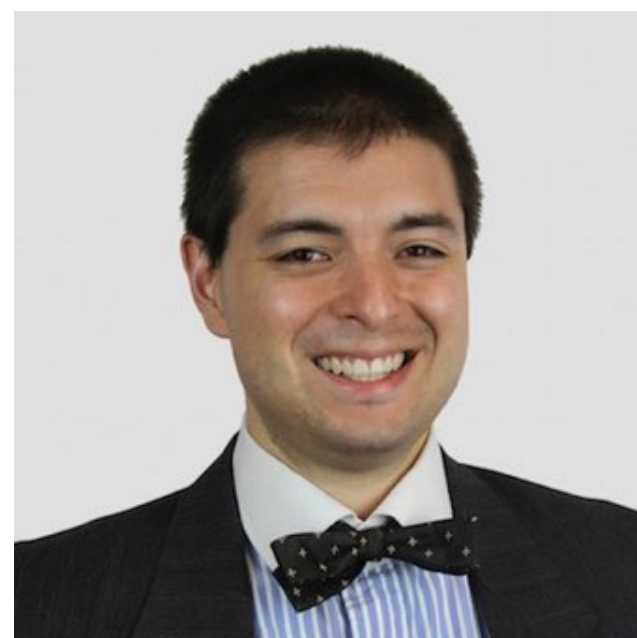


Research Ethics & Tech Companies (SOC 412)

Week 2 Lecture 2

Sherrerd Hall 306



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What we will cover today

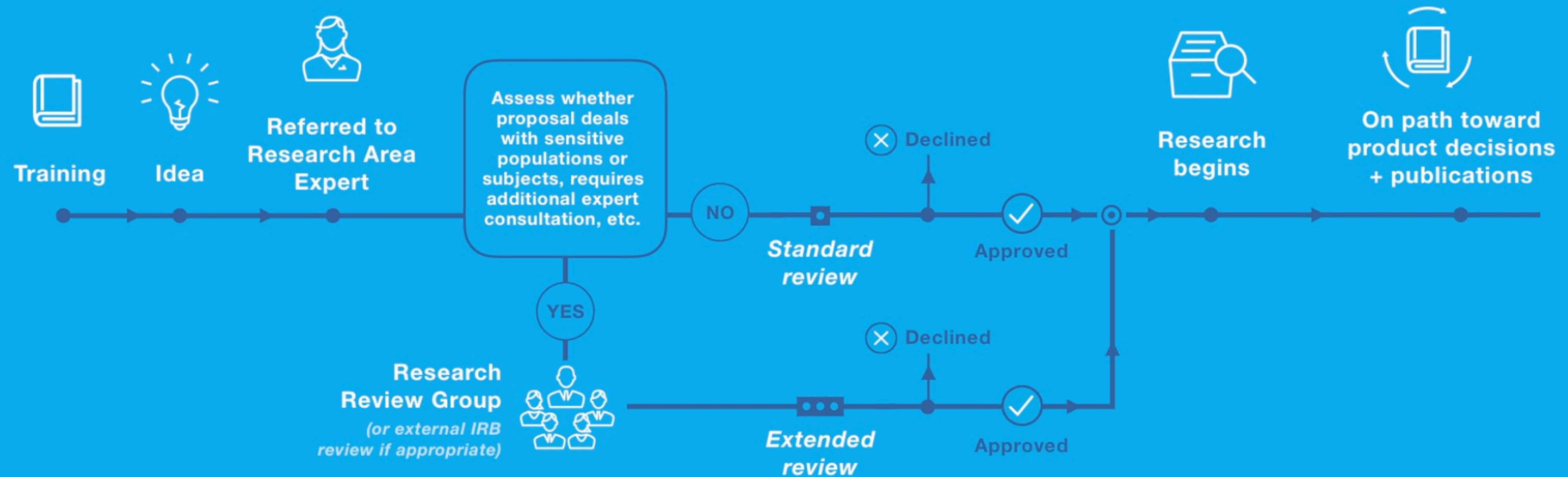
Discuss today's readings

Discuss upcoming assignments

- The Social Media Color Experiment
- The Cornhole Challenge

Friday's assignment

Research Review at Facebook



Note: Research involving any issues relating to privacy must also go through privacy review.

Jackman, M., & Kanerva, L. (2016). Evolving the IRB: Building robust review for industry research. *Washington and Lee Law Review Online*, 72(3), 442.





TIME

SUBSCRIBE

Disinformation Is Becoming Unstoppable



A man is silhouetted against a video screen with an Facebook logo on Aug. 14, 2013. Dado Ruvic—Reuters

By **DIPAYAN GHOSH AND BEN SCOTT**

January 24, 2018

Weekend magazine technology special

'Our minds can be hijacked': the tech insiders who fear a smartphone dystopia

Google, Twitter and Facebook workers who helped make technology so addictive are disconnecting themselves from the internet. **Paul Lewis** reports on the Silicon Valley refuseniks alarmed by a race for human attention

by Paul Lewis in San Francisco



The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness



The WorldPost • Opinion

Pierre Omidyar: 6 ways social media has become a direct threat to democracy

By **Pierre Omidyar**

October 9, 2017



People hold smartphones against a backdrop projected with the Twitter logo. (Kacper Pempel/Reuters)

April 17, 2018

SSRC launches Social Data Initiative & Facebook provides academics with access to data

Industry Partnerships

Last week marked a milestone for social science and industry partnerships, with Facebook announcing an initiative to give scholars access to its data in order to help them [assess social media's impact on elections](#).

The move, which sees the tech giant partnering with the Social Science Research Council and seven major nonprofit foundations, has been largely welcomed by the research community as a positive step towards enabling academic research and establishing regulation. However, some ethicists have, understandably, expressed [concern around privacy and consent issues](#).

King, G., & Persily, N. [A New Model for Industry-Academic Partnerships](#).



Topics To Debate

- **Should companies ask for consent from people before doing research? If so, for what experiments?**
- **Should companies have external oversight over the experiments they do? If so, for what experiments?**
- **Should third parties be allowed to do experiments on Facebook? If so, what kind?**

Upcoming Assignments

Why I am asking you to participate in an experiment:

If you're going to be asking other people to participate in experiments, you need to at least be willing to think about research ethics in light of your own experience and the people you know.

Possible Interventions

1. Color background
2. Ask people to participate in the conversation (in a photo) (problem is that people will remember to do it over time)
3. Reply to people's comments (there might be an expectation, but maybe not)
4. Like your own post
5. Tagging different people

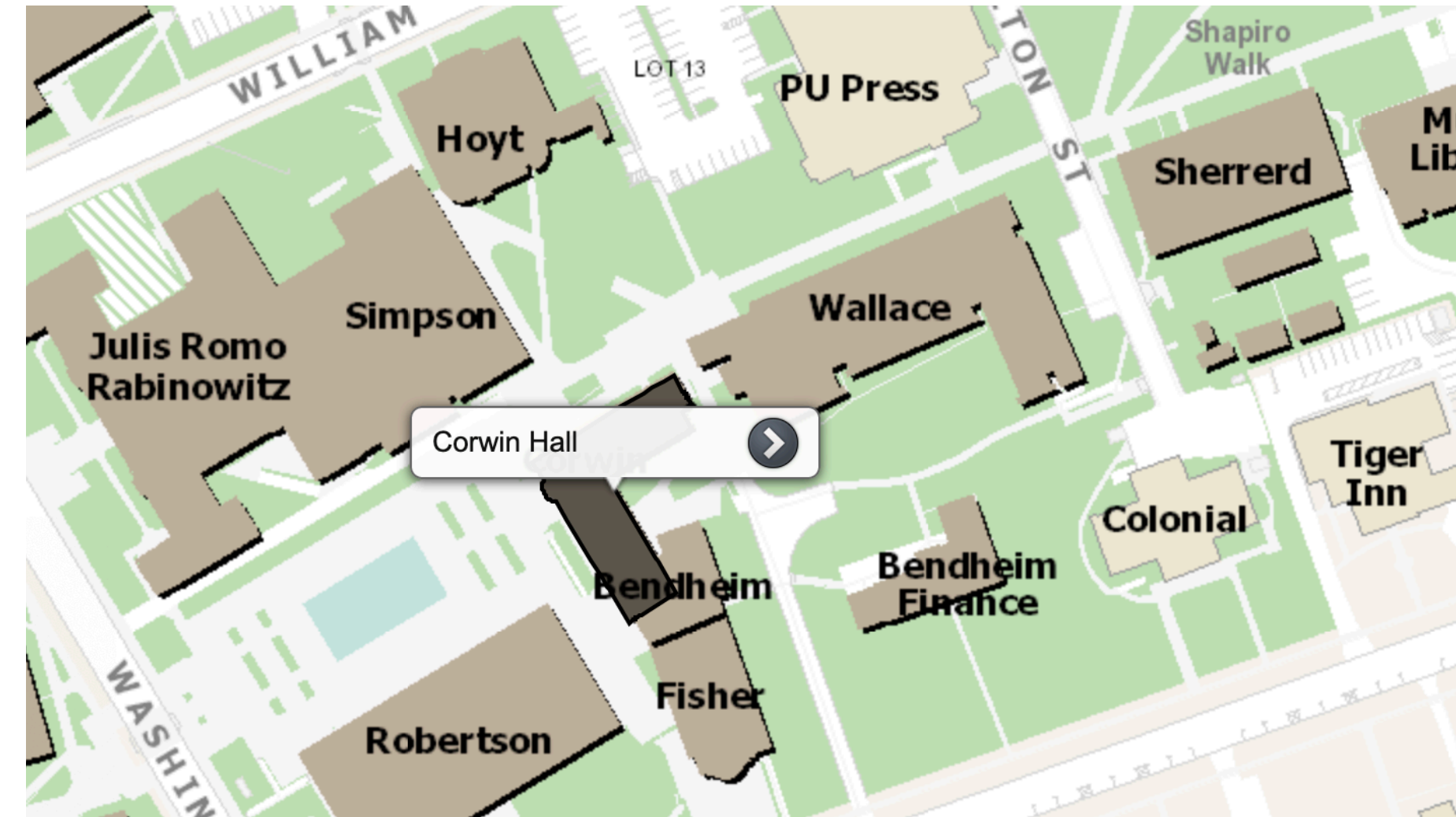
Weekly Rhythm

- **Post to Slack with one observation for the upcoming discussion**
- **Post at least one response to someone else's observation**
- **Submit assignments by Friday at 5pm**
- **Office Hours Tues/Thurs 11-12**

<https://meetme.so/natematias-soc412>

Precepts

- Times
 - **Wednesdays:**
 - **12:30pm**
 - **1:30pm**
- Location: **Corwin Hall 023**
- Sign up today (in class preferably)



Leading Group Discussions

- Provide a summary of the material (5-8 minutes)
- Pose some questions
- Support the conversation (you can meet with me in advance)

You should expect to lead a session
(spreadsheet forthcoming)

References to Know

