Reimagining our common future through critical scholarship and dialogue on digital culture, technology, and society.

The Center on Digital Culture and Society at the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School for Communication is pleased to share news about our community's diverse work. In the latest edition of our newsletter, the CDCS Information Hub, you'll discover news about our recent publications and awards, as well as several special announcements!

This newsletter is 760 words, or a 5 minute read.

PUBLICATIONS

Online Activism

Jun Liu, Associate Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Copenhagen, examines the prominent actors leading the diffusion of emotional messages in China's online activism. In his co-authored article, 'Leading_with_hearts_and_minds:'
emotion contagion in China's online activism', Liu uses supervised machine learning for emotion labeling and social network analysis to identify three types of actors and to profile their distinctive roles in the process of anger contagion in the context of an abuse scandal on the Chinese social media platform Weibo.

Rosemary Clark-Parsons releases a new book titled "Networked Feminism: How Digital Media Makers Transformed Gender Justice Movements." Networked Feminism tells the story of how activists have used media to reconfigure what feminist politics and organizing look like in the United States. Drawing on years spent participating in grassroots communities and observing viral campaigns, Rosemary Clark-Parsons argues that feminists engage in a do-it-ourselves feminism characterized by the use of everyday media technologies.

CDCS WELCOMES NEW COHORT OF 2022 POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS!

Chelsea Butkowski studies the personal politics of media representation amid everyday and extraordinary life events. Her research is particularly focused on mediated self-making, examining how “ordinary” people, and especially women, use media technologies relationally to construct their own identities. While at CDCS, Chelsea will extend her dissertation project to examine “Pandemic Self-Presentation: Social Media Profiles and Stories of the Self Amid COVID-19."
Frances Corry’s work engages with critical-historical approaches to information, with a focus on the prehistories and afterlives of data-intensive systems. While at CDCS, Frances will extend her dissertation project, “Sunsetting: Platform afterlives and the making of digital memory infrastructure”, and work on a new project titled “When does a pandemic end?: Digital collection practices about COVID-19 and the bounding of a historical event.”

Yuval Katz will be a joint CARGC-CDCS postdoctoral fellow. Originally from Israel/Palestine, his research focuses on everyday peace and its manifestation in and through media. Instead of thinking about peace strictly as a top-down process resulting from diplomatic negotiations conducted by politicians, Katz’s work looks at peace happening among ordinary people in their everyday interactions.

Finally, congratulations to current CDCS Postdoctoral Fellow Dasol Kim, who will be starting a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of Digital Media at SUNY-New Paltz in August 2022!
GRANT AWARDS

Jun Liu, Associate Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Copenhagen, has been granted a four-year research project titled “To Use or Not to Use? A Relational Approach to ICTs as Repertoire of Contention” by The Danish Independent Research Fund’s Research Leader 2021. The project explores why people choose some but not other technologies in and for political movements, and how people decide on specific political uses of certain technologies. Professor Guobin Yang is sitting on the project’s international advisory board. For more information, see the project’s website here.

CDCS AT ICA 2022 - VIRTUAL RECEPTION!

As many CDCS scholars prepare for ICA 2022 in Paris, we invite you to partake in the first virtual Annenberg East/West conference reception!

Network with the extended ICA community during this first-of-its kind reception and meet other scholars and professionals interested in VR/XR work. The virtual event will be hosted using the cross-platform application VR Chat, meaning you can log in from anywhere in the world using a VR headset from Oculus, HTC Vive, Acer, or even a PC desktop. No ICA registration required.

If you’re interested in attending but unfamiliar with VR Chat, there will be two open technical support sessions before the reception where Annenberg I.T. professionals will help you get set up and further technical assistance will be available in getting connected on the day. Make sure to
RSVP to receive further information about the event and the technical set-up sessions.

May 27, 2022, 1-3pm EST. Click here to register - event registration required.

The Center on Digital Culture and Society supports critical, interdisciplinary scholarship and dialogue on all aspects of digital culture, technology, and society.

To stay up to date on CDCS news and events subscribe to our mailing list and follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

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