and Mental Health
Mattia Vacchiano, Swiss National centre of Competence in Research LIVES
Riccardo Valente

My Pandemic Romance: How “Tinderphobes” Respond to Love’s Digital Migration during COVID-19
Skyler Wang, University of California, Berkeley

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7th

**1463. CITAMS Refereed Roundtable Session.
Mediated Relationships, Mediated Communities**
VAM, Room 62, 1:15-2:10pm

Table President: John D Boy, Leiden University

E-Word-of-Mouth (e-WOM) in the health domain - Its antecedents and outcomes
Esther Brainin, Ruppin Academic Center Israel

Challenging, Internalizing and Transforming Gendered Courtship Norms in Online Dating
Celeste Curington, North Carolina State University
Jennifer Hickee Lundquist, University of Massachusetts-Amherst

WeChatized Economy in Vancouver: Ethnic Enclave or Mixed Embeddedness
Yijia Zhang, The University of British Columbia

**1464. CITAMS Refereed Roundtable Session.
Media, Work, and Labor Struggles**
VAM, Room 63, 1:15-2:10pm

Table President: Julian Posada, University of Toronto

(Dis)embeddedness in Latin American Data Work
Julian Posada, University of Toronto

Reconsidering digital labour: Bringing tech workers into the debate
Robert Dorschel, University of Cambridge

Trucking on Twitch: How Self-Surveillance Renegotiates Workplace Power Dynamics
Sara Bimo
Aparajita Bhandari, Cornell University

To strike to progress, long live the strike!"
Magda Catalina Jimenez, Universidad Externado

**1465. CITAMS Refereed Roundtable Session.
Online-Offline Bridges: Platforms, Influencers, and Streamers - Oh My!**
VAM, Room 64, 1:15-2:10pm

Table President: Francesca Tripodi, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

"Looking Like a Million Bucks": Fashion Influencers, Status Hierarchies, and the "It Girls" of Instagram
Jordan Foster, University of Toronto

Elected Officials as Interacting Organisms: Examining the role politicians play in sustaining the Right-Wing Media Ecosystem
Francesca Tripodi, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Yuanye Ma, UNC-Chapel Hill

ASA Preview: Sessions of Interest

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7th

Platforming Race: Examining racial ideologies on social media platforms
Amber M. Hamilton, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Social Media, Meet Clientelism
Nicolas Torres-Echeverry, University of Chicago

1466. CITAMS Refereed Roundtable Session.
Politics and the Media
VAM, Room 65, 1:15-2:10pm

Table Presider: Andrew M. Lindner, Skidmore College

American News And (Or As) Entertainment
Mary Elisabeth Hopkins, New York University

An Ambivalent Crisis: The Field of Journalism and The New York Times
Tyler Leeds, The University of California, Berkeley

Enacting and Avoiding Politics in Online Publics
Dmitri S. Seals, California State University-Los Angeles

Perceiving Fact-Checks as Biased but Nevertheless Persuaded? Effects of Fact-Checking News Delivered by Partisan Media
Je Hoon Chae, Yonsei University
Hyunjin Song, Yonsei University
Sang Yup Lee, Yonsei University

Propaganda, Disinformation, and Media Effects: A Comparison of Past and Present Scholarship
Sarah J Halford, Brandeis University

1467. CITAMS Refereed Roundtable Session.
Technology, Media, and Education
VAM, Room 66, 1:15-2:10pm

Table Presider: Cassidy Puckett, Emory University

Digital divide and divided higher education marketing in Germany
Sude Peksen, TU Dortmund University

Sorting Machines: Digital Technology and Categorical Inequality in Education
Matt Rafalow, Google
Cassidy Puckett, Emory University

Collaborative Pedagogy: Teaching (with) The Grateful Dead on Tour, on Campus, and Online
Rebecca G. Adams, University of North Carolina-Greensboro

ASA Preview: Sessions of Interest

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7th

1714. Section on Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology. Open Paper Session on Media Sociology

VAM, Room 13, 4:15-5:40pm

Session Organizer: Francesca Tripodi, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Presider: Francesca Tripodi, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Advocacy Organizations, Narratives, and Marijuana Discourse in Black Newspapers

Burrel James Vann, San Diego State University

Assigning Punishment: Reader Responses to Crime News

Kat Albrecht, Northwestern University

Janice Nadler, Northwestern University

Filtering the Filtered about the Armenian Genocide: News Media on Legal, Political, and Commemorative Field Events

Miray Hany Wadie Philips, University of Minnesota

Joachim J. Savelsberg, University of Minnesota

From the “Magna Carta” to “Dying in the Streets”: Framing Mental Health Law in California

Alexander Vosick Barnard, New York University

“The Looming, Crazy Stalker Coronavirus”: Fear-mongering, Fake News and Media Burnout in New York City

Alexandrea J. Ravenelle, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Abigail Newell, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8th

2511. Ideas for Future Research

Sociology of Artificial Intelligence

VAM, Room 10, 2:30-3:55pm

Session Organizer: Beth Redbird, Northwestern University

Table Presiders: Julian Posada, University of Toronto; Iga Kozłowska, Northwestern University

Sociology of Artificial Intelligence

Julian Posada, University of Toronto

Iga Kozłowska, Northwestern University

ASA Preview: Sessions of Interest

MONDAY, AUGUST 9th

3126. Regular Session.

Social Media and the Internet: Affordances and Subjectivities

VAM, Room 25, 11:00am-12:25pm

Session Organizer: Jessica Pearce, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Presider: Tracy Perkins, Arizona State University

Algorithmic Capital and Influencer Careers: Vegan YouTubers and Facebook Entertainers

Angele Christin, Stanford University

Ashley E. Mears, Boston University

Bored Ghosts and Anxious Text Games: How Dating Apps Channel the Desire for Intimacy into Anxiety

Gregory Narr, CUNY

Media Manipulation Affordances: how producers' exploit platforms to spread misinformation

Francesca Tripodi, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

On Call 76 days: WeChat in Volunteerism during the Wuhan Lockdown

Xueqing Zhang, UBC

Social Butterflies or Social Distancers? Exploring Social Media User Profiles

Sydney Yarbrough, University of Maryland-College Park

3326. Regular Session.

Social Media and the Internet: Politics and Collective Crises

VAM, Room 25, 12:45-2:10pm

Session Organizer: Jessica Pearce, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Presider: Zhaodi Chen, Indiana University

Digital Contact with the Out-Group and Political Polarization

Tyler Walton

Memetic Social Support in Collective Crises

Sara Bubenik, Boston University

Socially Mediated Political Consumerism in Four Countries

Shelley J. Boulianne, MacEwan University

WAVECATCHERS: A Network Analysis of Fake News Bot URL Data

Richard Edward Gardner, University of California, Irvine

Carter T. Butts, University of California-Irvine

Hard-Right Social Media and Violence: "Wearing the Mask of Cruelty" in American Communities

Daniel Karell, Yale University

ASA Preview: Sessions of Interest

MONDAY, AUGUST 9th

3526. Regular Session.

Social Media and the Internet: Race, Gender, and Inequality
VAM, Room 25, 2:30-3:55pm

Session Organizer: Jessica Pearce, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
President: Sydney Yarbrough, University of Maryland-College Park

If You Built a Sandbox: Google Fiber Signup in Disadvantaged Urban Communities

Wenhong Chen, University of Texas-Austin
Xiaoqian Li, Illinois Tech
Gejun Huang, The University of Texas at Austin
Joseph Straubhaar, The University of Texas at Austin

Masculine Online Environment and Gender Gap in Online Participation: A Survey Experiment

Zhaodi Chen, Indiana University
Junghun Han, Indiana University

Online Dilemmas, Offline Burdens: How Black and Asian Women Navigate Cyber Aggression

Paulina dela Cruz Inara Rodis

Seeking and surveilled: The effects of FOSTA on sugar babies' Tumblr activities

Rachel E. Davis, University of Kentucky

Wikipedia and the outsider within: Black feminism and racialized, gendered knowledge construction online

Tracy Perkins, Arizona State University
Sophia Hussein
Lundyn Davis
Mariam Trent

3547. Open Refereed Roundtables.

Table 1: Digital Sociology
VAM, Room 46, 2:30-3:55pm

Session Organizer: Christina Ong, University of Pittsburgh
President: Adam Loesch, SIUE

Digitally Mediated Ideologies: An Analysis of the Political Landscape of YouTube

Adam Loesch, SIUE

I Did It, But...: Exploring DUI Offender Deviance Rationalization in the Digital Age

Andrew Tatch, Troy University

The iPhone and The App: Steel Axes for Television Age Humans

Joshua R Williams, University of Toledo

Women's Marches to Twitter Crabs: Gender and STEM Advocacy in the Digital Age

Lisa Dale Rifkind

2021 Media Sociology Symposium Preview

AUGUST 4-5, 2021: FULL SYMPOSIUM SCHULDE IS AVAILABLE HERE

Keynote Speaker: Ralph Schroeder of the Oxford Internet Institute @ 11:00 AM Central Time
"Digital Media and Social Theory: The View from Modi's India and Xi's China"

CITAMS Chairs' Plenary @ 17:00 PM Central Time:
"The Challenge of Obsolescence in Media Sociology," organized by Andrew M. Lindner & Jenny Davis

Special international collaborations with:
Brazil-U.S. Colloquium on Communication Studies and IAMCR Digital Divide Working Group

The event is free thanks to our generous sponsors:
CITAMS || Bristol Univ. Interpretive Lenses in Sociology || Emerald Studies in Media and Communications || Palgrave Studies in Digital Inequalities || Santa Clara University Department of Sociology.

Program Committee Co-Chairs: Laura Robinson & Julie Wiest
Members (in alphabetical order): Wenhong Chen, Ken Kambara, Jeremy Schulz, & Ian Sheinheit



CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS FROM OUR SPONSORS

Palgrave Studies in Digital Inequalities: Call for Submissions for Monographs and Edited Volumes
Palgrave Studies in Digital Inequalities book series is seeking monographs and edited volumes that speak to any aspect of digital inequality, digital divides, and digital inclusion writ large. The series welcomes monographs and edited volumes that are empirical, theoretical, agenda-setting, and/or policy driven that explore any aspect of inequality, marginalization, inclusion, and/or positive change in the digital world. The series seeks scholars studying both emergent and established forms of inequality. Potential themes include but are not limited to digital inequalities in relation to AI, algorithms, misinformation, digital labor, platform economy, cybersafety, cybercrime, gaming, big data, the digital public sphere, economic class, gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity, aging, disability, healthcare, education, rural residency, networks, public policy, etc. If you have questions or would like to initiate a proposal, send an abstract of your ideas and author/editor bio(s) to editorial@palgravedigitalinequalities.org

Emerald Studies in Media and Communications: Call for Guest Editors
Emerald Studies in Media and Communications is calling for submissions for edited volumes on any aspect of digital sociology. Each year, we publish volumes that capitalize on the series' sponsorship by CITAMS. The series welcomes self-nominations from scholars of all disciplines interested in editing a volume on an important aspect of media, communication, digital sociology, or related fields. If you are interested in submitting a proposal for an edited volume, please email editorial@emeraldmediastudies.com or for more information see <http://www.emeraldmediastudies.com/>

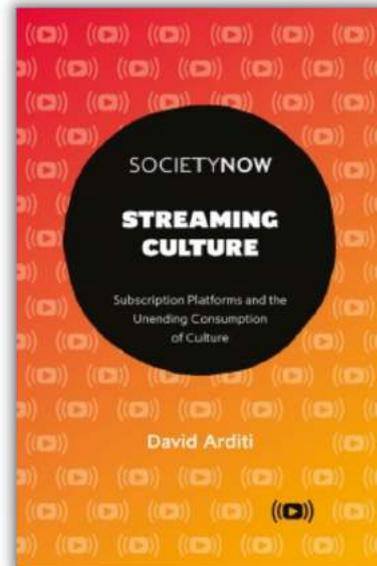
Recent Work from CITAMS Members

BOOK PUBLICATIONS

David Arditi

Streaming Culture: Subscription Platforms And The Unending Consumption Of Culture

If you ask today's children what they like to watch, many of them are likely to say YouTube instead of naming a favourite broadcast television programme. YouTube is among other services like Netflix, Spotify, Disney+, Apple Music and Amazon Prime, that have exploded on to the scene, completely transforming the way we consume culture. These platforms allow us to access content at the click of a button and they have turned the norms surrounding cultural consumption upside down. How has this shift to an apparently unending supply of content affected the way we consume our favourite binge-worthy show, blockbuster movie or hot new album release? *Streaming Culture* explores the complex and ever evolving relationship that exists between culture and technology. Positioning streaming alongside a major shift to contemporary capitalism, David Arditi demonstrates that streaming platforms have created an economy where consumers pay more for the same amount of consumptive time. Encouraging us to look beyond the seemingly limitless supply of multimedia content, Arditi calls attention to the underlying dynamics of instant viewing – in which our access to content depends on any given service's willingness, and ability, to license it. Arditi asks where we go beyond unending consumption. Will we hit a point where we don't want to subscribe to more services? Does a realm of non-profit consumption await, where small community creators come together to produce cultural goods using streaming technology? The moving nature of both streaming and culture points to an eminent shift in the structure of society.



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Stephen R. Barley

Work and Technological Change

The four essays in this book explore the history of technological change and the approaches used to investigate how technologies are shaping our work and organizations. The first essay places current developments in artificial intelligence into the historical context of previous technological revolutions, drawing on William Faunce's argument that the history of technology is one of progressive automation of the four components of any production system: energy, transformation, transfer, and control technologies. The second essay considers how technologies change work, and when those changes will and will not result in organizational change by laying out a role-based theory of how technologies produce changes in organizations. The third essay tackles



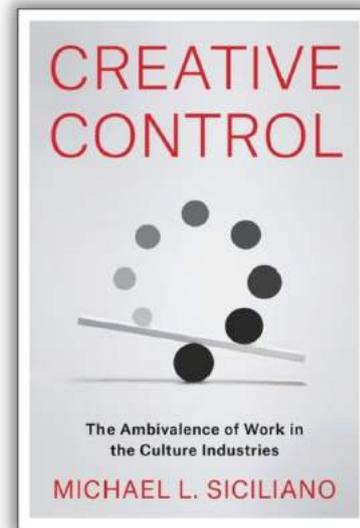
the issue of how to conceptualize a more thorough approach to assessing how intelligent technologies, such as artificial intelligence, can shape work and employment. It identifies the main reasons why the current state of research on intelligent technologies in the workplace is inadequate and provides pointers on how empirical studies in this area could be improved. The fourth essay concludes with a discussion of the fears that arise when one sets out to study technical work and technical workers and the methods that ethnographers can use to control those fears.

Recent Work from CITAMS Members

BOOK PUBLICATIONS, cont.

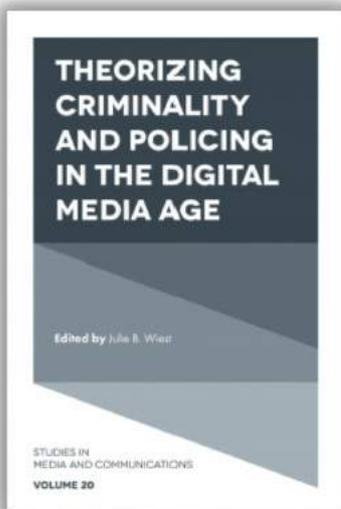
Michael Siciliano

Creative Control: The Ambivalence of Work in the Culture Industries



Workers in cultural industries often say that the best part of their job is the opportunity for creativity. At the same time, profit-minded managers at both traditional firms and digital platforms exhort workers to “be creative.” Even as cultural fields hold out the prospect of meaningful employment, they are marked by heightened economic precarity. What does it mean to be creative under contemporary capitalism? And how does the ideology of creativity explain workers’ commitment to precarious jobs? Michael L. Siciliano draws on nearly two years of ethnographic research as a participant-observer in a Los Angeles music studio and a multichannel YouTube network to explore the contradictions of creative work. He details how such workplaces feature engaging, dynamic processes that enlist workers in organizational projects and secure their affective investment in ideas of creativity and innovation. Siciliano argues that performing creative labor entails a profound ambivalence: workers experience excitement and aesthetic engagement alongside precarity and alienation. Through close comparative analysis, he presents a theory of creative labor that accounts for the roles of embodiment, power, alienation, and technology in the contemporary workplace. Combining vivid ethnographic detail and keen sociological insight, *Creative Control* explains why “cool” jobs help us understand how workers can participate in their own exploitation.

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Julie B. Wiest

Theorizing Criminology and Policing in the Digital Media Age

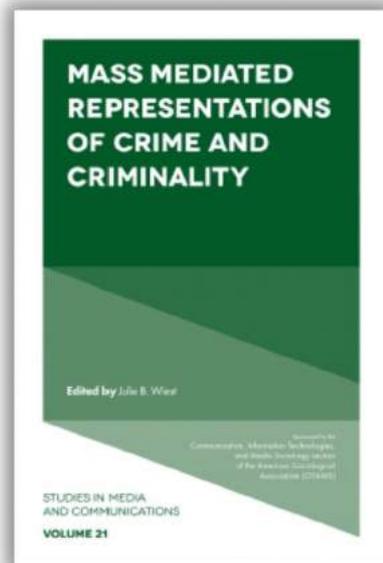
This volume in Emerald's *Studies in Media and Communications* (sponsored by CITAMS) features social science research on criminality, policing, and mass media in the digital age. Chapters offer empirically supported studies that expand on knowledge about new possibilities for crime and policing, representations of criminality via digital media, and methodological considerations for contemporary studies of crime and media. Criminality, policing, and mass media are enduring topics in studies of the social world, and scholarly advances in these areas are particularly pertinent in times of social and cultural change. The digital revolution that began in post-industrial societies has affected, to varying extents, most nations in the world, introducing new opportunities for crime commission and law enforcement, transforming social structures and organization, and altering norms and practices of social interaction. Each chapter offers empirically supported insights into the new and evolving landscape of criminality and policing. Scholars address emerging patterns and practices such as technologically mediated intimate partner violence, digitally altered pornography and its consequences, and algorithm-supported methods of policing; representations of criminals and law enforcement in international news and entertainment media; and research methods for studying crime and media in a changing world.

Recent Work from CITAMS Members

BOOK PUBLICATIONS, cont.

Julie B. Wiest

Mass Mediated Representations of Crime and Criminality



This volume in Emerald's Studies in Media and Communications (sponsored by CITAMS) features social science research that examines the practices, patterns, and messages related to representations of crime in mass media around the world. Chapters focus on a wide range of fact-based and fictional accounts of criminality as depicted in print and broadcast news, documentary and video-on-demand films, and television programs. Stories about crime and criminality have long been the mainstay of news and entertainment media content, and the intersection of crime and media is a common topic in scholarly research. Moreover, substantial evidence indicates that these media depictions are highly influential as people in economically advanced societies - who tend to have little personal experience with crime-form perceptions about criminality, crime rates, characteristics of criminals, and even their own likelihood of victimization. Thus, ongoing examination of crime images within various types of mass media aids in understanding the associated messages and meanings that are disseminated to consumers. This volume will enhance the knowledge of junior and senior scholars in criminology, sociology, journalism, and communication/media studies, particularly because of its inclusion of crime stories in a variety of formats and that represent media content from nations spanning five continents.

ARTICLE PUBLICATION

Kelly Joyce, Laurel Smith-Doerr, Sharla Alegria, Susan Bell, Taylor Cruz, Steve G. Hoffman, Safiya Umoja Noble, and Benjamin Shestakofsky

"Toward a Sociology of Artificial Intelligence: A Call for Research on Inequalities and Structural Change", *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World*.

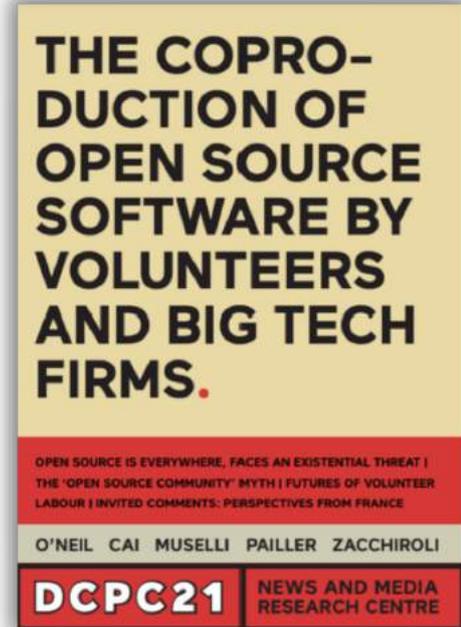
This article outlines a research agenda for a sociology of artificial intelligence (AI). The authors review two areas in which sociological theories and methods have made significant contributions to the study of inequalities and AI: (1) the politics of algorithms, data, and code and (2) the social shaping of AI in practice. The authors contrast sociological approaches that emphasize intersectional inequalities and social structure with other disciplines' approaches to the social dimensions of AI, which often have a thin understanding of the social and emphasize individual-level interventions. This scoping article invites sociologists to use the discipline's theoretical and methodological tools to analyze when and how inequalities are made more durable by AI systems. Sociologists have an ability to identify how inequalities are embedded in all aspects of society and to point toward avenues for structural social change. Therefore, sociologists should play a leading role in the imagining and shaping of AI futures.

Research Report

Mathieu O’Neil, Xiaolan Cai, Laure Muselli, Fred Pailler,
Stefano Zacchioli

The coproduction of open source software by volunteers and big tech firms

The Digital Commons Policy Council’s inaugural report highlights the need for increased government engagement with volunteers who produce essential digital infrastructure. The report, by Mathieu O’Neil from the University of Canberra’s News & Media Research Centre, Laure Muselli (Télécom Paris), Stefano Zacchioli (Université de Paris and Inria), Fred Pailler (University of Luxembourg) and Xiaolan Cai (University of Canberra) analyzes how IT firms are using free and open source software, a freely shareable resource produced by volunteer projects, to power their lucrative cloud data storage and services. The report combines cutting-edge computational analyses of firm employee contributions on the GitHub development platform and of articles in IT news media with ethnographic fieldwork at three open source conferences in 2019.



Looking Forward

We hope that you found this issue of our Newsletter informative and entertaining. As we near the ASA Virtual Conference we hope that you are able to attend the many CITAMS-sponsored sessions (the full list of them are available stating on page 16) and we look forward to hopefully seeing you next year in person. In our next issue we plan to bring you more teaching spotlights and interviews with other book and paper award winners as well as a preview of the Digital Sociology UnConference. Additionally, we will be introducing our new section Chair, Jenny Davis to our readers. If you are engaging in research, teaching, public or other work that you think would be of interest to our readers, please contact us.



For inquiries, submissions, or to volunteer with us contact Marcus Brooks, brooksmu@mail.uc.edu.

Call for Papers: Racializing Media Policy

Racializing Media Policy

Editors: Jason A. Smith and Richard T. Craig

Proposal deadline extended to August 31, 2021

Email Submissions to Jason A. Smith (jsm5@gmu.edu) & Richard T. Craig (rcraig@gmu.edu).

<http://www.emeraldmediastudies.com/Current-Call.html>

Racialization is a term used within the social sciences to highlight the ways that social interactions become racial. This is an important concept in sociological and political science research when looking at structural mechanisms that perpetuate racial inequalities. The state, and its various organizational spaces of action, is often seen as a site for race to be enacted (e.g., Bracey 2015). Public policy sectors such as housing, taxation, and immigration, to name a few, have been ripe areas of research. However, media policy research has not effectively engaged with this critical conception. Media policy research has been driven by political economy perspectives within the field of Communications and Media Studies, and can benefit from an approach that analyzes it in relation to social science perspectives that focus on processes which constitute, or are constituted by, actors, groups, and organizations.

Racializing Media Policy seeks to fill this scholarly gap by providing case studies which focus on media policy issues in the United States through the lens of racialization. It will contribute to a growing body of media policy research within the Communications and Media Studies literature, as well as anchor the role of media policy in Sociological research – where it is lacking. It would also lend itself toward a growing body of work in the Sociology of Organizations which have begun to focus on “raced organizations” (Ray 2019; Wooten 2019) to understand how racial inequalities are embedded within organizational practices.

Proposals of 1-2 paragraphs are due by August 31, 2021. Submissions that are theoretical and/or empirical are welcomed, although we will give more weight to empirical submissions that can demonstrate the mechanisms of racialization throughout the media policy process. Both qualitative and quantitative approaches will be welcomed, as well as case study approaches which allow authors to connect to larger structural conditions within media policy debates.

Topics of interest for this volume might include, but are not limited to:

- A focus on traditional (print, radio, television) and new (internet, social) media issues
- Historical media policy issues analyzed through the lens of racialization
- Contemporary issues such as: Net Neutrality, Privacy, Telecom Development (5G), Broadband Access
- Tensions over media ownership
- The role of federal agencies in policy formation and decisions
- The role of media activist groups who engage in media policy work/spaces
- Localized media policy decisions at the municipal/county or state level
- Discourses of policy debates
- Racialized outcomes of media policy decisions

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References

- Bracey, G. E. (2015). Toward a critical race theory of state. *Critical Sociology*, 41(3): 553-572.
- Ray, V. (2019). A theory of racialized organizations. *American Sociological Review*, 84(1): 26-53.
- Wooten, M. E. (Ed.). (2019). *Race, organizations, and the organizing process*. Emerald.