

Sohyeon Hwang

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Northwestern University
Frances Searle Building

Affiliations

Community Data Science Collective, Northwestern University
2019 – Present. PhD Student.

Education

Northwestern University

2024 (*expected*). MA/PhD in Media, Technology, and Society

advised by Aaron Shaw

Master's paper: Parallel evolutions of peer-produced online governance.

Committee: Aaron Shaw, Emőke-Ágnes Horvát, Darren Gergle.

Doctoral dissertation, expected 2024.

Cornell University

2018. BA in Government (*cum laude*) and in Information Science, with distinction in all subjects.

Research Interests

I study governance, organization, and collaboration online, generally via multi-community/platform analyses of social computing systems through computational social science and interview work.

- **online governance** (self-governance, participatory governance, polycentricity)
- **scale** (heterogeneity, difference, fragmentation, distortion)

Awards + Fellowships

Fellowships + Scholarships

2020. National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, value 134,000USD.

2018. Emma Bowen Foundation Fellowship (supported by the Democracy Fund), value 6,000USD.

2017. Telluride House Scholarship (Cornell Branch), 2017-2018 House Scholar.

2017. Cornell Institute for European Studies. Frederic Conger Wood Summer Research Fellowship, value: 3,500 USD.

2014. Bio-Rad Laboratories Scholarship, value: 1,000USD.

2014. National Merit Scholarship, value: 1,000USD.

Recognitions + Honors (see **Publications** for paper recognitions and awards)

2018, May. Excellence in Research Award from the Information Science Department, Cornell University.

Multiple. Dean's List for Excellence in Scholarship, Cornell University, Fall 2014 – Spring 2018.

2017, April. Class of 2018 Award, Class Councils Cornell.

2015, Spring. Academic Excellence in German by the German Consulate General New York.

Publications

Note: If a pre-print copy of a publication is not linked below, please feel free to contact me for a copy :)

Journals and conference proceeding papers (peer-reviewed)

☀ received award; ✱ semi-archival; † non-archival;

[1] ✱ **Hwang**, Sohyeon and Aaron Shaw. 2022 (*Forthcoming*). "Rules and rule-making in the five largest Wikipedias". In *Proc. 16th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM)*. Atlanta, Georgia.

[2] ☀ **Hwang**, Sohyeon and Jeremy Foote. 2021. "Why do people participate in small online communities?" *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.* 5, CSCW2, Article 462 (October 2021), 25 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3479606>
[pre-print] [official link].

Under peer review

- [1] **Hwang**, Sohyeon, Emőke-Ágnes Horvát, and Daniel Romero. 2022. "Information retention in the multi-platform sharing of science".

Posters + Extended Abstracts

Peer-reviewed

* semi-archival; † non-archival;

- [1] † **Hwang**, Sohyeon and Aaron Shaw. 2021. "Heterogeneous practices in collective governance". *Collective Intelligence 2020* (CI 2020). Boston & Copenhagen (Virtually held due to COVID-19). [[pdf](#)] [[presentation recording](#)].
- [2] † Rahm, Brian G., Sohyeon **Hwang**, Tim Joo, Karin Teuffer, Sridhar Vedachalam, Deb Grantham, and Susan J. Riha. 2016. "Making the case for OWTS management: lessons from case studies and research." In *AGU Fall 2016 Meeting Abstracts*. San Francisco, California. [[pdf](#)].

Other work and presentations

Talks, seminars, and guest lectures

- [1] Guest mini-lecture, "Governance of and by (and within?) platforms". COMM ST 378: *Online Communities and Crowds*, Northwestern University. 9 February 2022 (*Upcoming*). Evanston, IL.
- [2] Seminar guest speaker, on "Why do people participate in small online communities?". *HCI Seminar*, University of Washington. 5 November 2021. Virtual.

Public science + engagement

- [1] Discord Moderator Discord Academic Talks (DMDAT). 13 Jan 2022. Virtual Q&A talk.
- [2] "The governance of online communities". *Uncontrolled Variables: A Science & Comedy Show*, 2 September 2021. Lincoln Lodge Theater, Chicago, IL.
- [3] "South Korea's dud(?) democracy: The candlelight protests in context". Cornell Branch of the Telluride Association – House member PubSpeak series, February 2018. Ithaca, NY.

Teaching

Research supervision

Serene Ong (undergraduate student research assistant at Northwestern University, Winter 2021 – present).
Daryn McElroy (undergraduate student research assistant at Northwestern University, Winter 2021 – Fall 2021).
Amanda Hardy (Master's student research assistant at University of Michigan, Winter 2021 – Spring 2021).
Ellie Coleman (undergraduate student summer research intern at Northwestern University, Summer 2020).

Courses

- COMM ST 378: *Online Communities and Crowds*. Graduate teaching assistant (discussion section instructor), under Aaron Shaw. Northwestern University. 2022, Winter.
- COMM ST 159: *Computing Everywhere*. **Graduate student instructor**, under Jeremy Birnholtz. Northwestern University. Multiple quarters.
 - 2021, Spring. *Using APIs to gather online information*.
 - 2022, Winter. *Using APIs to gather online information*.
 - 2022, Spring. *How Natural Language Processing breaks down (your) text into data*.
- INFO 4240: *Designing Technologies for Social Impact*. Undergraduate teaching assistant, under Phoebe Sengers. Cornell University. 2016, Fall. 2017, Fall.

Service + Engagement

Academic, university, and department

- Co-organizer. HCI events group. MTSB graduate student committees, Northwestern University. 2020-present.
 - [HCI+D PhD book club](#), organizer. Summer 2020 – present (quarterly).
- Seminar planning committee member. [Metagov Seminar](#). July 2020-present.

Professional Affiliations

Association of Computing Machinery
International Communication Association

Reviewing
ICA

Miscellaneous

- Volunteer Tutor, GirlForward, Sept 2019 – Present.
- Events committee, Cornell Branch of the Telluride House, 2017-18.
 - Co-organizer of speaker series, co-organizer of internal House events.

Work Experience

Reveal from the Center for Investigative Reporting

June 2018 – Aug 2018

Emma Bowen Foundation Fellow

- Compiled database of leads for reporting network on abusive rehabilitation program from 50+ FOIA requests;
- Analyzed Q2 Twitter performance for quarterly report; produced multimedia social copies and content.

Center for the Study of Economy & Society, Cornell University

Aug 2016 – May 2018

Undergraduate Research Assistant

- Under Dr. Victor Nee, wrote a 200-page report on the development of 15+ tech start-ups in New York City from 75+ interviews and news coverage.
- Wrote Python script collecting data from Meetup.com for quantitative analysis of tech entrepreneur events.

Tompkins County – Cornell Cooperative Extension

Jan 2016 – May 2016

Communications & Outreach Intern

- Outreach, event organization, and community engagement organization for the Get Your GreenBack Campaign, an eco-friendly program meant to reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

New York State Water Resources Institute, Cornell University

May 2015 – Aug 2015

Summer Undergraduate Research Intern

- Created case studies from 80+ wastewater management policies of U.S. state- and local-level governments;
- Developed policy recommendations from case studies, shared at a Cornell Cooperative Extension symposium.