

# ELEANOR R. MARCHANT

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## EDUCATION

**University of Pennsylvania, Annenberg School for Communications, U.S.** 2017(expected)

PhD in Communications

Advisor: John Jackson

Committee Members: Monroe Price, Guobin Yang, Jonathan Donner

Dissertation: The narratives and practices of new ICT innovation in Nairobi, Kenya, an ethnographic examination

**New York University, U.S.** 2006

MA in Political Science – International Relations

Overall GPA: 3.91

Master's Thesis: "Media and Political Transition in Benin and Togo: A Comparative Analysis"

**University of Bristol, U.K.** 2004

BSc in Politics and Economics

Overall Degree Classification: 2:1, Honours

Senior Thesis: "The 2003 Iraq Invasion: The U.N. and Transatlantic Dialogism"

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## PUBLICATIONS

### Edited Books

*Freedom of the Press 2007*, eds. Dr. Karin D.Karlekar & Eleanor Marchant, Freedom House, NY, 2007.

### Journal Articles & Papers

Marchant, Eleanor (February 2016). "Interactive Voice Response and Radio for Peacebuilding: A Macro View of the Literature and Experiences from the Field", CGCS.

Marchant, Eleanor (January 2015). "Who is ICT Innovation for?: Challenges to Existing Theories of Innovation, a Kenyan Case Study," CGCS Occasional Paper Series on ICTs, Statebuilding, and Peacebuilding in Africa, Number 4, CGCS.

Marchant, Eleanor (2006). "Abuses of press freedom during Togolese election", *Humanus: NYU Journal of Human Rights*, Vol. 6, I. 1, NY, 2006.

### Book Chapters

Marchant, Eleanor (2016). Organizational Culture and Hybridity: The hybridizing of non-profit and for-profit organizational culture in the Kenyan tech sector," *Digital Kenya: An Entrepreneurial Revolution in the Making*, Bitange Ndemo & Tim Weiss eds., Palgrave Studies of Entrepreneurship in Africa, Palgrave Macmillan UK, London.

Moehler, Devra C. and Eleanor Marchant. (forthcoming 2016). "Citizen Participation, Access to Information and Legitimacy in East Africa: A Multi-Dimensional Model of Participatory Constitution Making," *The Gap from Parchment to Practice*, Todd Eisenstadt and Carl LeVan eds.

Karlekar, Karin Deutsch and Eleanor Marchant. "The Press: Still Free and Independent?" Dr. Karin Deutsch Karlekar and Eleanor Marchant, *America: How Free?*, (ed. Arch Puddington) Freedom House, NY, 2008.

Country chapters on Benin, Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Rwanda and Togo in *Freedom of the Press*, for Freedom House, NY, 2005 – 2016.

Country chapters on Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Senegal and Togo in *Freedom in the World*, for Freedom House, NY, 2005 – 2016.

**Manuscripts in Preparation**

Marchant, Eleanor. "Studying Adaptively: A Call for Fluidity in the 'Studying Up' Discourse and for an Embrace of the 'Out-of-Placeness' of Ethnography at Home

Marchant, Eleanor. "Collaborative Techno-solutions: Can collaboration help technology for development to be more successful in Kenya?"

Marchant, Eleanor. "Participatory Communication for Development and the Mythology of 'Local Participation': A case for a change of perspective from Nairobi"

Marchant, Eleanor. "The Scottish Referendum and Nationalist Independence Movement Rhetoric: The new challenge for sub-state nations seeking independence.

Marchant, Eleanor. "For Want of a Canon to Call Our Own: The Challenge of Herbert Schiller to Communications.

**Non-Academic Publications**

"Research at Africa's Tech Hubs is a Vital Ingredient to Ensure Their Success and Sustainability" Afrihive Blog. (August 4, 2014), <http://afrihive.com/research-at-africas-tech-hubs-will-be-vital-to-ensure-their-success-and-sustainability/>

"Kenya 2013: Experiments in the Technologies of an Election Year" CGCS Media Wire Blog. (March 19, 2013), <http://cgcsblog.asc.upenn.edu/2013/03/19/kenya-2013-experiments-in-the-technologies-of-an-election-year/>

"Back on the Ground in Nairobi" for NewsLink – Also appeared in Penn News Today (August 2013) <http://www.asc.upenn.edu/newslink/Fall2013/MarchantNairobi.aspx>

"Episode #31: Silicon Savannah" 3620 Podcast <http://podcast.asc.upenn.edu/2013/09/episode-31-silicon-savannah/>

"President in Waiting?" *The Daily Nation*, Nairobi, Kenya, December 4, 2007. (op-ed)

Authored articles in Kenyan based *Expression Today: Media, Human Rights & Democracy Review* magazine (a media trade magazine), March 2008 edition include:

"Have objectivity and fairness been sidelines in the quest for peace?"

"Government retreats on live broadcast ban"

"Was the media biased in its coverage of the election?"

"Polling and the Kenyan media"

"How bloggers stole the show after the election"

**Featured in News**

2016 March 11 – Eleanor Marchant Pursues Dissertation Fieldwork in Kenya, University of Pennsylvania NewsLink, <https://www.asc.upenn.edu/news-events/news/student-profile-eleanor-marchant>

**GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS**

2016 iHub Research, International Fellow, Nairobi

2015 Top Student Paper Award, International Communication Association, Communication History Division, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2015 iHub Research, International Fellow, Nairobi

2015 Scholars Program in Culture and Communication, ASC, Upenn, Philadelphia

2014 iHub Research, international Fellow, Nairobi

2014 Scholars Program in Culture and Communication, ASC, UPenn, Philadelphia

2013 iHub Research, International Fellow, Nairobi

2007-2008 Media Institute, International Fellow, Nairobi

**CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION****Keynotes Presented**

- 2016 “The Promise of Ethnographic Approaches for Applied Management Research”  
2<sup>nd</sup> DBA-Africa Management Review International Conference  
April 29, 2016 – University of Nairobi, School of Business, Nairobi, Kenya

**Panels, Conferences, and Workshops Organized**

- 2016 Organizing Committee, ICA Regional Conference: Growing Communication Scholarship  
September 18-20, 2016 – Daystar University, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2013 First Annual ASC Graduate Student Symposium  
April, 5, 2013 – ASC, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
- 2011 Second Annual Symposium on Media, New Technology & the Law in India  
December 21-22 - National Law University, Delhi, Delhi, India
- 2011 Workshop on Somali Media and the Diaspora  
June - Programme in Comparative Media, Law & Policy, Center for Socio-Legal Studies,  
University of Oxford

**Papers Presented**

- 2015 “For Want of a Canon to Call Our Own: The Challenge of Herbert Schiller  
*International Communication Association*, May 21-25, 2015 – San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 2015 “Participatory Communication for Development and the Mythology of ‘Local Participation’: A  
case for a change of perspective from Nairobi”  
*International Association for Media and Communication Research*, July 12-16, 2015 – Montreal
- 2014 “Constitutional Legitimacy and the Dimensions of Participatory Constitution-Making” Dr. Drevra  
Moehler & Eleanor Marchant  
*American Political Science Association*, August 28-31, 2014 – Washington DC
- 2014 “The Geography of Technology Creation: An Ethnographic Look at Two Technology  
Communities”  
*Annenberg Annual Graduate Student Symposium*, April 3, 2014 – Philadelphia, PA
- 2013 “Power and the Programmer: A Deconstruction of the Dynamics of Power and Influence at  
Kenyan Technology business Incubators”  
*OUI-ICTD, Information Communication Technology and Development Pre-Conference*  
December 2-6, 2013 – University of Cape Town, Cape Town South Africa
- 2013 “Constitutional Legitimacy and the Dimensions of Participatory Constitution-Making” Dr. Drevra  
Moehler & Eleanor Marchant  
*Research Conference: The Gap from Parchment to Paper: Ambivalent Effects of Constitutions in  
Democratizing Countries*, May 28-29, 2013 – American University, Washington, DC

**Discussant**

- 2014 Ubiquity, Mobility, Globality: Charting directions in Mobile Phone Studies  
Panel: Unpacking Mobile Development  
November 6-7, 2014 – ASC, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
- 2013 First Annual ASC Graduate Student Symposium  
April, 5, 2013 – ASC, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE****University of Pennsylvania**

- 2015 Communication 125 – Introduction to Communication Behavior, Co-taught course with Dror

- Walter  
 2013 Communication 125 – Introduction to Communication Behavior, Teaching Fellow for Professor Amy Jordan

### **iHub Research**

- 2016 Ethnographic Methods for Applied Research – iHub Research Staff  
 2014 Qualitative Methods – iHub Research Summer Jam  
 2013 Introduction to mixed methods research – iHub Research Summer Jam

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### **SERVICE**

#### **University Service**

- 2014-2015 Graduate Student representative, UPenn Sub-Committee on Technology & Cyberspace  
 2014-2015 Graduate Student representative, UPenn Committee on Open Expression  
 2012-2013 First year representative, Graduate Student Council

#### **Reviewer for the Following Journals**

- 2016 Journal of Children and Media  
 2016 Information Technologies & International Development  
 2014 Information Technology for Development

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### **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

English (native), French (advanced), Swahili (beginner), Spanish (beginner)

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### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Programme in Comparative Media Law & Policy, University of Oxford** Feb. 2011-Aug. 2012  
 Joint Research Student, Oxford, UK

A key transition position between previous non-profit work and academic research. Experience centered on a major ongoing research project examining the media and the information environment in Somalia. It also included organizing numerous conferences and workshops, including the Price Media Law Moot Court Competition in Oxford, U.K. and New Delhi, India, and the Annenberg-Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute for two years.

**Freedom House** Sept. 2007 - ongoing  
 Consultant – Africa Analyst, NY, U.S.

Consultant position as a country report writer for West African countries including Cote d'Ivoire, Mali and Benin for Freedom House's two annual publications, *Freedom in the World* and *Freedom of the Press* after leaving full-time employment described below.

**Media Development Loan Fund (now Media Development Investment Fund)** Sept. 2008 – Dec. 2010  
 Program Officer, NY, U.S.

Served as the principal M&E analyst conducting the annual Impact Dashboard survey for two years, a quantitative assessment of the impact of MDLF and its independent media clients on the developing-world environments in which they operate. Responsible for the annual and quarterly grant reports to the many different funders of MDLF. Also served as MDLF's Assistant Director of Communications coordinating the organization's media strategy.

**The Media Institute**

Sept. 2007 – June 2008

Research Fellow, Nairobi, Kenya

A fellowship position to study the content of local pre-election media while writing and working as sub-editor for the Media Institute's publication, *Expression Today: Media, Human Rights & Democracy Review*. Research included qualitative studies of political candidates' media coverage in newspapers and on television, and quantitative monitoring of public opinion polling, and instances of post-election hate speech.

**Freedom House**

Nov. 2005 – Sept. 2007

Research Analyst, NY, U.S.

Africa Analyst, Assistant Editor for the *Freedom of the Press* survey, and Project Manager for *Enabling Environment for Civic Movements and the Dynamics of Democratic Transitions*, a multinational comparative quantitative analysis of civic movements. Co-authored a book chapter with Dr. Karin Deutsch Karlekar on the state of the American media *America: How Free?*

**IREEP – The Institute for Empirical Research in Political Economy**

Jun. 2005 – Aug. 2005

Research Analyst, Cotonou, Benin

Served as an integral part of the team under Dr. Wantchekon that compiled and analyzed the statistical results of the Benin edition of the *Afrobarometer* survey – a regional project to explore and compare the economic, political, and social situations of people in various African countries; also acted as the team's primary French-English translator.

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