Shaomei Wu

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Research Interests

- **Computational Social Sciences**: Understand marginalized populations and their experiences online and offline through quantitative and qualitative methods.

- **AI, HCI, Accessibility**: Design human-centric technology to deliver tangible benefits to marginalized populations.

Education

2012	**PhD, Information Science**, *Cornell University*
2007	**MS, Computer Science**, *University of California, Santa Barbara*
2005	**BS, Computer Science**, *Tsinghua University*

Work Experiences

Present **aimpower.org**
Nov 2021 - Present, Founder of aimpower.org

2013 - 2021 **Facebook**
Oct 2020 - Nov 2021, Staff Software Engineer, Tech Lead, *Instagram Equity*
May 2018 - Oct 2020, Staff Research Scientist, *Facebook AI*
Mar 2013 - May 2018, Senior Research Scientist, *Core Data Science*

2011 - 2012 **Cornell University**
Graduate Research Assistant, *Social Dynamics Lab*.

2006 - 2011 **Google**
Sep 2011 - Dec 2011, Software Engineering Intern, *Google.org*
Jun 2011 - Aug 2011, Research Intern, *Google Research*
May 2009 - Aug 2009, Software Engineering Intern, *Local Search*
May 2008 - Aug 2008, Software Engineering Intern, *Local Search*
Jun 2007 - Aug 2007, Software Engineering Intern, *Google Search*
Jul 2006 - Sep 2006, Software Engineering Intern, *Google Beijing*

2010 **Yahoo Research**
May 2010 - Oct 2010, Research Intern, *Yahoo Research New York*

2004 - 2005 **Microsoft Research**
Jul 2004 - Jun 2005, Research Intern, *Microsoft Research Asia*

Publications

AI, HCI, Accessibility

2019 **Design and Evaluation of a Social Media Writing Support Tool for People with Dyslexia**, **Shaomei Wu**, Lindsay Reynolds, Xian Li, Francisco (Paco) Guzman. In *Proc. of the ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '19)*

Addressing the Accessibility of Social Media. Cole Gleason, Patrick Carrington, Lydia B Chilton, Benjamin M Gorman, Hernisa Kacorri, Andrés Monroy-Hernández, Meredith Ringel

Morris, Garreth W Tigwell, and **Shaomei Wu**. *CSCW 2019 Extended Abstract.*

2018   **"I'm Never Happy with What I Write": Challenges and Strategies of People with Dyslexia on Social Media**, Lindsay Reynolds, **Shaomei Wu**. In *Proc. of the 12th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM)*. **Best Paper Runner-up**

The Effect of Computer-Generated Descriptions on Photo-Sharing Experiences of People with Visual Impairments, Yuhang Zhao, **Shaomei Wu**, Lindsay Reynolds, Shiri Azenkot. In *Proc. of the ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (CSCW '18)*

A Face Recognition Application for People with Visual Impairments: Understanding Use Beyond the Lab, Yuhang Zhao, **Shaomei Wu**, Lindsay Reynolds, Shiri Azenkot. In *Proc. of the ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '18)*

2017   **Automatic Alt-text: Computer-generated Image Descriptions for Blind Users on a Social Network Service**, **Shaomei Wu**, Jeffrey Wieland, Omid Farivar, Julie Schiller. In *Proc. of the 20th ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (CSCW '17)*. **The 14th most cited paper in CSCW '16 - '21** (Google Scholar).

2016   **How Blind People Interact with Visual Content on Social Networking Services**, Violeta Voykinska, Shiri Azenkot, **Shaomei Wu**, and Gilly Leshed. In *Proc. of the 19th ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (CSCW '16)*

2014   **Visually Impaired Users on an Online Social Network**, **Shaomei Wu**, Lada Adamic. In *Proc. of The ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '14)*. **The 20th most cited paper in CSCW '16 - '21** (Google Scholar).

Viralness & Social networks

2015   **The Lifecycles of Apps in a Social Ecosystem**, Isabel Kloumann, Lada Adamic, Jon Kleinberg, and **Shaomei Wu**. In *Proc. of the 24th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW '15)*.

2013   **Arrival and Departure Dynamics in Social Networks**, **Shaomei Wu**, Atish Das Sarma, Alex Fabrikant, Silvio Lattanzi, and Andrew Tomkins. In *Proc. of the 6th ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM '13)*.

2011   **Does Bad News Go Away Faster?**, **Shaomei Wu**, Chenhao Tan, Jon Kleinberg, and Michael Macy. In *Proc. of the 5th International AAAI Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (ICWSM '11)*.

Who Says What to Whom on Twitter, **Shaomei Wu**, Jake M. Hofman, Winter A. Mason, and Duncan J. Watts. In Proc. of *the 20th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW '11)*. **Over 1200 citations by 2021** (Google Scholar).

Mining Collective Local Knowledge from Google MyMaps, **Shaomei Wu**, Shenwei Liu, Dan Cosley, and Michael Macy. In Proc. of *the 20th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW '11)*.

Blogs

2018   Using AI to help people with visual impairments share images on Facebook. *Facebook Research Blog*, November 2, 2018

Designing a face recognition application for people with visual impairments. (with Lindsay Reynolds). *Facebook Research Blog*, April 23, 2018

2016   How blind people interact with visual content on social networking sites. *Facebook Research Blog*, April 4, 2016

Under the hood: Building accessibility tools for the visually impaired on Facebook. (with Darío García García, Manohar Paluri). *Facebook Engineering Blog*, April 4, 2016

Using Artificial Intelligence to Help Blind People 'See' Facebook. (with Hermes Pique and Jeffrey Wieland). *Facebook Newsroom*, April 4, 2016

Selected Press Citations

2016   Featured (with Jeffrey Wieland, Matt King) in "Facebook Just Launched AI-Powered Technology That Reads Photos to the Blind", *Fortune*, April 5.

2011   Featured in "The New York Times and Twitter", *The New York Times*, March 29.

Work featured in "The Twittersphere is Dominated By Less than One Percent of Twitter Users", *Time*, March 29.

Work featured in "Jack Dorsey Rejoins Twitter: Returning to the Nest", *The Economist*, March 29.

Professional Services

- **Associate Chair:** the ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) (2018, 2020, 2021, 2022)

- **Senior Program Committee:** the International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) (2016 - 2022)

- **Dataset Co-Chair:** ICWSM (2022)

- **Tutorial Co-Chair:** ICWSM (2021)

- **Workshop Co-Chair:** ICWSM (2019)

- **Doctorate Consortium Co-Chair:** WebForAll(W4A) (2021)

- **Program Committee**: The Web Conference (2019, 2021, 2022), the International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS) (2015 - 2021), ICWSM (2013, 2014).

- **Organizer:** *Addressing the Accessibility of Social Media Workshop* @ CSCW (2019).

- **Reviewer**: the ACM Transactions on Accessible Computing, the ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM) (2012), CHI (2016, 2017, 2019), the ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW) (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021), the ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST) (2019), New Media & Society

References

A full list of references is available upon request.