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Department of Communication

Cornell University

Ithaca NY

Appointments

- Fall 2023 – **Assistant Professor**
School of Journalism
MU Institute for Data Science & Informatics
University of Missouri-Columbia, USA
- 2021 – now **Postdoctoral Associate**
Department of Communication
Cornell University, USA
- 2009 – 2010 **Reporter**
Vietnam Financial Review Magazine, Vietnam

Education

Formal Training

- 2014 – 2021 **PhD in Mass Communication**, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA.
Minor in Educational Psychology, Quantitative Methodology
Dissertation: "The Political Implications of Search Engines: Usage and Partisan Personalization in Google Search"
Committee: Hernando Rojas (Chair), Barry Burden, Nick Diakopoulos (External), David Kaplan, Douglas McLeod, Michael W. Wagner
- 2011 – 2013 **M.A. in Communication**, Ewha Women's University, South Korea.
- 2005 – 2009 **B.A. in English**, Hanoi University, Vietnam.

Certifications

- 2018 **The Data Science of Government and Political Science**
LinkedIn Learning

External Funding & Research Activities

- 2021 – now "Using natural language processing and crowd-sourcing to monitor and evaluate public information and communication disparities about colon cancer screening".
 PI/co-PIs: King, A., Niederdeppe, J., Margolin, D., Chunara, R..
 Funder: National Cancer Institute. *National Institutes of Health*.
 Award: [R37CA259156](#).
Roles: Postdoctoral fellow.
- 2021 – now "HCC: Medium: Deterring objectionable behavior and fostering emergent norms in social media conversations".
 PI/co-PIs: Margolin, D., Bazarova, N., Bohns, V., Kizilcec R., DiFranzo, D.
 Funder: *NSF*.
 Award: [2106476](#).
Roles: Collaborator.
- 2014 – 2018 University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Social Media and Democracy
 PI/co-PIs: Shah, D.
 - Mass Communication Research Center
 PI/co-PIs: McLeod, D. & Shah, D.
 - International Research Group
 PI/co-PIs: Rojas, H.
 - Computational Methods
 Student-led Research Group
 - Online Russian Propaganda Activities in the 2016 US Presidential Election
 Student-led Research Group
 - Project DATA: Algorithm and Political Marketing in the Digital Age
 PI/co-PIs: Kim, Y.M.
 - Physiology and Communication Effects
 PI/co-PIs: Wagner, M.
- Roles: Member of 7 Research Groups (23 Projects).**
- 2011 – 2013 Ewha Women's University, South Korea
Roles: Research Assistant (5 Projects).

Awards & Honors

- 2020 University of Wisconsin-Madison, School of Journalism and Mass Communication
Dissertation Research Grant, \$2,000
- 2020 University of Wisconsin-Madison, The Graduate School
Graduate Student Research Grant Competition, \$1,500
- 2020 Communication and Technology Division, ICA
Conference Travel Grant
- 2019 University of Wisconsin-Madison, The Graduate School
Louise Elizabeth George Scholarship (Dissertation Fellowship), \$1,000

- 2019 University of Wisconsin-Madison, The Elections Research Center
Travel Awards, \$750
- 2019 Political Communication Interest Group, AEJMC
Top Student-led Paper
Donatenow!: A computer-assisted analysis of musician's political engagement on Twitter
with Lukito, J., Loya, L., Davalos, C., Li, J., & McLeod, D.
- 2018 Ethnicity & Race Division, ICA
Second-Top Student Paper
White Elitism, Passive Empathy and the Modern Ideological Discourse on the Suffering of the Other
- 2018 American Association of Public Opinion Research
Conference Travel Award
Job Insecurity and Vote Choice in the 2016 Primaries Election
- 2016 Health Communication Division, ICA
Top 4 Paper Award
The Interplay between Verbal Frames and Images in Influencing News Readers' Perceptions of the Social Determinants of Obesity
with Liu, J., Kornfield, R., Chen, Y.
- 2011 – 2013 Ewha Women's University, South Korea
Korean Government Cultural Exchange Scholarship
- 2006 Hanoi University, Vietnam
Top Prize in English Speaking Contest
- 2006 Institute of International Education, Vietnam
Top Prize in Essay Writing Contest on Environmental Theme

Research & Teaching Interests

- Communication Technologies and Politics
- Public Opinion
- Race and Media
- International Communication
- News Media and Journalism Theories
- Strategic Communication (Digital Marketing, Social Influence)
- Research Methods
- Social Media Analytics
- Computational Media and Data Science

Publications

Peer-reviewed Papers

- In press King, A.J., Margolin, D., **Tong, C.**, Chunara, R. & Niederdeppe, J. Making Sense of Social Media Data about Colorectal Cancer Screening. *Journal of the American College of Radiology*.
- 2022 **Tong, C.**, Margolin, D., Chunara, R., Niederdeppe, J., Taylor, T., Dunbar, N. & King, A. Search Term Identification Methods for Computational Health Communication: A Word Embedding and Network Approach for Health Content on YouTube. *JMIR Medical Informatics*. doi:[10.2196/37862](https://doi.org/10.2196/37862). 
- 2022 Suk, J., Lukito J., Su, M., Kim, S.J., **Tong, C.**, Sun, Z., & Sarma, P. Do I sound American? How message attributes of foreign disinformation relate to Twitter engagement. *Computational Communication Research*.  
- 2021 **Tong, C.**, Winckler, H., & Rojas, H. The Connection Between Perceptions of Media Bias and Influence and Affective Polarization - An Examination in Brazil and Mexico and the United States. *Revista de Comunicación Política (Political Communication Magazine)*. doi:[10.29105/rcp3-1](https://doi.org/10.29105/rcp3-1). 
- 2021 Lukito, J., Loya, L., Davalos, C., Li, J., **Tong, C.**, McLeod, D. Chiming in: A computer-assisted analysis of popular musicians' political engagement on Twitter. *Social Media and Society*. doi:[10.1177/20563051211019013](https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051211019013). 
- 2020 **Tong, C.**, Gill, H., Li, J., Valenzuela, S., Rojas, H. "Fake News is Anything They Say!" – Conceptualization and Weaponization of Fake News among the American Public. *Mass Communication and Society*. doi:[10.1080/15205436.2020.1789661](https://doi.org/10.1080/15205436.2020.1789661). 
- 2020 Ghosh, S., Su, M., Abhishek, A., Suk, J., **Tong, C.**, Kamath, K., Hills, O., Correa, T., Garlough, C., Borah, P. and Shah, D. Covering MeToo Across the News Spectrum: Political Accusation and Public Events as Drivers of Press Attention. *International Journal of Press and Politics*. doi:[10.1177/1940161220968081](https://doi.org/10.1177/1940161220968081). 
- 2019 Xia, Y., Lukito, J., Zhang, Y., Wells, C., Kim, S. J., **Tong, C.** Disinformation performed: Self-presentation of a Russian IRA account on Twitter. *Information, Communication and Society*. doi:[10.1080/1369118X.2019.1621921](https://doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2019.1621921). 

Book Chapters

- 2020 **Tong, C.**, Gill, H., Li, J., Valenzuela, S., Rojas, H. "Fake News is Anything They Say!" Conceptualization and Weaponization of Fake News among the American Public. *What IS "news"?*. Donnalyn Pompper and Lindsay Hoffman (Eds.), Routledge, London.

Peer-reviewed Conference Presentations

- 2023 Bazarova, N., Shea, A., Hui, Winice., Margolin, D., **Tong, C.**, Omapang, A., Cho, J.Y., Ginsparg, M., Kizilcec, R. Discursive objection strategies used in online comments: Developing a classification schema and validating its training. *Paper accepted to present at the 73rd Annual International Communication Association Conference, Toronto, Canada*.

- 2022 **Tong, C.**, Margolin, D., King, A., Niederdeppe, J. and Chunara, R. Who Endorses and How? Application of Automated Linguistic Analysis and Supervised Machine Learning to Detect Persuasion Strategies in ColorectalCancer Screening Messages for Whites and Black Americans on Twitter. *Paper accepted to present at the Health Communication Division, Annual NCA Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.*
- 2022 King, A., **Tong, C.**, Margolin, D., Niederdeppe, J., Chunara, R. and Kwanho, K. Prevalence and Content of Messages in the Public Communication Environment about Alcohol Use as a Modifiable Risk Factor. *Paper accepted to present at the Society for Risk Analysis Annual Conference in Tampa, Florida.*
- 2022 **Tong, C.**, Nguyen, N., Ha, H., Do, H., Vu, H. Dealing with Misinformation on COVID-19: Comparing the Use of Transparency and Accessibility in Fact-Checking Practices across 74 Countries. *Symposium on Misinformation and Global Communication.* 
- 2022 **Tong, C.**, Margolin, D., Chunara, R., Niederdeppe, J., Taylor, T., Dunbar, N. and King, A. Search Term Identification Methods for Computational Health Communication: A Similarity-Based Approach for Health Content on YouTube *Paper presented at the Health Communication Division, ICA Conference.* <https://youtu.be/KKCRbFgK-ok>. 
- 2022 **Tong, C.** Exploring the Relationship between Political Ideology and Confirmation Bias in Web Search *Paper presented at the Political Communication Division, ICA Conference.*  
- 2021 **Tong, C.** Examining The Mediating Role of Search Efficacy, Algorithmic Knowledge, and Perceived Accuracy on the Use of Online Search for Political Information: A Structural Equation Modeling Approach. *Paper presented at the Human Communication and Technology Division, NCA Conference.*
- 2021 **Tong, C.** & Diakopoulos, N. Searching for BLM: Search behavior and Google results during the 2020 Black Lives Matter protests. *Paper presented at the Communication and Technology division, ICA Virtual Conference.*  
- 2020 **Tong, C.** Who Prefers Algorithmic filtering of Political News? Examining Individual and Partisan Susceptibility to News Personalization. *Poster presentation at the Political Communication Division, AEJMC Conference.*  
- 2020 **Tong, C.** Partisan Personalization in Google Search Results. *Paper accepted to the Communication and Technology Division Doctoral Consortium, ICA Conference.*
- 2020 **Tong, C.** The Political Use of Search Engines: Differences in the Information Seeking Habits between Right-leaning and Left-leaning Users. *Paper presented at the AEJMC Midwinter Conference, Oklahoma, USA.*

- 2019 **Tong, C.** & Wang, S. "Tumblrpocalypse": Patterns of User and Community Migration Across Social Media Platforms. *International Communication Association Post-Conference on Creator Governance: Platforms, Policy, Rights, and Regulation, Washington DC.* 
- 2019 Lukito, J., Loya, L., Davalos, C., Li, J., **Tong, C.**, McLeod, D. Donatenow!: A computer-assisted analysis of musician's political engagement on Twitter. *Paper presented at the Political Communication Interest Group, AEJMC Conference. Top Student-Led Paper.* 
- 2018 **Tong, C.** & Rojas, H. Authoritarian Orientation and Political Participation Revisited: The 2016 U.S. Presidential Primaries. *Paper presented at the Mass Communication Division, 2018 International Conference Annual Conference in Prague, Czech Republic.* 
- 2018 **Tong, C.** White Elitism, Passive Empathy and the Modern Ideological Discourse on the Suffering of "the Other". *Paper presented at the Ethnicity and Race in Communication Division, 2018 International Conference Annual Conference in Prague, Czech Republic. Second-Top Student Paper.* 
- 2018 **Tong, C.** Job Insecurity and Vote Choice in the 2016 Primaries Election. *Paper presented at the American Association of Public Opinion Research Conference in Denver, USA.* 
- 2017 **Tong, C.** The medium is the motivator? Perceptions of Facebook influence and Political Interactions on Facebook as Antecedents of Online Political Expression. *Paper submitted to the Communication and Technology Division, ICA Conference.* 
- 2016 Liu, J., Kornfield, R., Chen, Y. **Tong, C.** The Interplay between Verbal Frames and Images in Influencing News Readers' Perceptions of the Social Determinants of Obesity. *Paper presented at the Health Communication Division, ICA Conference. Top 4 Paper Award.*
- 2016 **Tong, C.** Perceived Group Deprivation, Intergroup Emotion, Identity and Vote Choice in the 2016 Presidential Election. *Paper submitted to the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conference.* 
- 2016 **Tong, C.** & Wagner, M. The Interplay of News Frames on Information Processing: Probing Processing Styles and Deeply-held Attitudes through Physiological Measures. *Poster presented at the Information Systems Division, 2016 International Communication Association Conference in Fukuoka, Japan.* 
- 2015 **Tong, C.** Comparative Media Discourse on LGBT Rights: A Cross-National Comparative Examination. *Paper presented at the Qualitative Research Group Meeting, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Wisconsin-Madison.*




- 2012 **Tong, C.** & Lee, G. Analysis of Hallyu in Vietnamese Media: Objects and Frames of Korean Wave. *Paper presented at the International Conference on Understanding Korean Cultural Wave in Asia, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.*

Manuscripts in Progress

- Tong, C.** Navigating the “search space”: Digital algorithmic knowledge gaps and the use of online search engines for political information.
- Tong, C.** Exploring the relationship between political ideology and confirmation bias in Web Search: A study of partisan information seeking tendencies.
- Tong, C.** Unite or divide? Biased search queries and Google Search results in polarized politics.
- Tong, C.** & Diakopoulos, N. Searching for BLM: Search behavior and Google results during the 2020 Black Lives Matter protests.



Valenzuela, S., Ramirez, J., Pina, M., & **Tong, C.** Framing Effects on Intentions to Share News on Social Media: Studying Cognitive and Affective Explanations.

Invited Talks & Presentations

- 2022 **Tong, C.** Leveraging Big Data and Analytics for Data-driven Discovery and Audience Insights in Communication Research. *University of Missouri - School of Journalism. MU Institute for Data Science & Informatics.* November 2022.
- 2022 **Tong, C.** Dealing with Misinformation on COVID-19: Comparing the Use of Transparency and Accessibility in Fact-Checking Practices across 74 Countries. *Global Fact 9 Conference.* Online. <https://globalfact9.com/session/138270> 
- 2022 **Tong, C.** Who Prefers Algorithmic filtering of Political News? *Poster presentation at the Cornell Alumni Research Poster Open House.* 
- 2021 **Tong, C.** Bias by Design: Combining Old and New Methods to Contextualize Information Engagement, Exposure and Disparities in the Digital Media Environment. *Department of Communication, Cornell University.* Online. 





Teaching

Undergraduate

- 2014 – 2018 **J201: Introduction to Mass Communication** 
 Teaching Assistant 
University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 2016 – 2017 **J162: Mass Media in Multicultural America** (Online Mode) 
Teaching Assistant
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2018 **CA345: Online Communication and Interpersonal Relationships**
Course grader
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Graduate Workshops

- 2022 **Computational Text Analysis Fundamentals** 
Rtweets & Tidytext
Guest lecturer, November 2022
University of Missouri - School of Journalism
MU Institute for Data Science & Informatics
- 2021 **COMM 6750: Research Methods for Social Networks and Social Media** 
A primer to the Twitter API v2 for Academic Research 
Guest lecturer
Cornell University
- 2021 *Topic Modelling and Word Embedding Analysis in R* 
Guest lecturer
Cornell University

Student supervision

Graduate RAs

- 2021 Teairah Taylor
Cornell University
- 2021 – now Tianen Chen
Cornell University

Undergraduate RAs

- 2021 – now Lea Jih-Vieira, Tamara Kamis, Sophia Matthews, Joy Pojim, Sravya Varanasi
Cornell University

Academic & Professional Services

Journal Reviewer & Panel Moderator

- International of Public Opinion Research
- Mass Communication and Society
- Harvard Misinformation Review

- International Communication Association Conferences
- Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Conferences
- American Association of Public Opinion Research Conferences
- International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM)

Conference Convener

- 2020 – 2021 **Session Moderator**
Open Data Science Conference
- 2018 **Research Committee Co-Chair**
Communication Crossroads Conference
 University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2014 – 2018 **Organizing Committee**
Communication Crossroads Conference
 University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2015 – 2016 **Panel Organizer**
AccessNow - Digital Conference on Global Digital Rights
- 2012 **Conference Organizer**
International Conference on Understanding Korean Cultural Wave in Asia

External & Community Roles

- 2022 **External Reviewer for the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong**
RGC's Faculty Development Scheme
[University Grants Committee, Hong Kong](#)
- 2022 – now **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force Committee**
Computational Methods Division
International Communication Association
- 2019 – now **Working Member**
Data Science Hub
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2019 – 2021 **Annotator & Working Group Member**
 Information Security Group
 Media Literacy and Credibility Group
Credibility Coalition
- 2017 **Volunteer**
 Send-a-Speaker Diversity Outreach Program
American Association of Public Opinion Research



Professional Experiences & Membership

Professional Experiences

- 2009 – 2010 **Reporter**
Vietnam Financial Review, Vietnam
- 2010 – 2011 **Consular Office Staff**
Bangladesh Embassy in Hanoi, Vietnam
- 2010 – 2011 **Office Secretary**
SK Energy Corp. Representative Office in Hanoi, Vietnam

Professional Society Membership

- 2021 – now Open Data Science Conference ODSC Global
- 2021 – now Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence
- 2017 – now Association of Internet Researchers AOIR
- 2014 – now International Communication Association
- 2014 – now Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication
- 2014 – now National Communication Association
- 2014 – now America Association of Public Opinion Research
- 2014 – now World Association of Public Opinion Research

Skills

Research

- Quantitative methods: Surveys, Experiments
- Qualitative methods: Discourse Analysis, Qualitative Textual Analysis
- Computational methods: Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning
- Digital methods: Web & Social Media Data, Platform Studies

Software

- R Programming
- Python Programming
- Shell Scripting
- Cloud Computing
- Git (for version control)
- LaTeX
- SPSS Statistics
- HTML
- Adobe Photoshop

- Adobe Illustrator

Languages







Vietnamese Native

Korean College-Level Proficiency

English Full Proficiency

Glossary

These are the meanings of the symbols used throughout this document:

-  Link to code samples or code repository on GitHub
-  Link to an open-access PDF, usually a preprint or postprint
-  Link to a video on YouTube
-  Link to a data archive
-  Link to presentation slides
-  Link to a poster