

Cody Moser

PHD CANDIDATE
COGNITIVE AND INFORMATION SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED

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Education and Research Experience

University of California, Merced

PHD COGNITIVE AND INFORMATION SCIENCES

- Advisor: Dr. Paul Smaldino
- Committee: Tyler Marghetis, Alex Petersen, Justin Yeakel
- Dissertation: "Dynamics and Structure in Epistemic Ecologies"

Merced, CA

Expected 2024

MS COGNITIVE AND INFORMATION SCIENCES

- Thesis: "Design Principles of Generative Adaptive Systems"

University of California, Los Angeles

GRADUATE FELLOW, INSTITUTE FOR PURE AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS (IPAM)

- Program: Mathematics of Intelligence

Los Angeles, CA

Fall 2024

Harvard University

VISITING FELLOW, GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

- Principal Investigator: Dr. Samuel Mehr
- Affiliated Department: Psychology

Boston, MA

2018-2022

Texas A&M University

MA ANTHROPOLOGY

- Advisor: Dr. Jeffrey Winking
- Thesis: "Aggressive Mimicry as a Human Hunting Strategy"

College Station, TX

2019

Florida State University

BS ANTHROPOLOGY, MINORS IN BIOLOGY AND STATISTICS

- Thesis advisors: Drs. Elizabeth Peters, Dean Falk, Emily Lemmon
- Honor's Thesis: "Anti-Predator Behaviors in Nocturnal Strepsirrhines"

Tallahassee, FL

2016

Professional Experience

- 2022-2024 **Oskar Morgenstern Fellow**, Mercatus Center, George Mason University
- 2020 **Transportation Policy Intern**, Reason Foundation
- 2020 **Poverty and Inequality in California Research Project Intern**, Cato Institute
- 2015-2016 **Lab Assistant**, Center for Anchored Phylogenomics

Publications

*Denotes co-principal authorship; ¹Awarded "Feature paper" by journal

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Smaldino, P. E., **Moser, C.**, Pérez Velilla, A., Werling, M. (2024). Maintaining transient diversity is a general principle for improving collective problem solving. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*.

Moser, C., & Smaldino, P. E. (2023). Innovation-Facilitating Networks Create Inequality. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 290: 20232281.

Falandays, J. B., Kaaronen, R. O., **Moser, C.**, Rorot, W., Tan, J., Varma, V., Williams, T., Youngblood, M. (2023). All Intelligence is Collective Intelligence. *Journal of Multiscale Neuroscience*, 2(1), 169-191.

- Moser, C.**, Buckner, W., Sarian, M., Winking, J. (2023). Aggressive Mimicry and the Evolution of the Human Cognitive Niche. *Human Nature*.
- *Hilton, C. B., ***Moser, C.**, Bertolo, M., Lee-Rubin, H., Amir, D., Bainbridge, C. M., ... & Mehr, S. A. (2022). Acoustic regularities in infant-directed speech and song across cultures. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 1-12.
- ¹**Moser, C.**, & Smaldino, P. E. (2022). Organizational Development as Generative Entrenchment. *Entropy*, 24(7), 879.
- Holbrook, C., Yoon, L., Fessler, D. M. T., **Moser, C.**, Delgado, J. D., Kim, H. (2022). Moral Parochialism and Causal Appraisal of Transgressive Harm in Seoul and Los Angeles. *Scientific Reports*, 12, 14227.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- *Milzman, J. & ***Moser, C.** (2023). Decentralized core-periphery structure in social networks accelerates cultural innovation in an agent-based model. In Proc. of the 22nd International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS 2023), London, United Kingdom, May 29 – June 2, 2023, IFAAMAS.

COMMENTARIES

- Moser, C.** (in press). Myth as Model: Group-Level Interpretive Frameworks. [commentary on Sijlmasi et al.]. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*. Preprint: <https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/s7cp8>.
- Peréz Vellilla, A., **Moser, C.**, Smaldino, P. E. (2022). Hidden Clusters Beyond Ethnic Boundaries. [commentary on Uchiyama et al.] *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 45.
- Moser, C.**, Ackerman, J., Dayer, A., Proksch, S., Smaldino, P. E. (2021). Why don't cockatoos have war songs? [commentary on Mehr et al. and Savage et al.]. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 44.

ARTICLES SUBMITTED

- Smaldino, P. E., Russell, A., Zefferman, M., Donath, J., Foster, J., Guilbeault, D., ... **Moser, C.**, ... Patt, D. (2024). Information Architectures: A Framework for Understanding Socio-Technical Systems. <https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/c7vrw>
- Moser, C.**, Holbrook, C., Ellks, R., & Jones, A. (2024). Possessing Potential Weapons (Still) Heightens Anger Perception: Replicating and Extending a Test of Error Management Theory. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/jsurq>

Presentations

CONTRIBUTED TALKS

- Moser, Cody.** 2024. Identifying leverage points in opinion dynamic networks with external influences. Institute for Humane Studies 2024 Graduate Conference.
- Moser, Cody.** 2024. Innovation-Facilitating Networks Create Inequality. Cultural Evolution Society 2024 Conference.
- Moser, Cody.** 2023. Innovation-Facilitating Networks Create Inequality. Templeton World Charity Foundation Diverse Intelligences Summit
- Milzman, Jesse, **Moser, C.** 2023. Decentralized core-periphery structure in social networks accelerates cultural innovation in an agent-based model. International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems.
- Moser, Cody.** 2022. The Network Science of Cumulative Innovations. Institute for Humane Studies 2022 Graduate Conference.
- Moser, Cody.** 2021. Structural and Mechanistic Analogies in Evolutionary Thinking. California Workshop on Evolutionary Social Science

CONTRIBUTED POSTERS

- Moser, Cody,** Milzman, J. 2023. Decentralized core-periphery structure in social networks accelerates cultural innovation in an agent-based model. Santa Fe Institute Collective Intelligence Symposium.
- Milzman, Jesse, **Moser, C.** 2023. Decentralized core-periphery structure in social networks accelerates cultural innovation in an agent-based model. International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems.
- Moser, Cody.** 2022. The Network Science Cumulative Innovations. 8th International Conference on Computational Social Science.

- Moser, Cody.** 2019. Aggressive Mimicry as a Human Hunting Strategy. Human Behavior and Evolution Society 31st Annual Conference.
- Moser, Cody,** et al. 2019. Acoustical Regularities in Infant-Directed Vocalizations Worldwide. Acoustical Society of America 177th Meeting.
- Gursky, Sharon, **Moser, C.** 2018. Echolocation in a nocturnal primate? American Association of Physical Anthropologists 87th Annual Meeting.
- Moser, C.** 2016. Anti-predator behaviors in four species of nocturnal strepsirrhine. American Association of Physical Anthropologists 85th Annual Meeting.
- Moser, C..** 2015. Spatial height preferences in wild *Cebus capucinus*. American Association of Physical Anthropologists 84th Annual Meeting.

INVITED TALKS

- Summer 2024. *Philosophical Energy and the Sociology of Philosophies*. Institute for Humane Studies Fellows Summer Workshop.
- Fall 2023. *Organizational Development as Generative Entrenchment*. Prosocial World Case Studies in Cultural Evolution Working Group.
- Spring 2023. *Innovation-Facilitating Networks Create Inequality*. Santa Fe Institute Information Architectures as Sociotechnical Competitions Workshop.
- Spring 2023. *Innovation-Facilitating Networks Create Inequality*. Future Gallo School of Management External Advisory Council Meeting, UC Merced.
- Fall 2022. *Little Fish in Small Ponds Panel: Early Career Researchers in Big Science*. 2022 Big Team Science Conference.
- Fall 2022. *Acoustic Regularities in Infant-directed Speech and Song Across Cultures*. UC Merced Developmental Psychology Colloquium.
- Spring 2022. *Acoustic Regularities in Infant-directed Speech and Song Across Cultures*. University of Cambridge Centre for Music and Science Colloquium.
- Spring 2021. *Theory of Mind Towards Non-Human Animals*. Yale Department of Psychology Computational Social Cognition Group.
- Fall 2016. *Anti-Predator Behaviors in Four Species of Nocturnal Strepsirrhine*. Duke Lemur Center 50th Anniversary Symposium.

Non-Academic Articles

- 2023 **Works in Progress Magazine**, On the origins of empathy for other species
- 2022 **Hungarian Conservative Print Edition Special Issue on Conservatism and Innovation**, The Ties That Bind Us
Quillette Magazine, Saving Twitter – A Roundtable w/ Bo Winegard, Jim Rutt, Cody Moser
- 2020 **Areo Magazine**, Freeman Dyson, *In Memoriam*
Reason.org, Driver's License Suspensions and Fees Unfairly Impact the Poor And Are in Need of Reform
- 2019 **Skeptic Magazine 24.3**, The Enigma of Stephen Jay Gould
Areo Magazine, There's Little Reason to Worry About the SAT's New Adversity Score
Areo Magazine, "Is Science Racist?" Book Review
- 2018 **Areo Magazine**, The Selfish Nature of Human Cooperation
Quillette Magazine, The Dangers of Dugin's Particularism
Areo Magazine, Alice Dreger's Middle Finger: Sex, Gender and Unhelpful Hair-Splitting

Fellowships & Awards

2024	Fletcher Jones Fellowship, UC Merced, Fletcher Jones Foundation	\$ 50,000
	Junior Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies	\$ 6,000
2023	Oskar Morgenstern Fellowship, The Mercatus Center	\$ 7,000
	Winning Research Proposal, SFI Complexity-GAINs Workshop on Representation and Intelligence	
	Cognitive & Information Sciences Graduate Student Spotlight Award, UC Merced Department of Cognitive and Information Sciences	
	DISI Alumni Award, Diverse Intelligences Summer Institute	\$ 750
2022	Oskar Morgenstern Fellowship, The Mercatus Center	\$ 7,000
2021	Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies	\$3,000
2016	International Awareness Fellowship, Texas A&M MSC LT Jordan Institute	\$2,000
2015	Florida State University Homepage Featured Student, Florida State University	

Grants

2024	Institute for Humane Studies Faculty Mentorship Grant, <i>with Dr. Ryan Muldoon, University at Buffalo</i>	\$ 8,000
	Institute for Humane Studies Event Support Grant, <i>Event Funding: Understanding the Emergence of Group Knowledge in Social Systems: Complexity, Synergy, and Innovation in Social Groups</i>	\$ 3,500
2023	Institute for Humane Studies Publication Accelerator Grant, <i>for Identifying Leverage Points in Opinion Dynamic Networks with External Influence</i>	\$ 5,000
	UC Merced Office of the Dean of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts Grant, <i>Event Funding: CWESS 2023</i>	\$ 5,000
	UC Merced Center for Analytic Political Engagement (CAPE), <i>for Identifying Leverage Points in Opinion Dynamic Networks with External Influence</i>	\$ 700
	Mercatus Center Travel Award, <i>for SFI Collective Intelligence Symposium</i>	\$ 200
	AAMAS Student Scholarship, <i>for AAMAS 2023</i>	\$ 460
	Institute for Humane Studies Hayek Travel Award, <i>for AAMAS 2023</i>	\$ 750

2022	UC Merced Graduate Student Association Travel Award, <i>for IC2S2 2022</i>	\$ 400
	Institute for Humane Studies Hayek Travel Award, <i>for CSH Vienna International Spring School on Social Complexity</i>	\$ 800
	UC Merced Graduate Fellowship Incentive Award, <i>for External Grant Applications</i>	\$ 200
2016	TAMU Department of Anthropology Pilot Research Funding Award , <i>for Ultrasonic Communication in Bornean Tarsiers</i>	\$ 2,400
	Murray & Celeste Fasken Chair in Liberal Arts Research Award, <i>for Ultrasonic Communication in Bornean Tarsiers</i>	\$ 500
2015	ACC Undergraduate Collaborative Summer Research Award, <i>for Anti-Predator Behaviors in Nocturnal Strepsirrhines</i>	\$ 5,000

Teaching Experience _____

Spring '24	Modeling Social Behavior, Teaching Assistant
Fall '23	Introduction to Cognitive Science, Teaching Assistant
Spring '23	Senior Thesis Writing Course, Teaching Assistant
Fall '22	Language and Linguistics, Teaching Assistant
Spring '21	Philosophy of Cognitive Science, Teaching Assistant
Fall '20	Introduction to Cognitive Science, Teaching Assistant
Spring '18	Introduction to Anthropology, Head Teaching Assistant
Fall '17	Introduction to Anthropology, Teaching Assistant
Spring '17	Peoples and Cultures of the World, Teaching Assistant
Fall '16	Introduction to Anthropology, Teaching Assistant

Outreach & Professional Development _____

WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

2024	*Institute for Humane Studies, Emergence of Group Knowledge in Social Systems: Complexity, Synergy, and Innovation in Social Groups
	*Santa Fe Institute, Assessing Representation in Minds and Artificial Systems Workshop
	Chapman University, Philosophy, Politics and Economics Graduate Summer Workshop
	Acton Institute, The Person and Technological Society: A Free and Virtuous Society Workshop
2023	Diverse Intelligences Summer Institute (DISI), University of St. Andrews
	Santa Fe Institute, Complexity-GAINS International Summer School on Intelligence and Representation
	Santa Fe Institute, Collective Intelligence Short Course
	Santa Fe Institute, Information Architectures as Sociotechnical Competitions Workshop
	Institute for Humane Studies, A Responsible Singularity: Tech Ethics and Unpredictable Change Workshop
2022	Santa Fe Institute, Complexity-GAINS International Summer School on Disintegration of Societies
	Complexity Science Hub Vienna, International Spring School on Social Complexity
	Institute for Progress, Economics of Ideas, Science, and Innovation PhD Course
2021	National Science Foundation, Societal Shock Resilience Workshop
2020	Santa Fe Institute, Evolution of Collective Computational Abilities of (Pre)Historical Societies Workshop

**Organizer role*

SERVICE POSITIONS

- 2024 **Founder & Primary Coordinator**, UCM CogSci Mentorship for Undergraduates (MUG) Program
Mentor, UCM CogSci Mentorship for Undergraduates (MUG) Program
- 2021-24 **Graduate Student Mentor**, Cognitive Science Student Association at UC Merced
Campus Representative, California Workshop on Evolution Social Sciences
Twitter Administrator, UC Merced Department of Cognitive and Information Sciences
- 2022-23 **Senior Organizer**, California Workshop on Evolution Social Sciences
- 2021-22 **Junior Organizer**, California Workshop on Evolution Social Sciences
- 2016-18 **Coordinator**, Texas A&M Department of Anthropology Graduate-Undergraduate Mentorship Program
Mentor, Texas A&M Department of Anthropology Graduate-Undergraduate Mentorship Program
Mentor, Texas A&M GLBT+ Mentorship Program

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

The Jim Rutt Show: Innovation-Facilitating Networks Create Inequality (12/19/2023)
The Guardian: Gaga for goo goo: Wellington named the global capital of baby talk (07/22/2022)
New York Times: Front cover, 'Parentese' Is Truly a Lingua Franca, Global Study Finds (07/25/2022)
The Today Show: Baby Talk is Universal (07/25/2022)
NPR, All Things Considered: The science is in: Everyone recognizes and uses baby talk with infants (07/31/2022)
NPR, Goats and Soda: Scholars confirm what itsy bitsy babies around the world already know (08/14/2022)
Every Little Thing Podcast: Why do we baby talk? (09/26/2022)

PEER REVIEW

Journals:

PNAS Nexus
Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences
Developmental Science
Evolution and Human Behavior (3)
Child Development
Royal Society Open Science
PLOS One
Topics in Cognitive Science
Behavioral Ecology
Cognitive Science
Humanities and Social Sciences Communications
Cognition and Emotion
Evolutionary Human Sciences (2)
npj Complexity

Conferences:

CogSci 2024

Funders:

UK Research and Innovation Economic and Social Research Council (UKRI-ERSC)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

The Polanyi Society
Cultural Evolution Society
Long Now Foundation Member #11096
Human Behavior and Evolution Society

PROFICIENCIES, ETC.

Citizenship: United States, United Kingdom
Languages: English (native), German (intermediate)

Programming: Python, R, NetLogo, MATLAB

Skills: Agent-based models, networks, bioacoustics, web scraping, data visualization