SOHYEON HWANG

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RESEARCH INTERESTS	*social computing, (self-)governance, organization, scale, polycentricity + pluralism + heterogeneity; computational social science, interviews;*

I study (1) how groups on social computing platforms govern in community-specific ways, and (2) the subsequent downstream implications. I **analyze the development and implementation of *heterogeneous* governing routines** across online spaces, examining rules, tools, and design using large-scale data. In parallel, I conduct interview studies **to elicit individuals' experiences of variation**, to understand the practical implications of heterogeneity at scale. I also use computational methods to study how information may take on **multiple meanings**. My goal is to understand how we can foster accountability, autonomy, and collaboration at the nexus of technology and society via distributed logics of governance.

EDUCATION

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL   2019-Present
MA/PhD in Media, Technology, and Society
Advisor: Aaron Shaw
2021, MA thesis: Parallel evolutions of peer-produced online governance
2024, Doctoral dissertation expected

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY   2014-2018
BA in Government and in Information Science
cum laude, with distinction in all subjects

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Community Data Science Collective   2019-Present
PhD Student Researcher
PIs: Aaron Shaw, Benjamin Mako Hill
Relevant grants: NSF IIS-1617468, NSF IIS-1910202

Lab on Innovation, Networks, and Knowledge   2020-Present
Affiliate PhD Student Researcher
PIs: Emőke-Ágnes Horvát

SKILLS

Computational social science, interdisciplinary collaboration, outreach + public scholarship, programming (Python, R, D3.js), statistical modeling, interview studies, case studies, qualitative coding, natural language processing / text mining, network methods, multi-platform + multi-community analyses

WORK EXPERIENCE

Reveal from the Center for Investigative Reporting   2018
Emma Bowen Foundation Fellow, Audience Team
- Compiled database of leads for an investigative reporting network on abusive rehabilitation programs from 50+ FOIA requests;
- Produced social copies and outreach content + analyzed Q2 performance.

Center for the Study of Economy & Society, Cornell University   2016-2018
Undergraduate Assistant
- Produced a report on the development of 15+ tech start-ups in New York City from 75+ interviews and news coverage under Dr. Victor Nee.

Tompkins County – Cornell Cooperative Extension   2016
Communications & Outreach Intern
- Outreach, event organization, and community engagement for the Get Your GreenBack Campaign, a program to reduce local carbon emissions.

New York State Water Resources Institute, Cornell University   2015
Summer Undergraduate Intern
- Created case studies from 80+ wastewater management policies of U.S. state- and local-level governments, shared at a local stakeholder symposium.

PUBLICATIONS **Peer-reviewed, archival**
Hwang, Sohyeon and Aaron Shaw. 2022. "Rules and rule-making in the five largest Wikipedias". In *Proc. 16th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media* (ICWSM). Atlanta, Georgia.

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 [recording]
Best Paper Honorable Mention

Under peer review
Hwang, Sohyeon, Emőke-Ágnes Horvát, and Daniel Romero. Expected 2022. "Information retention in the multi-platform discussions of science".

Book chapters
Foote, Jeremy and Sohyeon Hwang. "Online communities and big data" in *Group Communication: An Advanced Introduction* (eds. Torsten Reimer, Ernest Park, Joseph Bonito), *forthcoming* in 2023.

Posters and extended abstracts (non-archival)
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] [recording].

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].

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP "Learning from small and overlapping communities". Science of Community Dialogues, by the Community Data Science Collective. 11 February 2022. Virtual.

Discord Moderator Discord Academic Talks (DMDAT). 13 January 2022. Virtual Q&A.

"The governance of online communities". Uncontrolled Variables: A Science & Comedy Show, 2 September 2021. Lincoln Lodge Theater, Chicago, IL.

"South Korea's dud(?) democracy: The candlelight protests in context". Cornell Branch of the Telluride Association – House PubSpeaks, February 2018. Ithaca, NY.

AWARDS **Fellowships + Scholarships**
2020. National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, value 134,000 USD.
2018. Emma Bowen Foundation Fellowship (Democracy Fund), value 6,000 USD.
2017. Telluride House Scholarship (Cornell Branch), 2017-2018 residential scholarship.
2017. Frederic Conger Wood Research Fellowship, value: 3,500 USD.

Recognitions + Honors
2018. Excellence in Research Award, Information Science Dept., Cornell University.
2014-2018. Dean's List for Excellence in Scholarship, Cornell University.
2017. Class of 2018 Award, Class Councils Cornell.
2015. Academic Excellence in German, the German Consulate General New York.

INVITED TALKS Guest lecture, "Why do people participate in small online communities?". COM 481: *Online Communities* (taught by Dr. Benjamin Mako Hill), University of Washington. 2 March 2022 (Upcoming). Virtual.

Guest lecture, "Governance of and by (and within?) platforms". COMM ST 378: *Online Communities and Crowds* (taught by Dr. Aaron Shaw), Northwestern University. 9 February 2022. Evanston, IL.

Seminar guest speaker, on "Why do people participate in small online communities?". HCI seminar series, University of Washington. 5 November 2021. Virtual.

TEACHING	**Research supervision**

Research supervision
Serene Ong (undergraduate research assistant (RA), Northwestern University, 2021 – Present)
Daryn McElroy (undergraduate RA, Northwestern University, 2021)
Amanda Hardy (Master's RA, University of Michigan, 2021)
Ellie Coleman (undergraduate RA, Northwestern University, 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.
- 2022, Spring (Upcoming). How NLP breaks down (your) text into data.
- 2022, Winter. Using APIs to gather online information.
- 2021, Spring. Using APIs to gather online information.

INFO 4240: Designing Technologies for Social Impact. Undergraduate teaching assistant, under Phoebe Sengers. Cornell University. 2016, Fall. 2017, Fall.

REVIEWING   ICA2022

SERVICE   HCI+D PhD book club, Co-founder/organizer. Summer 2020 – present.
Metagov Seminar, seminar planning committee member. 2020-2022.
Human-Computer Interaction Events Committee, Northwestern University. 2020-2021.
Cornell Branch of the Telluride House, Speaker Series Co-Organizer, 2017-2018.