Karen Nershi

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Academic Appointments

Stanford University (2021-2023)
Postdoctoral Fellow, Stanford Internet Observatory

Education

University of Pennsylvania (2021)
Ph.D. in Political Science
    Fields: International Relations & Comparative Politics
    Dissertation: Studies in the International Political Economy of Anti-Money Laundering Regulation
    Committee: Beth A. Simmons (chair), Edward D. Mansfield, Julia Gray
        – **Summer Institute in Computational Social Science Methods**. ETH Zürich. 2019.
        – **Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models**. Turin, Italy. 2018.

M.A. in Political Science (2018)

University of Alabama (2013)
B.A. in International Studies
    Summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, University Honors, International Honors

Working Papers

[1] How Strong Are International Standards in Practice? Evidence from Cryptocurrency Transactions. [SSRN] [PDF]

[2] Assessing the Political Motivations Behind Ransomware Attacks (with Shelby Grossman).
    • **Media**: WIRED; The Washington Post.

[3] Measuring Reputational Harm in Money Laundering Cases. [PDF]

[4] Quantifying International Pressure: Synthetic Estimates of the Economic Impact of Blacklisting. [PDF]

[5] Does Rank Choice Voting Increase Electoral Chances for Female and Minority Candidates? Evidence from California Local Elections (with Selina Hofstetter).

Works in Progress

[6] Measuring the Effect of Chinese State Media on Attitudes Among Nigerians (with Jennifer Pan,

Shelby Grossman, and Rosemary Ajayi). [OSF Preregistration]

[7] Ties that Bind? Chinese Foreign Direct Investment & Political Influence in Africa.

[8] Cyber Insurance and the Rise of Ransomware Attacks

Other Publications

[8] Grossman, S., DiResta, R., Ramali, K., Sharma, R., Bradshaw, S., and **Nershi, K.** (2021). "In Bed with Embeds: How a Network Tied to IRA Operations Created Fake 'Man on the Street' Content Embedded in News Articles." Stanford Digital Repository. DOI.

Teaching

University of Pennsylvania
Teaching Assistant

1. Introduction to International Relations with Prof. Edward Mansfield (2016 and 2020)
2. International Relations and Ethics with Prof. Mark Pollack (2018)
3. Introduction to International Relations with Prof. Alex Weisiger (2017)
4. International Political Economy with Prof. Mark Pollack (2017)

Selected Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

Stanford University:
Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC) Fellow (2021–2023)
Cyber Policy Center Research Grant (2022)

University of Pennsylvania:
Perry World House Graduate Associate (2020–2021)
GAPSA-Provost Fellowship for Interdisciplinary Innovation (2020)
Browne Center for International Politics Research Grant (2018, 2019, 2020)
E. W. Mumford Graduate Fellow (2018)
Mellon Ethnopol Graduate Fellow (2017)
Benjamin Franklin Fellowship (2015–2020)

External:
Prestage-Cook Travel Award, *Southern Political Science Association* (2020)
Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, *ETH Zürich* (2019)
Young Investigator Scholarship, *Network for the Advancement of Social and Political Studies* (2018)
Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship (Arabic), *U.S. Department of State* (2016)
Critical Language Scholarship (Arabic), *U.S. Department of State* (2013)

Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

2023: Fourth International Empirical Research Conference on Anti-Money Laundering and

Financial Crime (Central Bank of the Bahamas). *Nassau, Bahamas. (Scheduled)*
Cyber Escalation in Conflict: Bridging Policy, Data, and Theory (UC San Diego). *San Diego, CA. (Scheduled)*

2022: Cyber Policy Center seminar series (Stanford University). *Stanford, CA.* (**Invited**)
CYBERWARCON. *Arlington, VA.*
The Munich Cyber Crime Conference M3C (Maltego). *Munich, Germany.* (**Invited**)
Trust and Safety Research Conference (Stanford University). *Stanford, CA.*
Politics of Emerging Technologies Mini-Conference. *Virtual.*
American Political Science Association annual conference. *Montreal, Canada.*
Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth) annual conference. *St. Louis, Missouri.*
Oak Ridge National Laboratory "Geek Brief." *Virtual.* (**Invited**)
The Stanford Blockchain Seminar (Center for Blockchain Research and the Future of Digital Currency Initiative). *Stanford, CA.* (**Invited**)
American Causal Inference Conference. *Berkeley, CA.*
Symposium on Cryptocurrency and Societal Harm (Stanford University). *Stanford, CA.*
Technologies of Deception (Yale Law School). *Virtual.*
International Studies Association annual conference. *Nashville, TN.*
Third International Empirical Research Conference on Anti-Money Laundering and Financial Crime (Central Bank of the Bahamas). *Nassau, Bahamas.*

2021: American Political Science Association annual conference. *Seattle, WA.*
International Studies Association annual conference. *Virtual.*
Second International Empirical Research Conference on Anti-Money Laundering and Financial Crime (Central Bank of the Bahamas). *Virtual.*
Southern Political Science Association annual conference. *Virtual.*

2020: Visions in Methodology (VIM) Job Talk Series. *Virtual.*
Graduate Student International Political Economy (GSIPE) Workshop: The International Political Economy of Aid and Development. *Virtual.*
Polmeth Europe. *(cancelled due to Covid-19)*
Southern Political Science Association annual conference. *San Juan, PR.*

Academic and University Service

Organizer, Symposium on Cryptocurrency and Societal Harm, Stanford University (2022).
Website; Program.

Graduate Associate, Gregory College House, University of Pennsylvania (2016–2021).
Mentored undergraduate students in a residential setting

References

Beth A. Simmons
Professor of Political Science
University of Pennsylvania

Shelby Grossman
Research Scholar
Stanford Internet Observatory

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Julia C. Gray
Associate Professor of Political Science
University of Pennsylvania
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Daniel Nielson
Professor of Government
University of Texas at Austin
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