

# Danaë Metaxa

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## Keywords

Algorithmically-mediated content; algorithm audits; bias and discrimination; computational social science; fairness, accountability, and transparency in technology; social computing.

## Academic positions

**University of Pennsylvania** / Incoming Assistant Professor of Computer and Information Science, secondary appointment in the Annenberg School for Communication SEPT 2022

**Stanford University** / Postdoctoral scholar with the Center for Philanthropy and Civil Society SEPT 2021 - 2022

## Education

**Stanford University** / Ph.D. in Computer Science  
SEPT 2015 - 2021, GPA 4.0/4.0

Advisors: James Landay (Computer Science), Jeff Hancock (Communication)  
M.Sc. in Computer Science, 2018

**Brown University** / B.A. in Computer Science with Honors,  
B.A. in Science, Technology, and Society  
SEPT 2011 - MAY 2015, GPA 3.9/4.0

**Smith College** / Visiting student  
SEPT 2013 - DEC 2013, GPA 4.0/4.0

## Awards & honors

Stanford Human-Centered AI Seed Grant (2020-21)  
Predoctoral Scholar, Stanford Project on Democracy and the Internet (2019-20)  
EECS Rising Stars Participant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2019)  
Stanford McCoy Center for Ethics in Society Grad Student Fellowship (2018)  
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (2017, Declined)  
Stanford Graduate Fellowship (2015-2020)  
Google Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship (2015)  
Brown University Outstanding Computer Science Undergraduate Award (2015)  
CRA Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher - Runner Up (2014)  
CRA Distributed Research Experiences for Undergraduates Award (2014)  
Box Engineering Diversity Scholarship (2013)  
Brown University Undergraduate Teaching and Research Award (2013)

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## Selected in progress

**Metaxa, D.**; Park, J.S.; Robertson, R.E.; Hancock, J.; Wilson, C.; Karahalios, K.; Sandvig, C. "Algorithm Audits: Past, Present, and Best Practices." *In R&R at Foundations & Trends in HCI*.

**Metaxa, D.**; Park, J.S.; Hancock, J.; Landay, J.A. "Context Sensitivities of the Search Engine Manipulation Effect." *In preparation*.

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## Publications

**Metaxa, D.**; Gan, M.; Goh, S., Hancock, J.; Landay, J.A. "An Image of Society: Gender and Racial Representation and Impact in Image Search Results for Occupations." Accepted to CSCW 2021; *in final preparation*.

Xiao, S.; **Metaxa, D.**; Park, J.S.; Salehi, N. "Random, Messy, Funny Raw: Finstas as Intimate Reconfigurations of Social Media." CHI 2020.

<https://dl.acm.org/doi/fullHtml/10.1145/3313831.3376424> Honorable mention award.

**Metaxa, D.**; Park, J.S.; Landay, J.A.; Hancock, J. "Search Media and Elections: A Longitudinal Investigation of Political Search Results in the 2018 U.S. Elections." CSCW 2019. <https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/3359231>

**Metaxa, D.**; Maas, P.; Aldrich, D. "How Social Ties Influence Hurricane Evacuation Behavior." CSCW 2018. <https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=3274391>

Che, X.; **Metaxa, D.**; Hancock, J. "Fake News in the News: An Analysis of Partisan Coverage of the Fake News Phenomenon." CSCW 2018.

<https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=3274079>

**Metaxa, D.**; Wang, K.; Landay, J.A.; Hancock, J. "Gender-Inclusive Design: Stereotypes and Biases in Web Interfaces." CHI 2018.

<https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=3173574.3174188>

Daskalova, N.; **Metaxa, D.**; Tran, A.; Nugent, N.; Boergers, J.; McGeary, J.; Huang, J. "SleepCoacher: A Personalized Automated Self-Experimentation System for Sleep Recommendations." UIST 2016.

<https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2984534>

**Metaxa, D.**; Rusak, G.; Teevan, J.; and Bernstein, M. "The Web is Flat: The Inflation of Uncommon Experiences Online." CHI 2016.

<https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2892424> Best short paper award.

Papoutsaki, A.; Guo, H.; **Metaxa, D.**; Gramazio, C.; Rasley, J.; Xie, W.; and Huang, J. "Crowdsourcing from Scratch: A Pragmatic Experiment in Data Collection by Novice Requesters." HCOMP 2015.

<https://www.aaai.org/ocs/index.php/HCOMP/HCOMP15/paper/view/11582>  
Best paper runner-up.

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## White papers

Garton Ash, T.; Gorwa, R.; **Metaxa, D.** [Glasnost! Nine ways Facebook can make itself a better forum for free speech and democracy.](#) 2019. Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism.

Sheuerman, M. K. et al. [HCI Guidelines for Gender Equity and Inclusivity.](#) 2019.

**Metaxa, D.**; Torres-Echeverry, N. [Google's Role in Spreading Fake News and Misinformation.](#) SSRN. 2017.

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## Popular press

- Gorwa, R.; **Metaxa, D.** [Here's how Mark Zuckerberg can save Facebook from itself](#). *Wired UK*. March 4, 2019
- Hancock, J.; **Metaxa, D.**; Park, J. S. [Are Google search results politically biased?](#) *The Guardian*. September 6, 2018.
- Aldrich, D. P.; **Metaxa, D.** [How your social network could save you from a disaster](#). *The Conversation*. July 16, 2018.
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## Invited talks

- Virginia Commonwealth University** / Camp Qmunity (July 12, 2021)
- Mobile Data Management (MDM) Conference 2021** / Diversity and Inclusion Session. (June 15, 2021)
- Cornell University** / Graduate Students for Gender Inclusion in Computing Group. "Bias and Representation in Sociotechnical Systems." (April 6, 2021)
- Carnegie Mellon University** / Human-Computer Interaction Institute. "Bias and Representation in Sociotechnical Systems." (March 25, 2021)
- University of Pennsylvania** / Computer and Information Science Department. "Bias and Representation in Sociotechnical Systems." (March 18, 2021)
- University of Texas at Austin** / School of Journalism and Media. "Bias and Representation in Sociotechnical Systems." (March 8, 2021)
- Johns Hopkins University** / Computer Science Department. "Bias and Representation in Sociotechnical Systems." (February 26, 2021)
- University of Washington** / Information School. "Bias and Representation in Sociotechnical Systems." (February 23, 2021)
- Simon Fraser University** / Computer Science Department. "Bias and Representation in Sociotechnical Systems." (February 22, 2021)
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** / CS598RK: Human-Computer Interaction for Machine Learning. "Inclusive Design from the Lab to the Classroom." (October 31, 2019)
- Stanford University** / CS247i: Design for Understanding. "Inclusive Web Design." (October 22, 2019)
- Stanford University** / Democracy & Internet Scholars Workshop. "Search Media and Elections: Investigating Partisanship in Political Search Results. (February 22, 2019)
- Stanford Law School** / Project on Democracy and Internet Seminar Series. "Algorithm Audits and Political Bias in Web Search." (November 29, 2018)
- Wellesley College** / Computer Science Department. "So you're thinking about graduate school..." (November 17, 2016)
- Smith College** / Computer Science Department. "So you're thinking about graduate school..." (November 18, 2016)
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## **Research experience**

**Brown University** / Professor Jeff Huang, Computer Science  
(Undergraduate honors thesis)  
SEPT 2014 -MAY 2015

**Stanford University** / Professor Michael Bernstein, Computer Science  
and Center for the Study of Language and Information (CSLI) intern  
MAY - AUG 2014

**Brown University** / Professor Jeff Huang, Computer Science  
JAN - MAY 2014

**Brown University** / Professor Wendy Hui Kyong Chun, Department of  
Modern Culture and Media  
MAY - AUG 2013

**Harvard University** / Berkman-Klein Center for Internet and Society  
(Youth & Media Lab)  
MAY - AUG 2012

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## **Teaching experience**

**Stanford University** / CS347: Human Computer Interaction Foundations  
& Frontiers, co-instructor (with Parastoo Abtahi)  
SPRING 2020-21

**Stanford University** / CS181: Computers, Ethics & Public Policy, TA and  
guest lecturer  
WINTER 2016-17, WINTER 2017-18

**Brown University** / CS8: A First Byte of Computer Science, Course  
founder, developer, and Head TA  
SPRING 2013-14, SPRING 2014-15

**Brown University** / CS130: User Interface Design and Evaluation, TA  
FALL 2014-15

**Smith College** / CS111: Introduction to Computer Science, TA  
FALL 2013-14

**Brown University** / CS17: Introduction to Computer Science, TA  
FALL 2012-13

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## **Industry internships**

**Facebook, Inc.** / Core Data Science Team Intern  
SEPT - DEC 2017

Worked on Disaster Maps during hurricane season, mentored by Alex Dow and  
Paige Maas; resulted in CSCW paper (Metaxa et al., 2018).

**Metamind** / Software Engineering Intern  
JUNE - AUG 2015

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## Committee service

- CSCW Conference Steering Committee / Graduate student member**  
SEPT 2019 - CURRENT
- Broad Faculty Area Search Committee / Stanford Computer Science**  
2018-19, 2019-20
- ICWSM conference / Web Chair**  
JUNE 2017 - JAN 2018
- Graduate Admissions Committee / Stanford Computer Science**  
2016-17, 2017-18
- PhD Social Committee / Founder and Chair**  
SEPT 2015 - SEPT 2020
- PhD Liaison to the Faculty / Stanford Computer Science**  
SEPT 2015 - JUNE 16
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## Reviewing

- Conferences / CSCW '21, FAccT '20, CSCW '20, CHI '20, ICWSM '20, CSCW '19, CHI '18, ICWSM '18**
- Journals / Information, Communication, and Society**
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## Mentoring

- 2021 - CURRENT  
Melanie Zhou, current first year at Stanford University  
Hannah Kim, current first year at Stanford University  
Alison Kim, current sophomore at Swarthmore University
- 2020 - CURRENT  
Janine Fleming, current junior at Stanford University  
Melanie Zhou, current first year at Stanford University  
Hannah Kim, current first year at Stanford University
- 2019 - CURRENT  
Ayush Pandit, current junior at Stanford University  
Colin Kalicki, current junior at Stanford University  
Su Goh, current senior at McGill University  
Justin Tinker, current junior at Stanford University  
Michelle Gan, current junior at Stanford University
- 2019-20  
Aayush Agrawal, then-sophomore at Stanford University
- 2018-19  
Joon S. Park, then-recently graduated from Swarthmore College / current PhD student at Stanford University  
Bec Smith, then-junior at Stanford University  
Michelle Park, then-senior at Stanford
- 2017-18  
Kelly Wang, then-junior at Brown University  
Xunru Rainy Chen, then-junior at Northwestern University
- 2016-17  
Mo Tiwari, then-engineer at Facebook / current PhD student at Stanford  
Jared Bitz, then-first year undergraduate at Stanford University
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## Other service

2014-15  
Gili Rusak, then-high schooler / now Master's student at Stanford University

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Head volunteer, **HCI Qualifying Exam Equity & Justice Update** (2020-21)  
Volunteer, **Stanford CS PhD Applicant Student Support Program** (2020-21)  
Mentor, **Stanford Out in STEM** (2020-21)  
Mentor, **Underrepresented in Stanford Computer Science program** (2020-21)  
Mentor, **Stanford Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education (EDGE)** (2017-19)  
President, **Stanford Alpine Club** (2017-18)  
Board Member, **Stanford Hellenic Student Association** (2015-16)  
Mentor, **Women in Computer Science at Brown University** (2012-15)  
Board Member, **Hellenic Student Association at Brown University** (2011-13)

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## References

**James Landay**, co-advisor  
Computer Science Department  
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[landay@cs.stanford.edu](mailto:landay@cs.stanford.edu)

**Jeff Hancock**, co-advisor  
Department of Communication  
Stanford University  
[hancockj@stanford.edu](mailto:hancockj@stanford.edu)

**Karrie Karahalios**, PhD thesis committee member & mentor  
Computer Science Department  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
[kkarahal@illinois.edu](mailto:kkarahal@illinois.edu)

**Michael Bernstein**, PhD thesis committee member  
Associate Professor of Computer Science Department  
Stanford University  
[msb@cs.stanford.edu](mailto:msb@cs.stanford.edu)

**Nathaniel Persily**, mentor  
Professor of Law at Stanford Law School  
Stanford University  
[npersily@law.stanford.edu](mailto:npersily@law.stanford.edu)

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