

# Laura K. Nelson

[laura.k.nelson@ubc.ca](mailto:laura.k.nelson@ubc.ca)

[Google Scholar Profile](#)

[www.LauraKNelson.com](http://www.LauraKNelson.com)

[github.com/lknelson](https://github.com/lknelson)

<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8948-300X>

UBC Sociology  
AnSo 2111  
6303 NW Marine Drive  
Vancouver, BC  
Canada V6T 1Z1

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

---

- 2021 - present Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of British Columbia
- Director, Centre for Computational Social Science (2022 - 2025)
- 2016 - 2021 Assistant Professor of Sociology, Northeastern University
- Core Faculty, NULab for Texts, Maps and Networks • Affiliated Faculty, Network Science Institute • Executive Committee, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- 2016 - 2017 Postdoctoral Fellow, University of California, Berkeley
- Digital Humanities @ Berkeley • Berkeley Institute for Data Science
- 2014 - 2016 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, PI: Brayden King
- Research Affiliate, Northwestern Institute on Complex Systems

## EDUCATION

---

- 2014 PhD - Sociology, University of California-Berkeley
- Dissertation: "The Power of Place: Structure, Culture, and Continuities in U.S. Women's Movements" • Committee: Kim Voss (chair), Raka Ray, Robin Einhorn
- 2009 MA - Sociology, University of California-Berkeley
- 2006 BA - Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Concentration in Analysis and Research • Phi Beta Kappa

## PUBLICATIONS

---

\*indicates co-author was a graduate student at the time of writing

†indicates equal co-authorship

## Articles

- Nelson, Laura K.**, Alexandra Brewer, Anna S. Mueller, Daniel M. O'Connor, Arjun Dayal, and Vineet M. Arora. Forthcoming (2023). "Taking the Time: The Implications of Workplace Assessment for Organizational Gender Inequality." *American Sociological Review*.
- King, Brayden G and **Laura K. Nelson**. Forthcoming (2023). "Beyond Protests: Using Computational Text Analysis to Explore a Greater Variety of Social Movement Activities." *Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change* 47: 13-35.
- Brewer, Alexandra, **Laura K. Nelson**, Anna S. Mueller, \*Rebecca Ewert, Daniel M. O'Connor, Arjun Dayal, and Vineet M. Arora. Forthcoming (2023). "Gender and Inconsistent Evaluations: A Mixed Methods Analysis of Feedback for Emergency Medicine Residents." *Western Journal of Emergency Medicine*.
- Miner, Adam S., Sheridan A. Stewart, Meghan C. Halley, **Laura K. Nelson**, and Eleni Linos. 2023. "Formally Comparing Topic Models and Human-Generated Qualitative Coding of Physician Mothers' Experiences of Workplace Discrimination." *Big Data & Society* 10 (1): 20539517221149106.  
Replication Repository: <https://zenodo.org/record/7486093>
- Nelson, Laura K.** 2022. "Situated Knowledges and Partial Perspectives: A Framework for Radical Objectivity in Computational Social Science and Computational Humanities." *New Literary History* 54(1): 853-877.  
Replication Repository: <https://github.com/lknelson/RadicalObjectivity>
- Nelson, Laura K.** 2022. "The Inequality of Intersectionalities in Chicago's First-Wave Women's Movement." *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* 47 (4): 905-930.
- Nelson, Laura K.**, \*Rebekah Getman, and \*Syed Arefinul Haque. 2022. "And the Rest is History: Measuring the Scope and Recall of Wikipedia's Coverage of Three Women's Movement Subgroups." *Sociological Methods & Research* 51 (4): 1788-1825.  
Replication Repository: [https://github.com/syedarehaq/wikipedia\\_gender\\_concepts\\_establishment](https://github.com/syedarehaq/wikipedia_gender_concepts_establishment)
- Nelson, Laura K.** 2021. "Cycles of Conflict, a Century of Continuity: The Impact of Persistent Place-Based Political Logics on Social Movement Strategy." *American Journal of Sociology* 127 (1): 1-59.
- <sup>†</sup>**Nelson, Laura K.** and <sup>†</sup>Kathrin Zippel. 2021. "From Theory to Practice and Back: How the Concept of Implicit Bias was Implemented in Academe, and What this Means for Gender Theories of Organizational Change." *Gender & Society* 35 (3): 330-357.
- Nelson, Laura K.** 2021. "Leveraging the Alignment between Machine Learning and Intersectionality: Using Word Embeddings to Measure Intersectional Experiences of the Nineteenth Century U.S. South." *Poetics* 88: 101539.  
Replication Repository: [https://github.com/lknelson/measuring\\_intersectionality](https://github.com/lknelson/measuring_intersectionality)
- Nelson, Laura K.**, \*Derek Burk, \*Marcel Knudsen, and Leslie McCall. 2021. "The Future of Coding: A Comprehensive Comparison of Hand-Coding and Computer-Assisted Text Analysis Methods." *Sociological Methods & Research* 50 (1): 202-237.

Replication Repository: <https://github.com/lknelson/future-of-coding>

**Nelson, Laura K.** and Brayden G King. 2020. "The Meaning of Action: Linking Goals, Tactics, and Strategies in the Environmental Movement." *Mobilization: An International Quarterly* 25 (3): 315–338.

**Nelson, Laura K.** 2020. "Computational Grounded Theory: A Methodological Framework." *Sociological Methods & Research* 49 (1): 3-42.

Replication Repository: <https://github.com/lknelson/computational-grounded-theory>

## Book Chapters

**Nelson, Laura K.** Accepted for publication (anticipated 2023). "Computational Inductive Research." *Handbook of Computational Social Science*, edited by Taha Yasseri. Edward Elgar Publishing.

**Nelson, Laura K.** 2018. "'Feminism Means More Than a Changed World...It Means the Creation of a New Consciousness in Women': Feminism, Consciousness-Raising, and Continuity Between the Waves." Pp. 175-197 in *100 Years of the Nineteenth Amendment: An Appraisal of Women's Political Activism*, edited by Holly J. McCammon and Lee Ann Banasak. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

<sup>†</sup>Crossley, Alison Dahl and <sup>†</sup>**Laura K. Nelson.** 2018. "Feminists Reshaping Gender." Pp. 549-559 in *Springer Handbook of the Sociology of Gender*, edited by Barbara Risman, Carissa Froyum, and William Scarborough. New York: Springer Press.

## Edited Projects

<sup>†</sup>Bonikowski, Bart and <sup>†</sup>**Laura K. Nelson** (eds.). 2022. "Special Issue: Applied Computational Text Analysis in Sociological Research." *Sociological Methods & Research* 51 (4): 1449–1885.

Weber, I., Darwish, K.M., Wagner, C., Zagheni, E., **Nelson, L.**, Aref, S., Flöck, F. (eds.). 2019. *Social Informatics*. Proceedings of the 11th International Conference, SocInfo 2019, Doha, Qatar, November 18–21.

Sivak, Elizaveta and Ivan Smirnov. 2019. "Parents mention sons more often than daughters on social media." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 116(6): 2039-2041. Edited by **Laura K. Nelson** (invited by Mary Waters).

Burawoy, Michael (ed). 2011. *Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Sociology*. Published by the Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan and the Council for National Associations, International Sociological Association. **Laura K. Nelson**, Abigail Andrews, and Fidan Elcioglu, associate editors.

## Comments, Essays, Notes, and Reports

Bonikowski, Bart and **Laura K. Nelson.** 2022. "From Ends to Means: The Promise of Computational Text Analysis for Theoretically Driven Sociological Research." *Sociological Methods & Research* 51 (4): 1469–1483.

- Gold, Jessica R., Alexander J. Gates, \*Syed A. Haque, \*Miranda C. Melson, **Laura K. Nelson**, and Kathrin Zippel. 2022. "The NSF ADVANCE Network of Organizations." *ADVANCE Journal* 3 (1). <https://doi.org/10.5399/osu/ADVJRN.3.1.3>.
- Nelson, Laura K.** 2019. "Comment: To Measure Meaning in Big Data, Don't Give Me a Map, Give Me Transparency and Reproducibility." *Sociological Methodology* 49 (1): 139–143.
- Aref, Samin, Kareem Darwish, Fabian Flöck, **Laura K. Nelson**, Claudia Wagner, Ingmar Weber, Emilio Zagheni. 2019. "Preface." Pp. i-xvi in *Social Informatics*. Proceedings of the 11th International Conference, SocInfo 2019, Doha, Qatar, November 18–21.
- Nelson, Laura K.** 2017. "Computational Methods, Meaning, and Comparative Historical Sociology." Special section on "Digitized (Big) Data and Comparative Historical Sociology." *Trajectories: Newsletter of the ASA Comparative Historical Sociology Section* 28(2): 35-37.
- Voss, Kim and **Laura K. Nelson**. 2017. "Introduction." Special section on "Digitized (Big) Data and Comparative Historical Sociology." *Trajectories: Newsletter of the ASA Comparative Historical Sociology Section* 28(2): 26.
- Gorbatai, Andreea and **Laura K. Nelson**. 2015. "Narrative Advantage: Gender and the Language of Crowdfunding." *Academy of Management Proceedings* 2015 (1): 15785.
- Emery, Hannah, Maggie Frye, Kristen Grey, **Laura K. Nelson**, and Hana Brown. 2011. *Instructor's Guide to Writing for Sociology*. Published by the University of California-Berkeley Department of Sociology with a grant from the Teagle Foundation.

## Book Reviews

- Nelson, Laura K.** 2022. "Book Review: *Measuring Culture*." *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews* 51 (1): 59–60.
- Nelson, Laura K.** 2021. "Book Review: *Knowledge Discovery in the Social Sciences: A Data Mining Approach*." *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews* 50 (4): 346–348.
- Nelson, Laura K.** 2016. "Book Review: *Everywhere & Nowhere: Contemporary Feminism in The United States*." *Social Forces* 94 (3): e69.

## Manuscripts Under Review

- Lauterwasser, Steven, **Laura K. Nelson**, Jessica R. Gold, and Kathrin Zippel. "Does an Equity-Minded Organization Produce Equity-Minded Science? The Matthew Effect in NSF ADVANCE Publications."
- Gates, Alexander, Jessica Gold, **Laura K. Nelson**, and Kathrin Zippel. "Translating Interdisciplinary Knowledge for Gender Equity: Quantifying the Impact of NSF ADVANCE."

## Web-Based Publications (selected)

- 2019 “How do we nurture an academic landscape that is more accessible to women? Let’s start by getting rid of the in-person interview.” SAGE OCEAN Blog, March 6.  
<https://ocean.sagepub.com/blog/2019/3/6/how-do-we-nurture-an-academic-landscape-that-is-more-accessible-to-women-lets-start-by-getting-rid-of-the-in-person-interview>
- 2018 “The Computation/Context Trade-Off?” SAGE OCEAN Blog, November 13.  
<https://ocean.sagepub.com/blog/2018/11/9/the-computationcontext-trade-off>
- 2016 “Developing a Feel It, Smell It, Touch It Analytics,” *Orgtheory.net*, June 14.  
<https://orgtheory.wordpress.com/2016/06/14/forum-on-data-analytics-and-inclusivity-part-1/>
- 2015 “Text as Data: A Call to Standardize Access and Training,” *Mobilizing Ideas Essay Dialogue*, March 9.  
<https://mobilizingideas.wordpress.com/2015/03/09/text-as-data-a-call-to-standardize-access-and-training/>
- 2015 “Feminism, Culture, and Computational Sociology,” *Mobilizing Ideas Essay Dialogue*, Oct. 3.  
<https://mobilizingideas.wordpress.com/2014/10/03/feminism-culture-and-computational-sociology/>
- 2014 “Computer-Assisted Content Analysis and Sociology: What You Should Know,” *BadHessian*, January 24.  
<http://badhessian.org/2014/01/computer-assisted-content-analysis-and-sociology-what-you-should-know/>
- 2013 “A Quick and Easy Way to Turn Your Stata Knowledge into R Knowledge,” *D-Lab Blog*, November 11.  
<http://dlab.berkeley.edu/blog/quick-and-easy-way-turn-your-stata-knowledge-r-knowledge>

## GRANT ACTIVITY

---

- 2023 Co-applicant. Killam Connection Course, “Accountable Computer Systems,” with Thomas Pasquier (lead), Muhammad Abdul-Mageed, Luciana Duranti, Cristie Ford, Benjamin Goold, Margo Seltzer, and Kristen Thomasen (\$25,000)
- 2020 Co-PI. National Science Foundation, “Innovation Networks: The Creation and Diffusion of Gender Equity Ideas in Universities,” with Kathrin Zippel (PI) and Alexander Gates (senior personnel), Award #2000713 (\$1,434,260.00, three years)
- 2019 (Unfunded) PI. Academic Data Science Alliance, “Integrating Digital Teaching: Introducing Computing Across the Curriculum to Higher Education,” with Julia Flanders and Sarah Connell (\$49,025)
- 2019 (Unfunded) PI. Academic Data Science Alliance, “Doing Digital Social Science (DoDiSS): An Open Access Online Journal for Computational Social Science Tutorials,” with Neal Caren and Alex Hanna (\$15,147)
- 2019 Senior Personnel. Fonds de soutien à l’activité scientifique, Science Po, “Startuper or Startupeuse? The General Constraints of Entrepreneurship in the Digital Economy,” with Jen Schradie (€60,000)

- 2019 (Unfunded) Co-PI. Russell Sage Foundation, “Graphic-content Sharing in Our Digital Society,” with Devesh Tiwari. Our LOI was invited to submit a full proposal, which was not chosen to be funded.
- 2018 Senior Personnel. NSF EAGER Grant, “Diffusion of Ideas of Gender Equity Interventions through Networks of U.S. Universities,” with Kathrin Zippel (PI), Award #1836671 (\$359,999)
- 2018 PI. Tier I Grant, Northeastern University, “Graphic-content Sharing in Our Digital Society,” with Devesh Tiwari (\$50,000)
- 2018 PI. Tier I Grant, Northeastern University, “Measuring Social Movement Success,” with Elizabeth Dillon, Moya Bailey, Meg Heckman, and Sarah Jackson (\$50,000)
- 2017 Hathi Trust Research Center Advanced Collaborative Support Project Award (six months support)
- 2015 Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Computational Social Science Summit, with Brian Uzzi and Laura Noren (\$15,000)
- 2015 Facebook, Computational Social Science Summit, with Brian Uzzi and Laura Noren (\$10,000)
- 2012 Department of Sociology Small Research Grant, University of California, Berkeley (\$2,000)
- 2006 Trewartha L&S Honors Research Grant, University of Wisconsin, Madison (\$2,600)
- 2006 United Way Research Grant, Madison, WI (\$1,500)
- 2006 City of Madison, Mayor Dave Cieslewicz, WI (\$1,900)
- 2004 Summer Sophomore Research Apprenticeship Grant, University of Wisconsin, Madison (\$1,500)

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

---

- 2020 Best Meta-Reviewer, 12th International Conference on Social Informatics (SocInfo20)
- 2020 Outstanding Faculty of the Year (given by the graduate students at Northeastern University, Department of Sociology and Anthropology)
- 2014 Leo Lowenthal Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley (\$10,000)
- 2014 Richard A. Peterson Prize for Best Student Paper, Sociology of Culture Section Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association
- 2014 Leo Lowenthal Memorial Prize, University of California, Berkeley (award: \$500)
- 2013 Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, University of California, Berkeley (award: \$250)
- 2010 Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley (\$28,950)
- 2009 Teagle/Spenser Teaching Fellowship (\$4,000), to produce an instructor's guide on how to teach sociological writing to undergraduates
- 2008 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, “The Old Left and the Women's Movement: movement continuity through social change” (\$150,000 over three years)
- 2006 Regents Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley (\$26,695)
- 2005 Phi Beta Kappa, University of Wisconsin, Madison

## TEACHING

---

### Courses

[\*Advanced Quantitative Methods Seminar\*](#), graduate, University of British Columbia. Spring 2023.

*Data and Society*, undergraduate, University of British Columbia. Summer 2022, Spring 2023.

*Bostonography*, advanced undergraduate, Northeastern University, Interdisciplinary Studies, Social Science and Humanities. Spring 2020.

[\*Analyzing Complex Digitized Data\*](#), graduate, Northeastern University, Interdisciplinary Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities. Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Spring 2018.

[\*Introduction to Programming for Data Science\*](#), undergraduate, Northeastern University, Data Science. Fall 2018.

[\*Foundations of Social Theory II\*](#), required graduate, Northeastern University, Department of Sociology. Spring 2018.

*Text Analysis for Humanists and Social Scientists*, upper level undergraduate, University of California, Berkeley, Department of History. Spring 2017.

*Comparative Historical Sociologies of Women's Movements in the United States*, undergraduate capstone seminar, University of California, Berkeley, Department of Sociology. Spring 2014.

### Online Courses

“Introduction to Applied Data Science for Social Scientists,” SAGE Campus. Roll: co-author.  
<https://campus.sagepub.com/introduction-to-applied-data-science-methods-for-social-scientists>

### Workshops (selected)

- 2018            “The Practice of Curating Big Datasets,” *Big Data and Managing in a Digital Economy, an Academy of Management Conference*, Surrey, UK, April 18
- 2018            Introduction to Python, Measures for Justice, Rochester, NY, August
- 2016-2017    *Computational Text Analysis for the Humanities and Social Sciences*  
                  Digital Humanities @ Berkeley Summer Institute: August 14-18, 2017  
                  Materials here: <https://github.com/lknelson/DH-Institute-2017>  
                  Digital Humanities Institute, The Claremont Colleges: May 22-24, 2017  
                  Materials here: <https://github.com/lknelson/text-analysis-2017>  
                  Digital Humanities @ Berkeley Summer Institute: August 15-19, 2016  
                  Materials here: <https://github.com/lknelson/text-analysis-2016>
- 2013            *Effective and Efficient Grading*. Graduate Student Instructor Teaching Conference. University of California, Berkeley: August 23.

### INVITED TALKS, KEYNOTES, AND MEETINGS

- 
- 2023    Invited Speaker. Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science (SICSS) • Paris, France, June 21 • NYU Shanghai, June 28
  - 2023    Invited Panelist. “Large Language Models.” The D.A.R.E. Workshop, ICWSM, June 5.
  - 2023    Invited Speaker. “Word Vectors and LLMs for Perspectival Modeling in the Social Sciences.” Stripe



Partners, London, UK, May 4.

- 2023 Invited Panelist. “Looking Ahead 40 Years: Designing Qualitative Research in a Digital Age.” Kellogg Institute for International Studies 40th Anniversary Celebration, University of Notre Dame, April 22.
- 2023 Invited Speaker. “Beyond Protests: Using Computational Text Analysis to Explore a Greater Variety of Social Movement Activities.” TRIADS, Washington University in St. Louis, April 7.
- 2023 Invited Speaker. “Mapping Interdisciplinary Knowledge Production From the NSF ADVANCE Program.” National Science Foundation, March 14.
- 2023 Invited Participant. Social Science FOO, Facebook HQ, February 10-12.
- 2022 Invited Speaker. “Cycles of Conflict, a Century of Continuity: Computational Methods and the Longue Durée.” • University of California, San Diego Sociology Colloquium, May 12 • Indiana University Workshop in Methods, September 9.
- 2022 Invited Speaker. “In Support of the Agnostic Approach to Interpretive Computational Social Science.” The Interpretive Data Science (IDeS) Workshop II: Current Topics, Methods, and Policy Implications, University of British Columbia, May 6.
- 2022 Invited Speaker. “The Future of Machine Learning is Qualitative.” Spark: a centre for social research innovation, McMaster University, February 4.
- 2022 Invited Speaker. “Partial Perspectives and Situated Knowledges: Radical Objectivity using Computational Methods.” Computational Social Science Forum, hosted by the Computational Social Science Training Program, University of California - Berkeley, February 1.
- 2021 Invited Speaker. “Partial Perspectives and Situated Knowledges: Radical Objectivity using Computational Methods.” • Data Science Institute at Columbia University Distinguished Speaker Series, December 14 • Center for Informatics Research in Science and Scholarship (CIRSS), School of Information Science, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, November 12.
- 2021 Keynote Speaker. German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies Workshop on Machine Learning, October 13.
- 2021 Invited Speaker. “Visualizing Intersectionality.” International Scientific Computing with Python (SciPy), July 15.
- 2021 Invited Speaker. Summer Institute for Computational Social Science (SICSS) • “And the Rest is History,” Oxford University, June 17 • Panel on Using Text and Images as Social Science Data, SICSS Festival, Princeton University, June 22 • “Leveraging the Alignment between Machine Learning and Intersectionality,” Howard University, June 24
- 2021 Invited Speaker. “Leveraging the Alignment between Machine Learning and Intersectionality: Using Word Embeddings to Measure Intersectional Experiences of the Nineteenth Century U.S. South.” • University of Connecticut, Department of Sociology, February 5 • Complex Networks and Systems at Indiana University, February 25 • Workshop on Inequality and Social Policy, Harvard University • Center for Research in Economics and Statistics (CREST) Seminar Series, April 8 • Center for



- Empirical Research on Stratification and Inequality (CERSI), Yale University, October 28.
- 2021 Jurisprudence and Social Policy Research Design Lecture in Computational Text Analysis, University of California at Berkeley, March 3.
- 2021 Invited Speaker. “And the Rest is History.” Culture and Politics Workshop, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, February 12 • Department of Sociology Colloquium, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, October 25.
- 2020 Invited Speaker. “Equity and Inclusion in Times of Crisis.” NSF Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR) Core Research (ECR) Program, panel on Gender Inequality and COVID. December, (virtual).
- 2020 Invited Speaker. “Leveraging the Alignment between Machine Learning and Intersectionality: Using Word Embeddings to Measure Intersectional Experiences of the Nineteenth Century U.S. South.”  
• Queens College CUNY, November 18 • Linköping University Institute for Analytical Sociology, October 22 • Texas A&M Institute of Data Science, October 2 • University of Pennsylvania Sociology Colloquium, September 23
- 2020 Invited Discussant. Conference on Computational Sociology, Center for Computational Social Science, Stanford University, August 7.
- 2020 Invited Speaker. “The Radical Inductiveness of Machine Learning.”  
• Copenhagen Center for Social Data Science, University of Copenhagen, September 25 • The Media Lab Colloquium, Sciences Po, Paris, March 3 • Computational Text Analysis Working Group and the Berkeley Institute for Data Science, University of California, Berkeley, February 26 • University of California, Davis DataLab, February 24
- 2020 Invited Panelist. “Pedagogies Of Resistance: Sharing Knowledge as a Political Act,” Consortium for Graduate Studies in Gender, Culture, Women, and Sexuality, August 27.
- 2020 Invited Speaker. “The Meaning of Action: Linking Goals, Tactics, and Strategies in the Environmental Movement,” Center for the Study of Law and Society Colloquium, University of California, Berkeley, February 28.
- 2020 Invited Speaker. “Taking the Time: The Gendered Burden of Providing Effective Workplace Evaluations,” University of California, Davis Sociology, February 25.
- 2020 Invited Participant. Social Science FOO, Facebook HQ, February 7.
- 2019 Keynote Speaker. NULab/Digital Scholarship Group Fall Welcome. Northeastern University, October 30.
- 2019 Keynote Speaker. NovelTM. Banff, Alberta, October 17.
- 2019 Invited Speaker. “Collecting, Analyzing, and Sharing Cultural Sociology,” Section on the Sociology of Culture, American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August 11.
- 2019 Invited Advisor and Discussion Lead. “Word Vectors for Thoughtful Humanists Institute,” Northeastern University, July 17-19.

- 2019 Invited Speaker. "THINK-PLAY-HACK .i||i. the new algorithmic analysis of culture, interaction, and experience," Taos, NM, July 1-5.
- 2019 Invited Speaker. "To Measure Meaning in Big Data Don't Give Me a Map," Summer Institute in Computational Social Science-Boston, June 27.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. "Finding Simple Patterns in Complex Data," TextXD, Berkeley Institute for Data Science, University of California, Berkeley, December 7.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. "Machine Learning is Feminist," All Boats Rise? Social Capital, Promise and Peril. A one-day, invitation only gathering of scholars, activists, and leaders, Amazon HQ, October 17.
- 2018 Invited Participant. Data Science Leadership Summit, Park City Utah, October 12-13.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. "Finding Simple Patterns in Complex Data," Symposium on Applied Text Analysis, Harvard University, May 3.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. "Reproducibility in the Social Sciences and Humanities," Oxford University, April 24.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. "Ideational and Socio-Structural Isomorphism: The Role of Network Properties in Turning Collective Ideas into Collective Practice" • Workshop in Computational Social Science, University of Chicago, February 22 • Workshop in History, Culture and Society, Harvard University, February 16
- 2018 Invited Speaker. "Statistical Impacts of OCR Errors," An Agenda for Historical and Multilingual OCR, Northeastern University, February 8.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. "Beyond Collections as Data: Answering Specific Historical Questions using Computational Methods," HathiTrust Research Center UnCamp, Berkeley, CA, January 25.
- 2018 Invited Speaker. "Computational Means, Qualitative Ends," Workshop on Applied Statistical Methods, Harvard University, January 24.
- 2017 Invited Speaker. "Computational Grounded Theory: A Tutorial," *Policy and Research Workshop: New Tools for Measuring Culture*. American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August 14.
- 2017 Invited Speaker. "Digital Technologies and the Future of Qualitative and Interpretive Analysis," *DH Fellows Talk*, University of California, Berkeley, March 17.
- 2016 Invited Speaker. "Computers, Cognition, and Machine Learning: Toward a Human-Centered (Big) Data-Driven History," Section on Comparative-Historical Sociology Invited Session. *Digitized (Big) Data and Comparative Historical Sociology*. American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August 22.
- 2016 Invited Speaker. "The Future of Coding," Computational Research Day, Northwestern University, April 19.
- 2016 Invited Speaker. "Measuring Collective Cognitive Structures via Collectively Produced Text," Text as Data Speakers Series, Center for Data Science, New York University, March 10.

- 2015 Invited Speaker. “Enduring Feminist Fields: The Persistence of Structure and Culture in New York City and Chicago” • The Culture Workshop at the University of Notre Dame, November 6 • Northwestern Department of Sociology Weekly Colloquia, October 22 • Wednesdays@NICO, Northwestern University, October 14 • Brown Bag Seminar Series, School of Information Studies, Syracuse University, September 23

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

---

- 2022 “Situated Knowledges and Partial Perspectives: Toward a Radical Objectivity in Comparative Historical Sociology.” Engaging History: Legacies, Omissions, and New Directions in Comparative Historical Sociology, Mini-Conference, ASA CHS Section, August 7.
- 2021 “And the Rest is History.” • Panel on Reimagining Research Traditions: New Approaches to Method and Measurement, Social Science History Association Annual conference, Philadelphia, PA, November 11 • American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August 7.
- 2020 “From Theory to Practice and Back: Why is the Concept of Implicit Bias so Tractable?” American Sociological Association Annual Conference, August 2020 (virtual).
- 2020 (Canceled due to COVID) “Using Word Embedding Models to Measure Intersecting Experiences in the Post Civil War South.” Panel on Reimagining Research Traditions: New Approaches to Method and Measurement, Social Science History Association Annual Conference.
- 2019 “High Dimensional History,” panel on The Future of Comparative-Historical Social Science I: Scholarly Borderlands, Social Science History Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, November 21.
- 2019 “Exploring the Use of Machine Vision to Understand Neighborhood Inequality,” (with Jeffrey Sternberg) • panel on New Approaches to Understanding Inequality, American Sociological Association Annual Conference, New York City, NY, August 11 • Preconference on Politics and Computational Social Science, Georgetown, August 30 (presented by Jeffrey Sternberg)
- 2018 “Finding Simple Patterns in Complex Data,” Preconference on Politics and Computational Social Science, Northeastern University, August 29.
- 2017 “What Do Organizations Do? Strategic and Tactical Repertoires in the U.S. Environmental Movement, 1998-2014,” Mobilization Conference on Social Movements and Protest: Nonviolent Strategies and the State. San Diego: May 5-6.
- 2016 “How we Talk about Organizations and the Discursive Configuration of an Organizational Field” (with Brayden King), European Group for Organizational Studies, Naples, Italy.
- 2015 “Gender and the Language of Crowdfunding” (with Andreea Gorbatai)  
• West Coast Research Symposium on Technology Entrepreneurship, Foster School of Business, Seattle, WA • Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, Vancouver, BC, Canada • American

Sociological Association's Annual Conference, Chicago, IL • European Group for Organizational Studies, Athens, Greece

- 2015 Panel Discussant, "Big Data and Social Movements," with Chris Bail, Brayden King, and John MacArthur, organized by Edwin Amenta, American Sociological Association's Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- 2015 "Bohemia, Feminism, Socialism, and Class: The Geographical and Historical Determinants of Second-Wave Feminist Politics," Session on History and Social Movements, American Sociological Association's Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- 2015 "Computer-Assisted Text Analysis in Python: Applications for Organization Studies," Content Analysis PDW. Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- 2015 "On Tactics and Targets: The Transformation of the U.S. Environmental Movement Between 1998 and 2014" (with Brayden King) • *Protesters and their Targets*, Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section Mini-Conference, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL • Computational Social Science Summit, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

---

### Service to the University

#### *Department Service*

- 2022 - 2023 Search Committee Member, Junior Hire in the Sociology of Climate Change, University of British Columbia
- 2017 - 2019 Undergraduate Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Northeastern University
- 2019, 2020 Merit Committee, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Northeastern University

#### *College Service*

- 2022 - 2025 Director, Centre for Computational Social Science, University of British Columbia
- 2018 - 2021 Coordinator, Digital Integration Teaching Initiative, Northeastern University
- 2018 - 2020 Feminist Coding Collective, NULab, Northeastern University
- 2018 - 2020 Committee Member, to construct a new Graduate Certificate in Computational Social Science, Northeastern University
- 2019 Search Committee Member, Cluster Hire in Urban Informatics, Quantitative Methods, and Network Science, Northeastern University

### Service to the Discipline

### ***Editorial Boards***

- 2023 - present Editorial Board, *Acta Sociologica*
- 2022 - 2023 Consulting Editor and Ad Hoc Deputy Editor, *American Journal of Sociology*
- 2022 - present Editorial Board, *Poetics*
- 2021 - present Associate Editor, *EPJ Data Science*
- 2019 - 2022 Editorial Board, *Sociological Methodology* (elected by the American Sociological Association)
- 2018 - 2021 Editorial Board, *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*

### ***Scholarly Committees***

- 2023 Member, Charles Tilly (Best Article) Award, American Sociological Association Section on Comparative and Historical Sociology
- 2021, 2022 Member, Nominations Committee, American Sociological Association Section on Mathematical Sociology
- 2021, 2022 Member, Best Dissertation-in-Progress Award, American Sociological Association Section on Mathematical Sociology

### ***Conferences***

- 2022 Program Committee Co-Chair, International Conference on Computational Social Science, University of Chicago, Chicago IL, July 19 - 22
- 2022 Section on Methodology Section Session organizer, "Methodological Challenges Presented by the COVID-19 Pandemic," American Sociological Association, August 6
- 2021 Co-Convener (with Jan Goldenstein and Achim Oberg), Sub-theme 53: Organizations, Social Relations, and their Meanings: Exploring the Potentials of Natural-language and Image-processing Tools for Big Data Analyses, European Group for Organizational Studies (EGOS), July 8-10 (virtual)
- 2019 Program Committee Co-Chair, SocInfo 2019, Doha, Qatar, November 18-21
- 2018 Workshop Chair, International Conference on Computational Social Science, Northwestern University, July 12-14
- 2016 Co-Organizer, International Conference on Computational Social Science, Northwestern University, June 23-26, maintained social media presence @IC2S2
- 2015 Co-Organizer, Computational Social Science Summit, Northwestern University, May 15-17
- 2014 Co-Organizer, "Big cities, big data: Big opportunity for computational social science," ASA pre-conference Datathon, D-Lab, University of California, Berkeley, August 15-16

### ***Workshops / Working Groups***

- 2016-2017 Co-Organizer, TextXD, Berkeley Institute for Data Science, University of California, Berkeley
- 2016-2017 Co-Organizer, Computational Text Analysis Working Group, D-Lab, University of California, Berkeley
- 2015-2016 Workshop Leader, “Social Movements and Social Enterprise,” Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University
- 2014 Workshop Leader, “Social Science Research Methods and Data-Intensive Research,” a D-Lab workshop, University of California, Berkeley

### ***Advisory Boards***

- 2019 - 2022 “Advancing Computational Grounded Theory for Audiovisual Data from STEM Classrooms.” PIs: Stina Kirst, Elizabeth Dyer, Nigel Bosch, Cynthia D’Angelo, and Joshua Rosenberg). Granting Agency: National Science Foundation EHR Core Research (ECR)
- 2019 - 2022 “Subjectivity and bias in college admissions: Can letters of recommendation promote fairer decisions?” PI: Jesse Rothstein. Granting Agency: William T. Grant Foundation

### ***Program Committees***

SocInfo 2020 (senior PC) • ICWSM 2018-present • IC<sup>2</sup>S<sup>2</sup> 2016-present • TheWebConf 2018, 2019 • ICWS 2018

### ***Peer-Reviewer***

• *American Sociological Review* • *American Journal of Sociology* • *PNAS* (guest editor) • *Science Advances* • *Organization Science* • *Sociological Methods and Research* • *Mobilization* • *Sociological Methodology* • *Poetics* • *Gender & Society*

## **ADVISING ACTIVITY**

---

### **Supervision of Graduate Students**

- 2022 - present Jinyang Yu (University of British Columbia, Sociology). MA Thesis Committee Chair.
- 2018 - present Rebekah Getman (Northeastern University, Sociology). Dissertation committee. *Uncertain Institutions: Policy, risk, and reward in childbirth during COVID-19*.  
Comprehensive exam reader: *Across the Digital Aisle: Abortion, Polarization, and Social Movements in the Internet Age* (November 14, 2019).  
Research advisor - supported through multiple grants.
- 2018 - present Emilie Falguieres (Northeastern University, Sociology). Dissertation committee.  
Comprehensive exam reader: *Institutional Legacy, Social Media and the Diffusion of Social Movements* (April 28, 2021).  
Research advisor - supported through a grant.
- 2020 - 2022 Riley Tucker (Northeastern University, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice).  
Dissertation committee. *Who, What, When, Where: Using Twitter to Assess Characteristics*

- and *Criminogenic Dynamics of Ambient Populations* (defended August 10, 2022).
- 2020 - 2022 Syed Arefinul Haque (Northeastern University, Network Science). Dissertation Committee Chair. *Diversity and Gender Equity in Networks of Knowledge Production and Dissemination* (defended July 14, 2022).
- 2019 - 2021 Jeffrey Sternberg (Northeastern University, Sociology). Dissertation committee. *Labour (De)Territorialized: Digital Nomads, Gig-Living, and Accessing the City in the Age of the New Urban Crisis* (defended April 12, 2021).  
Research advisor - supported through a grant.
- 2019 - 2021 Cara Marta Messina (Northeastern University, English). Dissertation committee. *The Critical Fan Toolkit: Fanfiction Genres, Ideologies, and Pedagogies* (defended March 25, 2021).

### Supervision of Undergraduate Students

- 2019 - 2022 Cameron Jamison (Northeastern University, Psychology and Communications).
- Summer 2019 Brian Joseph (Northeastern University, Computer Science). Undergraduate research advisor.

### Advising Activity

- 2023 Siqi (Rebecca) Qin (University of British Columbia, Sociology). Committee Chair: Comprehensive Exam in the Sociology of Gender (January 19, 2023).
- 2021 - 2022 Miranda Melson (Northeastern University, Sociology). Research advisor - supported through a grant.
- 2021 Isabel Araceli Geisler (Northeastern University, Sociology). Comprehensive exam reader: *Feminist Progress and Cooptation: Lessons from the Movement Against Femicidio* (March 2, 2021).
- 2018 - 2020 Naomi Darom (Northeastern University, Sociology). Comprehensive exam reader: *Sociology and the study of sexuality* (March 19, 2020). Research advisor - supported through a grant.
- 2018 - 2019 Christopher Tirrell (Northeastern University, Sociology). Research advisor - supported through a grant.
- 2018 - 2019 Taylor Braswell (Northeastern University, Sociology). Comprehensive exam reader: *Extended Sacrifice Zones: Pipeline Proximity and Environmental Justice in the Age of Planetary Urbanization* (November 12, 2019). Research advisor - supported through a grant.
- Fall 2018 Elicia Cousins (Northeastern University, Sociology). Comprehensive exam reader: *Gender, Motherhood, and Feminism in Environmental Activism and Leadership* (December 12, 2018).

### PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES/COMPUTER SKILLS

---

Python: • BeautifulSoup • Pandas • scikit-learn • scipy • numpy • NLTK • TextBlob • matplotlib • Networkx  
 R: • stm • topicmodels • tm • sna • igraph  
 Other: • bash • Git • Linux/UNIX • Zotero • Stata • SAS • Gephi  
 Find samples of my code on GitHub: <https://github.com/lknelson>



## REFERENCES

---

Anna Mueller, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology  
Indiana University, Bloomington  
Ballantine Hall 764  
Bloomington, IN 47405  
*Phone:* 812-856-1370  
*Email:* mueller1@iu.edu

Brayden King, Professor and Co-Chair, Management and Organizations  
J.L. Kellogg School of Management  
Northwestern University  
2211 Campus Drive  
Evanston, IL 60208  
*Phone:* 847-467-6950  
*Email:* [b-king@kellogg.northwestern.edu](mailto:b-king@kellogg.northwestern.edu)

Leslie McCall, Associate Director, Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality  
Presidential Professor of Sociology and Political Science  
The Graduate Center, CUNY  
365 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
*Phone:* 212-817-7000  
*Email:* [lmccall@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:lmccall@gc.cuny.edu)

Heather Haveman, Professor, Department of Sociology  
University of California, Berkeley  
410 Barrows Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720-1980  
*Phone:* 510-642-3495  
*Email:* haveman@berkeley.edu

Kim Voss, Professor, Department of Sociology  
University of California, Berkeley  
410 Barrows Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720-1980  
*Phone:* 510-642-4756  
*Email:* kimvoss@berkeley.edu

## Teaching References

Catherine Albiston, Jackson H. Ralston Professor of Law and Professor of Sociology  
Executive Committee, Henderson Center  
University of California, Berkeley  
108 JSP  
2240 Piedmont Ave.  
Berkeley, CA 94720  
*Phone:* 510-642-0493  
*Email:* calbiston@law.berkeley.edu

Julia Flanders, Professor of the Practice in English  
Northeastern University  
213B Snell Library  
360 Huntington Avenue,  
Boston, MA 02115  
*Phone:* 617-373-4435  
*Email:* j.flanders@northeastern.edu