# Benjamin D. Horne

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## Research Focus

**Media ecosystems, information interventions, trust, disinformation, computational social science**

I study various facets of media ecosystems, the humans who consume that media, and interventions in between

## Education

**Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute** — Troy, NY
Ph.D. in Computer Science — *2014 – 2020*
*Dissertation*: Robust News Veracity Detection - Robert McNaughton Prize
*Committee*: Sibel Adalı, Lirong Xia, Stacy Patterson, Dorit Nevo, & Tamar Gordon

**Union University** — Jackson, TN
B.S. in Computer Science, Minor in Mathematics - Academic Excellence Medal — *2010 – 2014*

**Union University** — Jackson, TN
B.S. in Business Administration, Concentration in Management — *2010 – 2014*

**Vanguard-Sentinel Career & Technology Center** — Fremont, OH
Information Technology Fundamentals (Vocational Training) — *2008 – 2010*

## Academic Appointments

**University of Tennessee, Knoxville** — Knoxville, TN
CCI Board of Visitors Assistant Professor, School of Information Sciences — *2024 – Present*
Assistant Professor (Joint), Data Science and Engineering, The Bredesen Center — *2023 – Present*
Assistant Professor, School of Information Sciences — *2020 – 2024*
**– – Other UTK Affiliations and Working Groups – –**
Founding Fellow, CCI Information Integrity Institute ($I^3$) — *2023 – Present*
Affiliate, National Security and Foreign Affairs, The Baker School of Public Policy — *2023 – Present*
Member, Center for the Dynamics of Social Complexity (DySoc) — *2024 – Present*

**Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute** — Troy, NY
Graduate Research Assistant, Computer Science — *2014, 2017 – 2020*
NSF GK-12 Teaching Fellow, Science and Technology Studies — *2015 - 2016*
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Computer Science — *2015*

**Cornell University** — Ithaca, NY
NSF Undergraduate Researcher, Information Sciences — *2013*

**Texas Tech University** — Lubbock, TX
NSF Undergraduate Researcher, Computer Science — *2012*

## Relevant Industry/Government Experience

**U.S. Army Research Laboratory** — Adelphi, MD
Visiting Graduate Researcher, Network Science Research Laboratory — *2017*

**Steele Martin Jones and Company** — Jackson, TN
I.T. Administrator — *2011 – 2014*

*Publications*

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**Total citations** (Google Scholar February 2025): 2140
**H-Index** (Google Scholar February 2025): 17

**Notes:** I publish across multiple disciplines, each with different practices in terms of author order and venue importance. Across my publications, both journals and computing conferences are the most important. Conference proceedings are considered top-tier publication venues for computing. These conferences are heavily refereed and highly selective venues for top archival research, often exceeding many journals in their selectivity, visibility, and impact. Hence, I note the count of both journal and computing conference publications for each year at the top of each year block. Each output's venue type is also noted in a box by the venue name. All venues are peer-reviewed at some level with exception of *Technical Report* and *Other*.

I also provide other context indicators of venue impact and the type of co-authors for each paper. These include: **\*** indicates student authors; † indicates postdoc authors; **IF** indicates Impact Factor of journal at the time of acceptance, if known; **ICORE** indicates a conference rating (A\*, A, B, C) from Computing Research and Education, if available; **AR** indicates acceptance rate of conference or journal, if known; **ABDC** indicates a rating (A\*, A, B, C) from Australian Business Deans Council, if applicable; **AJG** indicates a rating (4\*, 4, 3, 2, 1) from the Academic Journal Guide by Chartered Association of Business Schools, if applicable, **JCR** indicates Journal Citation Reports ranking within Subject Field, if applicable.

Lastly, there are superscripts next to each output's title which indicate the broad research theme they fall under.

**Venue Types:** (shown in box)
| *Journal* | *Computing Conference* | *Conference* | *Workshop* | *Dataset* | *Technical Report* | *Other* |

**Paper Themes:** (shown in superscript)
I: Information Interventions, M: Media Ecosystems, P: People and Public Opinion

## 2025 (Journal: 3, Computing Conference: 2)

6. **"A Growing Sense of Alienation": Spirals of Silence and Suppression of Structural Circumstances of Suicide in News** [M]
   19th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) | *Computing Conference* | (ICORE: A)
   Jasmine C. Foriest\*, Mini Jain\*, <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, and Munmun De Choudhury

5. **Does the Source of a Warning Matter? Examining the Effectiveness of Veracity Warning Labels Across Warners** [I]
   19th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) | *Computing Conference* | (ICORE: A)
   <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>

4. **Supply and Demand on Alt-Tech Social Media: A Case Study of BitChute** [M]
   Computational Communication Research | *Journal* |
   <u>Benjamin D. Horne</u>, Myles Bowman\*, Milo Z. Trujillo, Maurício Gruppi, and Cody Buntain

3. **Perceptible Climate Warming Amplifies How Education Increases Climate Concern in the US** [P]
   npj Climate Action | *Journal* |

R. Alexander Bentley and Benjamin D. Horne

2. **Response to Collective Threat: Russian Invasion Unifies Ukrainians Across Ethnic, Linguistic, Religious, and Geographic Lines** [P]
Royal Society Open Science $\boxed{Journal}$ (IF: 2.9)
Joshua Borycz, Benjamin D. Horne, Catherine Luther, Garriy Shteynberg, Suzie Allard, Brandon Prins, and R. Alexander Bentley

1. **Experience of Warming Increases Education's Effect on Climate Concern in the U.S.** [P]
Seventeenth International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts & Responses $\boxed{Conference\ Abstract}$
R. Alexander Bentley and Benjamin D. Horne

## 2024 (Journal: 2, Computing Conference: 1)

6. **Perceived Social Influence on Vaccination Decisions: A COVID-19 Case Study** [P]
Springer Nature Social Sciences (SNSS) $\boxed{Journal}$
Denise Yewell*, R. Alexander Bentley, and Benjamin D. Horne

5. **News Media and Violence Against Women: Understanding Framings of Stigma** [M]
18th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) $\boxed{Computing\ Conference}$ (ICORE: A, AR: 35%)
Shravika Mittal*, Jasmine C. Foriest*, Benjamin D. Horne, and Munmun De Choudhury

4. **NELA-PS: A Dataset of Pink Slime News Articles for the Study of Local News Ecosystems**
18th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) $\boxed{Dataset}$ (AR: 46%)
Benjamin D. Horne and Mauricio Gruppi

3. **Russia Public Diplomacy Efforts to Influence Neighbors: Media Messaging Supports Hard Power Projection** [M]
International Journal of Communication (IJoC) $\boxed{Journal}$ (IF: 1.8)
Maureen Taylor, Natalie M. Rice, Oleg Manaev, Catherine A. Luther, Suzie L. Allard, R. Alexander Bentley, Joshua Borycz, Benjamin D. Horne, and Brandon C. Prins

2. **Media Trust and Opinions Regarding Russia's 2022 Invasion of Ukraine Amongst Russian-speaking Populations in Belarus and Ukraine - Pre and Post Invasion** [P] [M]
10th Annual Conference of the International Journal of Press/Politics $\boxed{Conference}$
Catherine Luther, Joshua Borycz, Benjamin D. Horne, Garriy Shteynberg, Suzie Allard, Brandon Prins, and R. Alexander Bentley

1. **Embedding Elites: Examining the Use of Tweets Embedded in Online News Articles across Reliable and Fringe Outlets** [M]
MeLa Lab Preliminary Findings Report $\boxed{Technical\ Report}$
http://arxiv.org/abs/2401.16572
Benjamin D. Horne, Summer Phillips*, and Nelia Koontz*

## 2023 (Journal: 5, Computing Conference: 0)

10. **Ethical and Safety Considerations in Automated Fake News Detection** [I]
Behaviour & Information Technology (BIT) $\boxed{Journal}$ (ABDC: A, AJG: 2, JCR: 38, IF: 3.7)
Benjamin D. Horne, Dorit Nevo, and Susan L. Smith
Media Coverage: RPI News, TiiSys Japan, TechExplore, NewsWise

9. **Cultural Evolution, Disinformation and Social Division** [P] [M]
Adaptive Behavior $\boxed{Journal}$ (IF: 1.6)
R. Alexander Bentley, Benjamin D. Horne, Joshua Borycz, Simon Carrignon, Garriy Shteynberg, Blai Vidiella, Sergi Valverde, Michael J. O'Brien

8. **Is Disruption Decreasing, or Is It Accelerating?**
Advances in Complex Systems (ACS) $\boxed{\textit{Journal}}$ (IF: 0.7, AR: 17%)
R. Alexander Bentley, Sergi Valverde, Joshua Borycz, Blai Vidiella, Benjamin D. Horne, Salva Duran-Nebreda, Michael J. O'Brien
Media Coverage: ScienMag, Phys.org, Swift Telecast, New Things Under The Sun Blog

7. **Climate Complacency Reflects Cultural Values of Nations** [P]
Current Research in Ecological and Social Psychology (CRESP) $\boxed{\textit{Journal}}$ (IF: 2.50)
R. Alexander Bentley, Joshua Borycz, and Benjamin D. Horne
Media Coverage: Daily Kos

6. **Generational Effects of Culture and Digital Media in Former Soviet Republics** [P] [M]
Humanities and Social Sciences Communications (HSSCOMMS) $\boxed{\textit{Journal}}$ (IF: 3.5)
Benjamin D. Horne, Natalie Rice, Catherine Luther, Damian Ruck, Joshua Borycz, Suzie L. Allard, Michael Fitzgerald, Oleg Manaev, Brandon C. Prins, Maureen Taylor, R. Alexander Bentley
Media Coverage: UTK Research News

5. **War in Ukraine: Russian Propaganda and Geopolitical Attitudes in FSU** [P] [M]
American Political Science Association (ASPA) Annual Meeting $\boxed{\textit{Conference Abstract}}$
Natalie Rice, Oleg Manaev, Catherine Luther, Suzanne Allard, R. Alexander Bentley, Benjamin D. Horne, Damian Ruck, Joshua Borycz, Maureen Taylor, Michael Fitzgerald, Brandon Prins

4. **CrisisFACTS 2023 – Overview Paper**
Proceedings of the 32nt Text Retrieval Conference (TREC) $\boxed{\textit{Technical Report}}$
https://trec.nist.gov/pubs/trec32/papers/Overview_crisis.pdf
Cody Buntain, Benjamin D Horne, Amanda Hughes, Muhammad Imran, Richard McCreadie, Hemant Purohit

3. **Examining the Production of Co-active Channels on YouTube and BitChute** [M]
MeLa Lab Preliminary Findings Report $\boxed{\textit{Technical Report}}$
https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.07861
Matthew C. Childs* and Benjamin D. Horne

2. **NELA-GT-2022: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
Dataset Update $\boxed{\textit{Technical Report}}$
Mauricio Gruppi, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adalı

1. **Is Automated Content Moderation Going to Solve Our Misinformation Problems?** [I]
Information Matters Vol. 3 Issue 1 $\boxed{\textit{Other}}$
Benjamin D. Horne

## 2022 (Journal: 4, Computing Conference: 2)

13. **Local News Online and COVID in the U.S.: Relationships among Coverage, Cases, Deaths, & Audience** [M]
16th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) $\boxed{\textit{Computing Conference}}$ (ICORE: A, AR: 21%)
Kenneth Joseph, Benjamin D. Horne, Jon Green, John P. Wihbey

12. **The MeLa BitChute Dataset**
16th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) $\boxed{\textit{Dataset}}$ (AR: 64%)
Milo Trujillo, Mauricio Gruppi, Cody Buntain, and Benjamin D. Horne

11. **NELA-Local: A Dataset of U.S. Local News Articles for the Study of County-level News Ecosystems**
The 16th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) $\boxed{\textit{Dataset}}$ (AR: 64%)
Benjamin D. Horne, Mauricio Gruppi, Kenneth Joseph, Jon Green, John P. Wihbey, and Sibel Adalı

10. **Characterizing YouTube and BitChute Content and Mobilizers During U.S. Election Fraud Discussions on Twitter** [M]
    14th ACM Web Science Conference (WebSci) | *Computing Conference* | (AR: 32%)
    Matthew C. Childs*, Milo Trujillo, Cody Buntain, and Benjamin D. Horne
    Media Coverage: Reuters Special Report

9. **Forking Paths of Cultural Complexity: A Case Study of Research Paradigms**
    Advances in Complex Systems (ACS) | *Journal* | (IF: 0.7, AR: 17%)
    Joshua Borycz, Benjamin D. Horne, and R. Alexander Bentley
    #1 Most Read ACS Paper Between 2019 and 2022

8. **Monitoring Event-driven Dynamics on Twitter: A Case Study in Belarus** [M]
    Springer Nature Social Sciences (SNSS) | *Journal*
    Natalie M. Rice, Benjamin D. Horne, Catherine Luther, Joshua Borycz, Suzie L. Allard, Damian J. Ruck, Michael Fitzgerald, Oleg Manaev, Brandon C. Prins, Maureen Taylor, and R. Alexander Bentley

7. **The Reasoning Behind Fake News Assessments: A Linguistic Analysis** [I]
    AIS Transactions on Human-Computer Interaction (THCI) | *Journal* | (ABDC: A, AJG: 2)
    Lydia Manikonda, Dorit Nevo, Benjamin D. Horne, Clare Arrington, and Sibel Adalı

6. **How Topic Novelty Impacts the Effectiveness of News Veracity Interventions** [I]
    Communications of the ACM (CACM) | *Journal* | (ABDC: A, AJG: 2, JCR: 4, IF: 4.65)
    Dorit Nevo and Benjamin D. Horne

5. **Automated Parsing of Personal Identity Facets for a Collection of Visual Images**
    International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications (DC) | *Conference*
    Brian Dobreski, Melissa Resnick, and Benjamin D. Horne

4. **Russia Public Diplomacy Efforts to Influence Neighbors: Media Messaging Supports Hard Power Projection** [M]
    72nd Annual International Communication Association Conference (ICA) | *Conference* | (AR: 43%)
    Maureen Taylor, Natalie Rice, Oleg Manaev, Catherine Luther, Suzie Allard, Michael Fitzgerald, Brandon Prins, Joshua Borycz, R. Alexander Bentley, and Benjamin D. Horne

3. **Traditional and Social Media Usage and Pro-Russian versus Anti-Russian Attitudes in Belarus and Ukraine** [P] [M]
    72nd Annual International Communication Association Conference (ICA) | *Conference* | (AR: 43%)
    Catherine Luther, Brandon Prins, Oleg Manaev, Natalie Rice, Maureen Taylor, Suzie Allard, Michael Fitzgerald, Benjamin D. Horne, R. Alexander Bentley, and Joshua Borycz

2. **A Psycho-linguistic Analysis of BitChute: A Metadata Supplement to The MeLa BitChute Dataset**
    Dataset Update | *Technical Report*
    Benjamin D. Horne

1. **NELA-GT-2021: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
    Dataset Update | *Technical Report*
    Mauricio Gruppi, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adalı

## 2021 (Journal: 1, Computing Conference: 0)

5. **Partisanship over security: Public narratives via Twitter on Foreign Interferences in the 2016 and 2020 U.S. Presidential Elections** [M] [P]
    First Monday | *Journal* | (ABDC: B, IF: 1.19)
    Catherine Luther, Benjamin D. Horne, and Xu Zhang*

4. **Tell Me Who Your Friends Are: Using Content Sharing Behavior for News Source Veracity Detection** [I]
   MEDIATE Workshop at ICWSM [Workshop]
   Mauricio Gruppi, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adalı

3. **From Tweeting About News to Creating News Around Tweets: Characterizing Tweets Embedded in News Articles** [M]
   MEDIATE Workshop at ICWSM [Workshop]
   Mauricio Gruppi, Sibel Adalı, Matthew Salemi, and Benjamin D. Horne

2. **Role of Social Affinity on News Coverage of Disasters: Implications for Disaster Donations** [M]
   Decision Sciences Institute (DSI) Annual Conference [Conference Abstract]
   Trilce Encarnacion, Jose Holguin-Veras, and Benjamin D. Horne

1. **NELA-GT-2020: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
   Dataset Update [Technical Report]
   Mauricio Gruppi, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adalı

## 2020 (Journal: 2, Computing Conference: 1)

7. **What is BitChute? Characterizing the "Free Speech" Alternative to YouTube** [M]
   31st ACM Conference on Hypertext and Social Media [Computing Conference] (AR: 29%)
   Milo Trujillo, Mauricio Gruppi, Cody Buntain, and Benjamin D. Horne
   Media Coverage: Mashable, Business Insider, YLE, Reuters Special Report
   Other: Cited on Wikipedia pages for Bitchute and WebTorrent (01/2021)

6. **Tailoring Heuristics and Timing AI Interventions for Supporting News Veracity Assessments** [I]
   Computers in Human Behavior Reports (CHB Reports) [Journal] (ABDC: A, AJG: 3, JCR: 11, IF: 6.83)
   Benjamin D. Horne, Dorit Nevo, Sibel Adalı, Lydia Manikonda, Clare Arrignton
   Media Coverage: IEEE Spectrum, RPI News, ACM TechNews, Electronics360, Tech Xplore, Scienmag, Newswise, The Next Web, Tech Monitor, Medical Device Network

5. **Fake News Starts with the Title** [M]
   Chapter 9. "Language That Manipulates: Politics, Advertising, and Doublespeak" in Language Awareness: Readings for College Writers. 13th Edition by Eschholz, Rosa, Clark. Macmillan Learning [Book Chapter]
   Benjamin D. Horne

4. **Effects of Priming Messages to Decrease Negativity in Online Learning Environments** [I]
   APA Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Psychology [Journal]
   Hung-Tao Chen, Benjamin D. Horne, Dan Florrel, Megan Thomas

3. **Do All Good Actors Look The Same? Exploring News Veracity Detection Across The U.S. and The U.K.** [I]
   ICWSM Data Challenge on Safety [Workshop]
   Benjamin D. Horne, Mauricio Gruppi, and Sibel Adalı

2. **Hateful YouTube: Characterizing the Social Video-hosting Platform BitChute** [M]
   6th International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2) [Conference Abstract]
   Milo Trujillo, Mauricio Gruppi, Cody Buntain, and Benjamin D. Horne

1. **NELA-GT-2019: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
   Dataset Update [Technical Report]
   Mauricio Gruppi, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adalı

## 2019 (Journal: 2, Computing Conference: 3)

6. **Trustworthy Misinformation Mitigation with Soft Information Nudging** [I]
   IEEE Conference on Trust, Privacy & Security in Intelligent Systems (TPS) | *Computing Conference* |
   Benjamin D. Horne, Mauricio Gruppi, and Sibel Adalı

5. **Different Spirals of Sameness: A Study of Content Sharing in Mainstream and Alternative Media** [M]
   13th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) | *Computing Conference* | (ICORE: A, AR: 21%)
   Benjamin D. Horne, Jeppe Nørregaard, and Sibel Adalı
   Other: Cited on Wikipedia pages for The Gateway Pundit and PoliticusUSA (01/2025)

4. **Rating Reliability and Bias in News Articles: Does AI Assistance Help Everyone?** [I]
   13th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) | *Computing Conference* | (ICORE: A, AR: 21%)
   Benjamin D. Horne, Dorit Nevo, John O'Donovan, Jin-Hee Cho, and Sibel Adalı

3. **NELA-GT-2018: A Large Multi-Labelled News Dataset for the Study of Misinformation in News Articles**
   The 13th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) | *Dataset* | (AR: 52%)
   Jeppe Nørregaard, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adalı

2. **Robust Fake News Detection Over Time and Attack** [I]
   ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology (TIST) | *Journal* | (IF: 4.65)
   Benjamin D. Horne, Jeppe Nørregaard, and Sibel Adalı

1. **Uncertainty-based False Information Propagation in Social Networks** [M]
   ACM Transactions of Social Computing (TSC) | *Journal* | (IF: 1.60)
   Jin-Hee Cho, Scott Rager, John O'Donovan, Sibel Adalı, and Benjamin D. Horne

## 2018 (Journal: 1, Computing Conference: 0)

8. **Recognizing Experts on Social Media: A Heuristics Based Approach** [I]
   The Data Base for Advances in Information Systems | *Journal* | (ABDC: A, AJG: 2, JCR: 53)
   Benjamin D. Horne, Dorit Nevo, and Sibel Adalı

7. **An Exploration of Verbatim Content Republishing by News Producers** [M]
   The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM | *Workshop* |
   Benjamin D. Horne and Sibel Adalı

6. **An Exploration of Misinformation Classification in Brazil and The U.S.** [I]
   The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM | *Workshop* |
   Mauricio Gruppi, Benjamin D. Horne, and Sibel Adalı

5. **Sampling the News Producers: A Large News and Feature Data Set for the Study of the Complex Media Landscape**
   The 12th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) | *Dataset* | (AR: 55%)
   Benjamin D. Horne, Sara Khedr, and Sibel Adalı

4. **Assessing the News Landscape: A Multi-Module Toolkit for Evaluating the Credibility of News** [I]
   27th International Web Conference (WWW) Demo Track | *Demo* | (ICORE: A*)
   Benjamin D. Horne, Will Dron, Sara Khedr, and Sibel Adalı
   Other: Cited on Wikipedia page for Occupy Democrats (01/2023), Cited by Patent Application EP-4195072-A1 (06/2023)

3. **Effects of Priming on Online Discussion Behavior** [I]
The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) International Annual Meeting | *Conference Abstract*
Hung-Tao Chen and Benjamin D. Horne

2. **Models for Predicting Community-Specific Interest in News Articles** [M]
The 37th Military Communications Conference (MILCOM) | *Conference*
Benjamin D. Horne, William Dron, and Sibel Adalı

1. **The Multi-Domain Integration and Correlation Engine** [I]
The 37th Military Communications Conference (MILCOM) | *Conference*
Willaim Dron, Andrew Hunter, Ali Sydney, Siddharth Pal, John Hancock, Lisa Scott, Tarek Abdelzaher, Jiawei Han, Sibel Adalı, and Benjamin D. Horne

## 2017 (Journal: 0, Computing Conference: 2)

5. **This Just In: Fake News Packs a Lot in Title, Uses Similar, Repetitive Content in Text Body, More Similar to Satire than Real News** [I] [M]
The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM | *Workshop*
Benjamin D. Horne and Sibel Adalı
Media Coverage: Science News

4. **The Impact of Crowds on News Engagement: A Reddit Case Study** [M]
The International Workshop on News and Public Opinion (NECO) at ICWSM | *Workshop*
Benjamin D. Horne and Sibel Adalı

3. **Identifying the Social Signals that Drive Online Discussions: A Case Study of Reddit Communities** [M]
International Conference on Computer Communications and Networks (ICCCN)
*Computing Conference* (AR: 30%)
Benjamin D. Horne, Sibel Adalı, and Sujoy Sikdar

2. **From Sports to Science: Using Basketball Analytics to Broaden the Appeal of Math and Science Among Youth**
MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference (SSAC) | *Computing Conference*
John F. Drazan, Amy K. Loya, Benjamin D. Horne, and Ron Eglash
Best Research Paper Award ($10,000 prize)
Media Coverage: NBA Enrichment Program, Denver Stiffs Podcast, RPI News, Fansided, SB Nation, Vice Sports, Harvard Sports Analytics Blog

1. **Fake News Starts with the Title** [M] [I]
Medium Post 2017 - Views: 3,500 Reads: 1,000 | *Other*
Benjamin D. Horne

## 2016 and prior (Journal: 0, Computing Conference: 2)

3. **Impact of message sorting on access to novel information in networks** [M]
2016 IEEE/ACM Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM)
*Computing Conference* (AR: 21%)
Benjamin D. Horne, Sibel Adalı, and Kevin Chan

2. **Expertise in social networks: how do experts differ from other users?** [I]
10th International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) 2016 | *Computing Conference*
(ICORE: A, AR: 17%)
Benjamin D. Horne, Dorit Nevo, Jesse Freitas, Heng Ji, and Sibel Adalı

1. **Exploring the Creative Destruction of 3D Printing Through an Analysis of Intellectual Property Issues**
2013 Emerging Researcher National (ERN) Conference | *Workshop*
Stephanie M. Santoso, Benjamin D. Horne, and Stephen B. Wicker

*Funding*

Note: Co-PIs at UTK unless stated otherwise

**Internal Funding:**

3. CCI Board of Visitors Professorship
   **PI:** Benjamin D. Horne
   **Funding:** $27,000
   **Duration:** 2024 – 2027

2. CCI Faculty Research and Innovation Fund (FRIF)
   **Title:** Measuring the Efficacy of Content Warning Labels in Extremist Populations
   **PI:** Benjamin D. Horne
   **Funding:** $4,000
   **Duration:** 2024 – 2025

1. Bonnie Carroll and Roy Cooper Faculty Enrichment Award
   **PI:** Benjamin D. Horne
   **Funding:** $2,500
   **Duration:** 2023

**External Funding:**

2. Minerva Defense Education and Civilian University Research Partnership, United States Department of Defense, Office of Naval Research
   **Title:** Identifying Patterns of Russia's Malign Influence Operations in Online Spaces and Their Influences on Russian-Speaking Populations and Russian Diasporas
   **PI:** Catherine Luther
   **Co-PI:** Benjamin D. Horne, Suzie Allard, R. Alexander Bentley, Garriy Shteynberg, Jahara Matisek (U.S. Naval War College), Olga Chiriac (University of Bucharest)
   **Funding:** $350,000
   **Duration:** 2024 - 2026

1. Minerva Research Initiative, United States Department of Defense, Office of Naval Research
   **Title:** Monitoring the Content and Measuring the Effectiveness of Russian Disinformation and Propaganda Campaigns in Selected Former Soviet Union States
   **PI:** Catherine Luther
   **Co-PI:** Benjamin D. Horne, Suzie Allard, R. Alexander Bentley, Michael Fitzgerald, Brandon Prins, Maureen Taylor (University of Technology Sydney), Garriy Shteynberg (added in 2024)
   **Funding:** $2.6 Million
   **Duration:** 2019 - 2026 (added as a Co-PI in 2021)

*Awards*

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|---|---|
| **CCI Board of Visitors (BOV) Professorship ($27,000)**<br>Endowed Professorship made possible by CCI's Board of Visitors (3-year term) | *2024 – 2027* |
| **Bonnie Carroll and Roy Cooper Faculty Enrichment Award ($2,500)**<br>Annual research award in UTK's School of Information Sciences | *2023* |
| **Robert McNaughton Prize**<br>Outstanding Ph.D. graduate in Computer Science at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | *2020* |
| **Best Research Paper Award ($10,000)**<br>MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference, for paper 2 | *2017* |

**Outstanding Research Poster Award**

RPI Graduate Research Symposium, for paper 5                                        *2017*

**Academic Excellence Medal in Computer Science**

Highest GPA at graduation in Union University's Computer Science Department          *2014*

**Dr. Joe Tucker Scholarship**

Scholarship within Union University's Math and Computer Science Departments          *2013*

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*Invited Talks, Panels, and Guest Lectures (not including conference paper presentations)*

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17. Guest Lecture
    **Title**: Information Interventions: How Effective are They? Should We Automate Them? What Could Go Wrong?
    CSCI 4970/6970 Sensemaking and Computation, RPI Department of Computer Science, 2024

16. Panelist
    **Title**: Finding Your Research Focus
    CCI 620 Communication and Information Professional Development Seminar, 2024

15. Co-speaker with Catherine Luther, Maria Hoy, Mike Kotowski, and Martin Riedl
    **Title**: AI, Deep Fakes, Online Influencers & Political Communication
    Truth and Consequences Symposium with Knox County Public Library 2024
    Media Coverage: WBIR-TV Channel 10 Knoxville

14. Co-speaker with Catherine Luther
    **Title**: Monitoring the Content and Measuring the Effectiveness of Russian Disinformation and Propaganda Campaigns in Selected Former Soviet Union States
    Minerva Meeting 2024

13. Speaker
    **Title**: Should We Let AI Tell Us What Is True?
    UT Mic/Nite Spring 2024

12. Speaker
    **Title**: Does the Source of Warning Matter?
    46th Annual CCI Research Symposium, Information Integrity Institute Session, 2024

11. Panelist
    **Title**: A Multi-modal Research Agenda
    Images in Online Political Communication (PhoMemes) Workshop at ICWSM 2023

10. Invited Speaker
    **Title**: Learning News Outlet Veracity using Relationship Graphs + My thoughts on Future Directions
    Disinformation Countermeasures and Machine Learning (DisCoML) Workshop at ICML 2022

9. Invited Speaker
    **Title**: What is Machine Learning?
    The UTK Pre-College Programs & Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair, 2022

8. Invited Co-speaker with Catherine Luther
    **Title**: Exploring the Impact of Russian Propaganda and Disinformation on Russian-speaking populations in post-Soviet States
    U.S. DoD Basic Research Forum, 2021

7. Invited Speaker
    **Title**: Tailoring Heuristics and Timing AI Interventions for Supporting News Veracity Assessments
    iDRAMA Lab Seminar Series, 2021

6. Invited Speaker
   **Title**: AI for Misinformation
   IDEA Institute for Artificial Intelligence, 2021

5. Invited Co-speaker with Catherine Luther
   **Title**: Exploring the Impact of Russian Propaganda and Disinformation on Russian-speaking populations in post-Soviet States
   U.S. Technology Leadership Council (USTLC), 2021

4. Co-Guest Lecture with Guy Harrison
   **Title**: Advice on the Academic Job Hunt
   CCI 620 Communication and Information Professional Development Seminar, 2021

3. Panel Moderator
   **Title**: The Rise of Extremist Movements on Social Media with Jeremy Blackburn (Binghamton), Cody Buntain (Maryland), and Joan Donovan (Harvard)
   UTK CCI Social Media Week, 2021

2. Guest Lecture
   **Title**: Robust News Veracity Detection With Some Adversarial Attacks
   ECE 692 Adversarial Learning, UTK Tickle College of Engineering, 2021

1. Panelist
   **Title**: Power of Information: Information Science Graduate Programs
   iSchool's Inc. Information Science Graduate Programs Fair, 2020

## *Media Interviews, Quotes, and Coverage*

20. New Things Under The Sun Blog by Matt Clancy, 2024
    **Title**: Science is getting harder
    **Related Publications: 8**

19. WBIR-TV Channel 10 Knoxville, 2024
    **Title**: 'There will be a huge increase in deep fakes in politics' | Knox Co. Public Library to host event series on AI and politics

18. RPI News, 2024
    **Title**: Automated Fake News Detection: A Simple Solution May Not Be Feasible
    **Syndicated By:** TiiSys Japan, TechExplore, NewsWise
    **Related Publications: 10**

17. WBIR-TV Channel 10 Knoxville, 2023
    **Title**: 2023 Winter Weather Outlook: Social-Media-ologists

16. Daily Kos, 2023
    **Title**: The greatest obstacle to combatting climate change will be our own complacency
    **Related Publications: 7**

15. Phys.org, 2023
    **Title**: Innovation increasingly led by collaborative teams, not individual pioneers: Study
    **Syndicated By:** Scienmag, Swift Telecast, My Droll
    **Related Publications: 8**

14. UTK Research News, 2023
    **Title**: Study Uncovers Effectiveness of Russian Propaganda
    **Related Publications: 6**

13. Reuters Special Report, 2022
    **Title**: SkewTube: New breed of video sites thrive on misinformation and hate
    **Related Publications: 10 2 7**

12. Tech Monitor, 2021
    **Title**: AI vs misinformation: Fighting lies with machines
    **Related Publications: 6**

11. Yleisradio Oy (YLE), 2021
    **Title**: Conspiracies and the Bible: Youtube offers conspiracy theories and Bible interpretations for Finns seeking information about coronary vaccines. (English Translation)
    **Related Publications: 7**

10. IEEE Spectrum, 2021
    **Title**: Can AI Stop People From Believing Fake News?
    **Related Publications: 6**

9. RPI News, 2021
    **Title**: When a Story is Breaking, AI Can Help Consumers Identify Fake News
    **Syndicated By:** ACM TechNews, Electronics360, Tech Xplore, Scienmag, Newswise, The Next Web
    **Related Publications: 6**

8. Business Insider, 2021
    **Title**: Following Trump's YouTube ban, it is feared his supporters are migrating to a 'Wild West' of video-sharing, mingling with far-right and neo-Nazi terror groups
    **Related Publications: 7**

7. Mashable, 2020
    **Title**: BitChute welcomes the dangerous hate speech that YouTube bans
    **Related Publications: 7**

6. Science News, 2018
    **Title**: People are bad at spotting fake news. Can computer programs do better?
    **Related Publications: 5**

5. RPI News, 2017
    **Title**: Turning Basketball Courts Into DIY Science Labs
    **Related Publications: 2**

4. FanSided, 2017
    **Title**: Nylon Calculus: Previewing the 2017 MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference
    **Related Publications: 2**

3. Vice Sports, 2017
    **Title**: At The Sloan Sports Analytics Conference The Jocks are Becoming the Nerds
    **Related Publications: 2**

2. Harvard Sports Analytics Blog, 2017
    **Title**: Review of The 2017 Sloan Sports Analytics Conference
    **Related Publications: 2**

1. SB Nation: One Foot Down, 2017
    **Title**: Report From MIT Sloan Sports Conference
    **Related Publications: 2**

*Teaching*

## University of Tennessee Knoxville:

**INSC 201 Foundations of Information Sciences**
Taught 5 times between 2020 – 2022

**INSC 260 (formerly 360) Programming for Information Applications (taught with Python) (Newly Created)**
Taught 8 times between 2021 – 2024

**INSC 484 Database Applications (taught with Python and SQL) (Newly Created)**
Taught 4 times between 2021 – 2024

**INSC 590/395 Introduction to Network Science (Newly Created)**
Taught 1 time in 2025

**INSC 493 Independent Project/Research**
Taught 9 times between 2022 – 2024

**INSC 591 Independent Project/Research**
Taught 6 times between 2020 – 2024

**INSC 594 Graduate Research Participation**
Taught 5 times between 2021 – 2023

**CCI 697 Communication & Information Independent Study**
Taught 2 time between 2023 – 2024

## Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute:

**CSCI 2300 Introduction to Algorithms**
Spring 2015 as a Graduate Teaching Assistant

*Student Mentoring*

## PhD Advisor:

Namrita Varier, PhD Communications and Information, UTK (2022 – present)

## PhD Committee Member:

Rohit Gunti, PhD Communications and Information, UTK (A. Rorissa, Chair) (2023 – present)

Katie Knight, PhD Communications and Information, UTK (S. Allard, Chair) (2021 – 2024) - **Continued job:** Oak Ridge National Laboratory

## Masters Research Mentor:

Myles Bowman, MSIS, UTK (2023) - **First job:** University of Tennessee Libraries

Jeremy Horner, MSIS, UTK (2022) - - **Continued job:** U.S. Air Force

Matt Childs, MSIS, UTK (2021 – 2022) - **First job:** Booz Allen Hamilton

Denise Yewell, MSIS, UTK (2022) - **First job:** Somerville Fayette County Library

Rohit Srivastava, MSIS, UTK (2021) - **First job:** Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Nelia Koontz, MSIS, UTK (2021) - **First job:** University of Wyoming Libraries

Summer Phillips, MSIS, UTK (2020 – 2022) - **First job:** Carnegie Mellon University Libraries

**Undergraduate Research Mentor:**

Holly Sarah Liban, Information Sciences, UTK (2023 – 2024) **First job:** Shelton Group

Caleb Ellis, Haslam Scholars Program, Information Sciences, UTK (2023 – 2024) - **First job:** Edgewater Federal Solutions, Inc.

Sawyer Smith, Information Sciences, UTK (2023 – 2024) - **First job:** UTK MSIS student

Diego Lourenco, College Scholars Program, Data Science, UTK (2021 – 2023)- **First job:** Ignite Reading

Taylor Rogers, Computer Science, UTK (2022) - **First job:** MLB's Texas Rangers Baseball Club (R&D)

*Service*

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**Information Integrity Institute ($I^3$) Public Outreach:**

Girl Scouts Digital Leadership Workshop (2024)

Truth and Consequences Symposium with Knox County Public Library (2024)

**UTK Minerva Research Group:**

Chair, Postdoc Search Committee (2024)

**University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK) Service:**

Member, Center for Dynamics of Social Complexity (DySoc) Adhoc Planning Committee (2024 – 2025)

Member, UTK Intercollegiate Data Science Program Curriculum Committee (2021 – 2024)

Member, UTK Proposal for Chancellor's Cluster Hiring Initiative: Data-Driven Society Team (2022)

**UTK College of Communication and Information (CCI) Service:**

Member, CCI I3 Postdoc Search Committee (2024)

Proxy Member, UTK Undergraduate Council Curriculum Meetings (2023)

Member, CCI Social Media Week Ad-Hoc Committee (2021)

**UTK School of Information Sciences (SIS) Service:**

Member, Tenure-track Faculty Search Committee, PHE Cluster (2024 – 2025)

Member, Faculty and Doctoral Student Affairs Committee (2022 – 2025)

Member, Adhoc iLab Construction Group (2023)

Faculty Participant, College Connect Event (2023)

Member, Undergraduate Program Committee (2020 – 2023)

Member, Professor of Practice Search Committee (2020)

**Academic Community Service:**

**Co-Chair:** ICWSM Posters, Demos, and Dataset Track (2024)

**Co-Organizer:** NIST Text Retrieval Conference (TREC) CrisisFACTS Track (2023)

**Journal Reviewer:** Nature Scientific Reports (2022 – 2024), EPJ Data Science (2023 – 2024), Behaviour & Information Technology (BIT) (2023), European Journal of Information Systems (EJIS) (2023), Nature Scientific Data (2023), Digital Journalism (2022 – 2023), Information Processing and Management (IPM) (2021), Harvard Kennedy School Misinformation Review (2020), International Journal of Communications (IJoC) (2019 – 2020), ACM Transactions on Internet Technology (TOIT) (2017)

**Conference Senior Program Committee Member/Associate Editor:** ICWSM Posters, Demos, and Dataset Track (2025)

**Conference Program Committee Member:** ICWSM (2019 – 2025), ACM WebSci (2020 – 2025), ACM FAccT (2025), CIKM (2023), ICA Conference (2021), ICIS (2021), AMCIS (2017 – 2020), ASONAM (2019)

**Workshop Program Committee Member:** MEDIATE Workshop at ICWSM (2022), NECO Workshop at ICWSM (2017, 2018, 2020), MIS2 Workshop at WSDM (2018)