

# Robert Soden

CURRICULUM VITAE // JANUARY 2018

PhD Candidate  
Department of Computer Science  
University of Colorado Boulder

[robert.soden@colorado.edu](mailto:robert.soden@colorado.edu)  
(202) 330-3006  
<http://robertsoden.io>

## RESEARCH FOCUS

Crisis Informatics, human-computer interaction (HCI), computer supported cooperative work (CSCW), infrastructure studies, science and technology studies (STS), participatory sensing, critical data studies, civic technology

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D.**, Computer Science 2019 (anticipated)  
University of Colorado Boulder

Dissertation:

*Crisis Informatics in the Anthropocene: Disasters as Matters of Care & Concern*

Committee:

Leysia Palen (chair), Lilly Irani, Jed Brubaker, Joe Bryan, Clayton Lewis, Ken Anderson

**Master of Arts**, Natural Resources and Sustainable Development 2007  
American University, Washington DC

**Bachelor of Arts**, Political Science 2003  
**Bachelor of Arts**, History  
University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**University of Colorado Boulder** 8/2013 – Present  
Department of Computer Science  
Graduate Research Assistant

**Stanford University** 9/2016 – 12/2017  
Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Visiting Adjunct Lecturer

*Courses Taught:*

International Development and Disaster Risk (Fall 2016)

Topics in Disaster Resilience Research (Fall 2016, Winter 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2017)

**World Bank** 3/2011 – Present  
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery  
Innovation Lab  
Senior Disaster Risk Management Consultant

**Development Seed** 5/2008 – 12/2010  
Lead GIS Software Developer

## **American University**

School of International Service

Teaching Assistant

*Course:* International Development and the Environment (Online, Summer 2005)

6/2005 – 8/2005

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

### **Visiting Student Researcher**

University of California, Berkeley

Center for Science, Technology, Medicine & Society

January 2018

### **Best Paper Honorable Mention**

CHI 2017

May 2017

### **Graduate Certificate in Critical Theory**

CU Boulder Department of German & Slavic Language & Literature

May 2016

### **Best Student Paper Nominee**

ISCRAM 2015

May 2015

### **Best Student Paper**

ISCRAM 2014

May 2014

### **CU Research Assistant Award**

Department of Computer Science

University of Colorado Boulder

April 2014

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Book Chapters**

**Soden, R.** and Palen, L. (2018). The social life of disaster information: Cultivating resources for emergent information infrastructures in Nepal. In Eric Welch (Ed.) *Research Handbook on E-Government*. Edward Elgar. *Forthcoming*.

### **Journal Articles**

Anderson, J., **Soden, R.**, Keegan, B., Palen, L., Anderson, K. (2018). The Crowd is the Territory: Assessing Quality in Peer-Produced Spatial Data During Disasters. *International Journal of Human Computer Interaction*. Taylor and Francis.

Lallemant, D., **Soden, R.**, Rubinyi, S., Loos, S., Barns, K., Bhattacharjee, G. (2017). Post-disaster damage assessments as catalysts for recovery: A look at the assessments conducted in the wake of the 2015 earthquake in Nepal. *Earthquake Spectra*. Earthquake Engineering Research Institute.

### **Archival, Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers**

**Soden, R.**, Lord, A. (2018). Mapping Silences, Reconfiguring Loss: Practices of Damage Assessment & Narratives of Repair in Post-Earthquake Nepal. In *Proceedings of the 21st ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (CSCW)*. *Forthcoming*. **(25% acceptance rate)**.

**Soden R.,** Palen, L. (2018). Informating Crisis: Expanding Critical Perspectives in Crisis Informatics. In *Proceedings of the 21st ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (CSCW)*. Forthcoming. **(25% acceptance rate)**.

Dailey, D., **Soden, R.,** Lalone, N. (2018). Crisis Informatics for Everyday Analysts: A Design Fiction Approach to Social Media Best Practices. In *Proceedings of the 2018 International Conference on Supporting Group Work (GROUP)*. ACM.

**Soden, R.,** Sprain, L., Palen, L., (2017). Thin Grey Lines: Confrontations With Risk on Colorado's Front Range. In *Proceedings of the 2017 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (pp. 2042-2053). ACM. **Best Paper Honorable Mention. (25% acceptance rate)**.

Kogan, M., Anderson, J., **Soden, R.,** Anderson, K., Palen, L. (2016). Collaboration in OpenStreetMap: A Network Analysis of Two Humanitarian Events. In *Proceedings of the 2016 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (pp. 2783-2795). ACM. **(23% acceptance rate)**.

**Soden, R.,** Palen, L. (2016). Infrastructure in the Wild: What Mapping in Post-Earthquake Nepal Reveals about Infrastructural Emergence. In *Proceedings of the 2016 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (pp. 2796-2807). ACM. **(23% acceptance rate)**.

Anderson, J., **Soden, R.,** Anderson, K., Kogan, M., Palen, L. (2016). EPIC-OSM: A Software Framework for OpenStreetMap Data Analytics. *Proceedings of the Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS)*(pp. 5468-5477). IEEE.

**Soden, R.,** Palen, L., Chase, C., Deniz, D., Arneson, E., Sprain, L., Goldstein, B., Liel, A., Javernick-Will, A., Dashti, S. (2015). The Polyvocality of Resilience: Discovering a Research Agenda through Interdisciplinary Investigation and Community Engagement. In *Proceedings of the Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management (ISCRAM)*. **Best Student Paper Nomination**.

Palen, L., **Soden, R.,** Anderson, J., Barrenechea, M (2015). Success & Scale in a Data-Producing Organization: The Socio-Technical Evolution of OpenStreetMap in Response to Humanitarian Events. In *Proceedings of the ACM 2015 Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (pp. 4113-4122). ACM. **(23% acceptance rate)**.

**Soden, R.,** Palen, L. (2014). From Crowdsourced Mapping to Community Mapping: The Post Earthquake Work of OpenStreetMap Haiti. In *Proceedings of the 11th International Conference on the Design of Cooperative Systems (COOP)* (pp. 311-326). **(34% acceptance rate)**.

**Soden, R.,** Budhathoki, N., Palen, L. (2014). Resilience and Crisis Informatics: Lessons Learned from Open Cities Kathmandu. In *Proceedings of the Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management (ISCRAM)*. **Best Student Paper Award**.

#### **Workshop Papers & Non-Archival Conference Presentations**

**Soden, R.,** Lord, A. (2018). Mapping Silences, Reconfiguring Loss: Practices of Damage Assessment & Narratives of Repair in Post-Earthquake Nepal. Presented at *Natural Hazards Workshop*. Boulder, CO.

- Soden, R.** (2018). Crisis Informatics in the Anthropocene: Disasters as Matters of Care & Concern. In Companion of the 2018 ACM Conference on Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI Doctoral Colloquium). ACM.
- Soden, R., Lord, A.** (2017). Mapping Silences, Reconfiguring Loss: Practices of Damage Assessment & Narratives of Repair in Post-Earthquake Nepal. Presented at *2017 Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)*. Boston, MA.
- Lord, A., **Soden, R.** (2017). Infrastructuring Humanitarian Ignorance in Nepal's Post-Disaster Taskscape. Presented at *2017 Conference on the Changing Political Economy of Risk and Ignorance (CPERI)*. Boston, MA.
- Soden, R.** (2017). Crisis Informatics in the Anthropocene: Disasters as Matters of Care & Concern. In Companion of the 2017 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW Doctoral Colloquium) (pp. 93-96). ACM. Seattle, WA.
- Soden, R.** (2017). Crisis Informatics in the Anthropocene: Disasters as Matters of Care & Concern. At *2017 Human Computer Interaction Consortium (HCIC)*. Watsonville, CA.
- Soden, R.** (2017). Informing Crisis. At *2016 Workshop on Crisis Informatics & Human Computer Interaction*. Boulder, Colorado.
- Dennis, E., **Soden, R.** (2016). Towards Cartographic Standards for Web-Based Flood Hazard Maps. Presented at *2016 GIS in the Rockies Conference*. Denver, CO.
- Soden, R.** (2016). Reconfiguring Loss: Memory Practice & Participatory Damage Assessment in Post-Earthquake Nepal. Presented at *2016 Human Computer Interaction Consortium (HCIC)*. Watsonville, CA.
- Soden, R., Budhathoki, N.** (2016). Alternate Constructions of Damage: Frictional Design and Disaster Impact Assessment in Post-Earthquake Nepal. Presented at *2016 CHI Workshop on HCI Across Borders*. San Jose, CA.
- Soden, R.** (2015). Ecologies of Risk Information: A Comparative Approach. Presented at *2015 CHI Workshop on Ecological Perspectives in HCI: Promise, Problems, and Potential*. Seoul, South Korea.
- Soden, R.** (2015). OpenStreetMap & Disaster Risk Management: Experiences from the Open Cities Project. Presented at *2015 Conference of the Citizen Science Association*. San Jose, CA.
- Soden, R.** (2015). Information Infrastructure & Disaster Risk: A Comparative Approach. Presented at *2015 Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management (ISCRAM) Doctoral Colloquium*. Kristiansand, Norway.
- Soden, R., Prager, D.** (2005). Broken Promises: Environmental Rights Regimes as Human Rights Guarantees in Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa. Presented at *2005 International Studies Conference (ISA)*. Honolulu, HI.

#### ***Invited Talks & Guest Lectures***

- Soden, R. (2018). Rethinking Post-Disaster Damage Assessment: Lessons from Critical Data Studies. Presented at *Earth Observatory of Singapore*. National Technical University of Singapore.
- Soden, R. (2018). The Social Life of Disaster Data. Presented at *2018 Understanding Risk Forum*. Mexico City, Mexico.
- Soden, R., Lallemand, D. (2017). Crowdsourcing Damage Assessment to Improve Response and Recovery Following Natural Disasters. Presented at *Stanford HCI Lunch*. Stanford, CA.
- Soden, R. (2016). There's No Such Thing as Raw Crisis Data. At *AAS Workshop on Ethics of Location-Based Data in Crisis Situations*. American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Washington, D.C.
- Soden, R. (2015). Collective Information Infrastructures During Disaster Response: Findings from the 2015 Nepal Earthquake. Presented at *The Role of Crisis Informatics in Disaster Management: The Case of Nepal Earthquake*. Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Soden, R. (2015). The Polyvocality of Resilience: Discovering a Research Agenda through Interdisciplinary Investigation and Community Engagement. Presented at *Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management (ISCRAM) Plenary*. Kristiansand, Norway.
- Soden, R. (2014). Open Data for Disaster Risk Management. Presented at *2014 Understanding Risk Forum*. London, UK.
- Soden, R. (2014). Crowdsourced Mapping, Community Mapping, & Disaster Resilience. Guest Lecture in Leysia Palen's Course on *Social Computing*. Boulder, CO.
- Soden, R. (2013). Growing the Global OSM Community: Lessons Learned from the Open Cities Project. Presented at *2013 State of the Map Conference*. Birmingham, UK.
- Soden, R. (2011). Crowdsourced Mapping in the 2010 Haiti Earthquake Response. Presented at *2011 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction*. Geneva, CH.

### **Major Professional Publications**

- Soden, R. (2017). *Natural Hazard Data: A Practical Guide*. Asian Development Bank Publications.
- Haklay, M. E., Antoniou, V., Basiouka, S., Soden, R., & Mooney, P. (2014). *Crowdsourced Geographic Information Use in Government*. World Bank Publications.
- Crowley, J., York, D., Soden, R., & Deparday, V. (2014). *Open Data for Resilience Initiative Field Guide*. World Bank Publications.

### **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Stanford Urban Resilience Initiative  
Co-Organizer

August 2016-  
December 2017

Grand Challenges in Crisis Informatics Workshop  
Organizing Committee

May 2016

CU Boulder Reading Group on STS Organizer	2015-2016
Panel Organizer on OpenStreetMap as Citizen Science Citizen Science 2015 Conference, San Jose, CA	February 2015
Panel Co-Organizer on Critical Geography and OpenStreetMap 20 <sup>th</sup> Annual Critical Geography Conference, Boulder CO	February 2014
<b>Reviewer for:</b> Conference on Human Factors In Computing Systems (CHI) Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW) MIT Press – Science, Technology, & Society List Conference on Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management (ISCRAM) Hawaiian International Conference on Systems Sciences (HICSS) Journal on Science, Technology, and Human Values (STHV) International Journal of Geo-Information (IJGI)	2014-2018

#### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

Association of Computing Machinery  
 Society for the Social Studies of Science  
 Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management  
 OpenStreetMap Foundation  
 Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (Founding Board Member & Voting Member)

#### **Volunteer Experience**

Washington DC Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)  
 Code for Boulder  
 Boulder County Latino History Project  
 Open Oakland