Attendee Biographies

Attending

Crystal Abidin
Dr. Abidin is a Lecturer in Digital Media with the School of Communication and Creative Arts at Deakin University, Postdoctoral Fellow with the Media Management and Transformation Centre (MMTC) at Jönköping University, Researcher with Handelsrådet (Swedish Retail and Wholesale Development Council), and Adjunct Research Fellow with the Centre for Culture and Technology (CCAT) at Curtin University. She is on the Executive Committee for the Association of Internet Researchers, sits on the Editorial Boards for Cultural Science Journal, Convergence, and Social Media + Society, and write regularly for Cyborgology. Abidin’s research has drawn international accolades: In 2018 she was named on the Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia list for Media, Marketing & Advertising, and in 2016 she was named among the 30 Top Thinkers Under
Simone Browne began her faculty position in the Department of Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin in 2007. She is Associate Professor in the Department of African and African Diaspora Studies. She teaches and researches surveillance studies and black diaspora studies. Her first book, *Dark Matters: On the Surveillance of Blackness*, examines surveillance with a focus on transatlantic slavery, biometric technologies, branding, airports and creative texts. She is an Executive Board member of HASTAC. She is also a member of Deep Lab, a feminist collaborative composed of artists, engineers, hackers, writers, and theorists. Along with Katherine McKittrick and Deborah Cowen she is co-editor of *Errantries*, a new series published by Duke University Press.

Courtney Cogburn
Dr. Courtney D. Cogburn is an assistant professor at the Columbia School of Social Work and a Faculty Affiliate of the Columbia Population Research Center. Her research integrates principles and methodologies across psychology, stress physiology and social epidemiology to investigate relationships between racism-related stress and racial health disparities across the life course. Her work has been supported by the National Institutes of Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. At the end of 2014, Dr. Cogburn received an award from the Provost’s Grants Program for Junior Faculty Who Contribute to the Diversity Goals of the University for a project titled “Black Face to Ferguson: A Mixed Methodological Examination of Media Racism, Media Activism and Health.” In addition to her academic research, Dr. Cogburn works with the Southern Jamaica Plain Health Center at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston and is a senior advisor at the International Center Advocates Against Discrimination in NYC to educate and build community activism around issues of racism and health.

Kate Crawford
Kate Crawford is a Distinguished Research Professor at New York University, a Principal Researcher at Microsoft Research New York, and a Visiting Professor at the MIT Media Lab. Her recent publications address data bias and fairness, social impacts of artificial intelligence, predictive analytics and due process, and algorithmic accountability and transparency. Crawford is also the co-founder and co-director of the AI Now Research Institute, along with Meredith Whittaker: a new interdisciplinary research center dedicated to studying the social impacts of artificial intelligence. In July 2016, she co-chaired the Obama White House symposium on the impacts of AI in the near term. The symposium addressed artificial intelligence across four domains: labor, health, social inequality and ethics.

Jen Croissant
Jen Croissant (PhD Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Science & Technology Studies, 1994) is associate professor and department head of University of Arizona’s Gender & Women’s Studies department. Her research is primarily focused on the sociology of science and technology,
particularly feminist science studies. Additional research areas include the ways in which both ordinary knowledge and institutionalized science are constituted, and the ways systems of knowledge interact; the human body, and attempts to model and modify it and; engineering and science education. Recent work includes an NSF sponsored grant on “Collaboration and Climate: The Social Organization of Collaboration in the Chemical Sciences,” (2011-2014) with Co-PI Laurel Smith-Doerr of Boston University Department Sociology. As part of an NSF supported Small Grant for Research and Training (SGRT), Dr. Croissant collaborated with Sheila Slaughter and Gary Rhoades of Higher Education in a program which examines the intersection of information technology (IT), intellectual property (IP), and ethics and values changes in higher education.

Carl DiSalvo

Carl DiSalvo is an Associate Professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology, with appointments in the School of Interactive Computing and the School of Literature, Media, and Communication. At Georgia Tech he directs the Public Design Workshop: a research studio for socially-engaged design. His scholarship brings together theories and methods from design, the social sciences, and the humanities to study the social and political qualities of computational technologies, and to prototype experimental systems and services. Much of his current researched is focused on smart cities, civic media, and emerging practices of community data science. Across these domains, he is interested in how design can work to articulate issues and provide resources for new forms of collective action. DiSalvo publishes regularly in design, science and technology studies, and human-computer interaction journals and conference proceedings. His first book, Adversarial Design, is part of the Design Thinking, Design Theory series at MIT Press. He is also a co-editor of the MIT Press journal Design Issues. His experimental design work has been exhibited and supported by the ZKM (Center for Art & Media, Karlsruhe, Germany), Grey Area Foundation for the Arts (San Francisco), Times Square Arts Alliance, Science Gallery Dublin, and the Walker Arts Center (Minneapolis).

Gary Downey

Gary Downey is Alumni Distinguished Professor of Science and Technology Studies and Affiliated Professor in Women’s and Gender Studies and Engineering Education at Virginia Tech. He's an STS scholar with an anthropological interest in knowledge and personhood and a commitment to scholarship as critical participation, informed by feminist science studies. His books include The Machine in Me: An Anthropologist Sits Among Computer Engineers (Routledge, 1998), Engineers for Korea (Morgan & Claypool, 2014; with Kyonghee Han), Cyborgs and Citadels: Anthropological Interventions in Emerging Sciences and Technologies (SAR Press, 1998; co-edited with Joseph Dumit), and What is Global Engineering Education For? (Morgan & Claypool, 2011; co-edited with Kacey Beddoes). He edits the Engineering Studies series at MIT Press (with Matthew Wisnioski) and the Global Engineering Series at Morgan & Claypool. As President of the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), he co-led the creation of its initiative in STS Making and Doing, highlighting scholarship beyond the academic article and book.
Marion Fourcade
Marion Fourcade is Professor of Sociology at UC Berkeley. She is also an Associate Fellow of the Max Planck-Sciences Po Center on Coping with Instability in Market Societies (Maxpo), and a past President of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (2016). Her first book, *Economists and Societies* (Princeton University Press 2009), explored the distinctive character of the discipline and profession of economics in three countries. A second book, *The Ordinal Society* (with Kieran Healy), is under contract. This book investigates new forms of social stratification and morality in the digital economy. Other recent research focuses on the valuation of nature in comparative perspective; the moral regulation of states; the comparative study of political organization (with Evan Schofer and Brian Lande); the microsociology of courtroom exchanges (with Roi Livne); the sociology of economics, with Etienne Ollion and Yann Algan, and with Rakesh Khurana; the politics of wine classifications in France and the United States (with Rebecca Elliott and Olivier Jacquet). A final book-length project, Measure for Measure: Social Ontologies of Classification, will examine the cultural and institutional logic of what we may call "national classificatory styles" across a range of empirical domains.

David Guston
David H. Guston is Professor of Political Science and Co-Director of the Consortium for Science, Policy and Outcomes at Arizona State University. He is Principal Investigator and Director of the Center for Nanotechnology in Society at Arizona State University. CNS-ASU is a National Science Foundation-funded Nano-scale Science and Engineering Center (dedicated to studying the societal implications of nanoscale science and engineering research and improving the societal outcomes of nanotechnologies through enhancing capacity to understand and make informed choices. Guston’s book, *Between Politics and Science: Assuring the Integrity and Productivity of Research* (Cambridge U. Press, 2000) was awarded the 2002 Don K. Price Prize by the American Political Science Association for best book in science and technology policy. He is the founding editor-in-chief of the peer-reviewed journal *Journal of Responsible Innovation* and the North American editor of the peer-reviewed journal *Science and Public Policy*, and he serves on the editorial boards of *Nanoethics: The Ethics of Technologies that Converge at the Nanoscale*, *Review of Policy Research: The Politics and Policy of Science and Technology*, and *VEST: Nordic Journal of Science and Technology Studies*. He has served on the National Science Foundation's review panel on Societal Dimensions of Engineering, Science, and Technology (2000-2002) and on the National Academy of Engineering's Steering Committee on Engineering Ethics and Society (2002).

Ava Kofman
Ava Kofman is a contributing writer at *The Intercept*. She often reports on biometrics, surveillance technology, and smart cities. Her reporting and essays have appeared in *Harper's Magazine*, *The Atlantic*, *The Guardian*, *The New Republic*, *The Nation*, *Al Jazeera America*, *Dissent*, *VICE*, and elsewhere. Her investigations and reporting have been featured on PBS NewsHour, WNYC, and Showtime. Kofman was previously the Editor-in-Chief of *The New Inquiry* and has also worked on the editorial staff of *Harper's*. 
Andrew Lakoff
Andrew Lakoff is Professor of Sociology and Communication at the University of Southern California, where he also serves as Divisional Dean for the Social Sciences. He was trained as an anthropologist of science and technology, and has conducted research in Argentina, France and the United States. His areas of specialization include globalization processes, the history of the human sciences, contemporary social theory, and risk society. His books include *Pharmaceutical Reason: Knowledge and Value in Global Psychiatry* (Cambridge, 2006), *Unprepared: Global Health in a Time of Emergency* (California, 2017) and the forthcoming *The Government of Emergency: Vital Systems Security and the Birth of American Biopolitics* (with Stephen J. Collier).

Bill Maurer
Professor Maurer is a cultural anthropologist and sociolegal scholar. His most recent research looks at how professional communities (payments industry professionals, computer programmers and developers, legal consultants) conceptualize and build financial technology or “fintech,” and how consumers use and experience it. He is the Director of the Institute for Money, Technology and Financial Inclusion. In that capacity, he coordinates research in over 40 countries on how new payment technologies impact people’s wellbeing. Currently, he is editing The Cultural History of Money, in six volumes, covering antiquity to the present. He serves on the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive and Sensory Sciences of the US National Research Council, recently received a grant from the US National Science Foundation for a new project on blockchain technology and the law, and consulted with the Department of Treasury on the redesign of the US paper currency. Currently, he is Associate Editor of the Journal of Cultural Economy and serves as a member of the Editorial Boards of the Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research, Cultural Anthropology, Cultural Critique, and PoLAR: The Political and Legal Anthropology Review. In July 2013, he assumed the role of Dean of the School of Social Sciences at UC Irvine.

Shobita Parthasarathy
Shobita Parthasarathy is Professor of Public Policy and Women's Studies, and Director of the Science, Technology, and Public Policy Program at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan. Her research focuses on the comparative and international politics and policy related to science and technology. She is interested in how to develop innovation, and innovation policy, to better achieve public interest and social justice goals. Her previous work has focused on the governance of emerging genetics and biotechnology, and particularly how we can do a better job of considering their ethical, socioeconomic, and ecological impacts in public policy. Her new research project focuses on the political machineries that shape the development and decisionmaking related to technologies for the poor, with a focus on India. She is the author of multiple articles and two books: *Building Genetic Medicine: Breast Cancer, Technology, and the Comparative Politics of Health Care* (MIT Press 2007; paperback 2012); and *Patent Politics: Life Forms, Markets, and the Public Interest in the United States and Europe* (University of Chicago Press, 2017). *Patent Politics* received the 2018 Robert K. Merton Award from the Science, Knowledge, and Technology section of the American Sociological Association. Parthasarathy has participated in innovation policy discussions in both the U.S. and Europe; most notably, her work influenced the 2013 U.S. Supreme Court case
challenging the patentability of human genes. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Chicago and master's and PhD from Cornell University.

Frank Pasquale
Frank Pasquale is Professor of Law at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law. He frequently presents on the ethical, legal, and social implications of information technology for attorneys, physicians, and government officials. His book, *The Black Box Society: The Secret Algorithms that Control Money and Information* (Harvard University Press, 2015), develops a social theory of reputation, search, and finance, and offers pragmatic reforms to improve the information economy. Pasquale has been a Visiting Fellow at Princeton’s Center for Information Technology (CITP), Cambridge's Center for Research in Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities (CRASSH), and National Taiwan University. He is an affiliate fellow at Yale's Information Society Project (ISP) and Vermont Law School’s New Economy Law Center (NELC). He has been a Visiting Professor at Yale Law School and Cardozo Law School. He co-founded the Association for the Promotion of Political Economy of Law, which has sponsored five major workshops since 2012.

Laurel Smith-Doerr
Laurel Smith-Doerr is the inaugural Director of the Institute for Social Science Research; and professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. For her work at NSF in leading the Ethics Education in Science and Engineering program and serving on the committee implementing the ethics education policies of the U.S. Congress’ America COMPETES Act of 2007, she received the NSF Director’s Award for Collaborative Integration. Smith-Doerr investigates how science, gender, and organizations are connected and become institutionalized in contemporary knowledge-based communities. She conducts research on interorganizational collaboration, implications of different organizational forms for women’s equity in science, gendering of scientific networks and scientists’ approaches to social and ethical responsibilities, and tensions in the institutionalization of science policy. Results of this research have been published in her book, *Women’s Work: Gender Equity v. Hierarchy in the Life Sciences*, and scholarly journals, including *Administrative Science Quarterly, Minerva, Regional Studies, American Behavioral Scientist, Sociological Forum, Industry & Innovation, Sociological Perspectives and Gender & Society*.

Fred Turner
Matthew Zook
Matthew Zook is a Universeity Research Professor of Geography at the University of Kentucky. He studies how the geoweb is produced (particularly the practices surrounding user-generated data) in order to better understand where, when, and by whom geo-coded content is being created. Dr. Zook is the Director of the The DOLLY Project (Data On Local Life and You) a repository of billions of geolocated tweets that allows for real-time research and analysis. Dr. Zook recently joined the editorial team of the new journal, Big Data & Society: Critical Interdisciplinary Inquiries, an open access peer-reviewed scholarly journal that publishes interdisciplinary work principally in the social sciences, humanities and computing and their intersections with the arts and natural sciences about the implications of Big Data for societies. The Journal's key purpose is to provide a space for connecting debates about the emerging field of Big Data practices and how they are reconfiguring academic, social, industry, business and government relations, expertise, methods, concepts and knowledge.

SSRC Staff
Alondra Nelson, President
Alondra Nelson is the fourteenth president of the Social Science Research Council. She is professor of sociology at Columbia University, where she served as the inaugural dean of social science for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. As dean, she led the first strategic planning process for the social sciences at Columbia, working with faculty in more than thirty departments and research units to set long-term academic priorities. Nelson is chair of the American Sociological Association Section on Science, Knowledge, and Technology. A member of the World Economic Forum Network on AI, the Internet of Things, and Trust, she also serves on the Board of Directors of the Data and Society Research Institute. She is an elected member of the Sociological Research Association.

David A. Banks, Associate Research Advisor
David A. Banks is co-chair of Theorizing the Web, editor-at-large for Real Life, co-editor of The Society Pages’ Cyborgology, Associate Research Advisor at the Social Science Research Council, and Adjunct Professor of Geography at University at Albany, SUNY. His writing has also appeared in First Monday, The Baffler, The New Inquiry, and Tikkun Magazine. Banks’ research has been supported by the National Science Foundation and the Rensselaer Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Research Fellowship. At SSRC Banks contributes to Anticipatory Social Research, the Social Data Initiative, and Understanding Violent Conflict. He is currently working on a book-length project about the political economy of authentic experience in small and medium-sized Rust Belt cities.

Tatiana Carayannis, Program Director, Understanding Violence Conflict
Tatiana Carayannis is director of the SSRC’s Understanding Violent Conflict (UVC) program and interim director of the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum (CPPF). She also has a visiting appointment at the London School of Economics and Political Science’s Africa Centre and Department of International Development. Carayannis leads the Council’s China-Africa Knowledge Project, convenes the DRC Affinity Group, a small brain trust of leading Congo scholars and
analysts, and is a research director of two international research collaborations: the Conflict Research Programme and the Centre for Public Authority and International Development (CPAID) based at the LSE. A scholar of UN peace operations in the Democratic Republic of Congo and in Central Africa more generally, her current research focuses on war networks and the shaping of public authority in Central Africa, and the impact of interventions for justice and security on local communities, including those displaced. Before joining the SSRC, she directed a research and publication program on the intellectual history of the United Nations at The City University of New York’s Ralph Bunche Institute for International Affairs.

Ron Kassimir, Executive Program Director
Ron Kassimir is executive program director at the Social Science Research Council (SSRC), supporting the development of new program initiatives as well as the deepening of cross-program connections. He also provides leadership for the Religion and the Public Sphere program, works closely on the Council’s Africa-focused activities, Scholarly Borderlands initiative, and Anxieties of Democracy program, and is editor of the SSRC’s digital forum Items. He has published on religion, civil society, higher education, and globalization in Africa, as well as on youth activism and civic engagement. He is coeditor of Intervention and Transnationalism in Africa: Global-Local Networks of Power (Cambridge University Press, 2001), Youth Activism: An International Encyclopedia (Greenwood Publishing, 2005), and Youth, Globalization, and the Law (Stanford University Press, 2007).

Jason Rhody, Program Director; Digital Culture and Social Data Initiative; codirector, Media & Democracy Program
Jason Rhody directs the Digital Culture program, Social Data Initiative, and co-directs the Media & Democracy program at the Social Science Research Council (SSRC). Previously, he served as senior program officer at the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), where he helped create the Office of Digital Humanities (ODH). In that role, he developed and managed multiple grant programs that enabled scholars, librarians, and archivists to harness emerging technologies to advance research, encourage scholarly inquiry of digital culture, and foster collaboration across international and disciplinary boundaries. He created and directed joint grant programs with Jisc in the UK and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) in Germany, and contributed to collaborations with the Research Councils UK, FAPESP in Brazil, the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), and the Department of Energy (DOE). He received his PhD in English from the University of Maryland where, prior to joining NEH in 2003, he managed and advised digital humanities projects at the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH) and taught courses in literature and digital media.