

# Qunfang Wu

📍 1730 Cambridge St, S410 – Cambridge, MA 02138  
✉ qunfangwu@fas.harvard.edu • 🌐 qunfangwu.com

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Human-Computer Interaction, Social Justice, Critical Design, Collective Algorithm Auditing, Computer-Supported Cooperative Work, and Social Computing.

## EDUCATION

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### Syracuse University

Ph.D., Information Science and Technology, School of Information Studies (iSchool)

Advisor: Dr. Bryan Semaan

Dissertation: **Conversations About Crime: Re-Enforcing and Fighting Against Platformed Racism on Reddit**

Syracuse, NY, US

2016-2022

### Peking University

M.S., Information Science, Department of Information Management

Beijing, China

2014-2016

### Peking University

B.S., Information Management and System, Department of Information Management

Minor in Economics, National School of Development, Peking University

Exchange student, Department of Management Information System, National Chengchi University, Taiwan

Beijing, China

2010-2014

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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### Harvard University

Postdoctoral Fellow, Inequality in America Initiative in Division of Social Science

Boston, MA, US

2023-present

### University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Postdoctoral Researcher, the Center for Information, Technology, and Public Life (CITAP)

Chapel Hill, NC, US

2023

## PUBLICATIONS

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\*: The student I mentored or co-mentored.

### Peer-Reviewed Conference & Journal Articles

- [C.18] Deen Freelon, Meredith L Pruden, Daniel Malmer, **Qunfang Wu**, Yiping Xia, Daniel Johnson, Emily Chen, and Andrew Crist. "What's in your PIE? Understanding the contents of personalized information environments with PIEGraph". In: *Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology* (2024).
- [C.17] Yigang Qin\*, Weilun Duan\*, **Qunfang Wu**, and Zhicong Lu. "Dismantling Gender Blindness in Online Discussion of a Crime/Gender Dichotomy". In: *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.* 8.CSCW1 (2024).
- [C.16] **Qunfang Wu**, Tayara Romero\*, and Bryan Semaan. "Negotiating Sociotechnical Boundaries: Moderation Work to Counter Racist Attacks in Online Communities". In: *Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. 2024, pp. 1–15.
- [C.15] **Qunfang Wu** and Jeff Hemsley. "Hyper-Local Fear of Crime: Identifying Linguistic Cues of Fear in Crime Talk on Reddit". In: *Proceedings of the Association for Information Science and Technology* 60.1 (2023), pp. 456–468.
- [C.14] **Qunfang Wu**, Yisi Sang, Dakuo Wang, and Zhicong Lu. "Malicious Selling Strategies in Livestream E-commerce: A Case Study of Alibaba's Taobao and ByteDance's TikTok". In: *ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (TOCHI)* 30.3 (2023), pp. 1–29.

- [C.13] **Qunfang Wu** and Bryan Semaan. "" How Do You Quantify How Racist Something Is?": Color-Blind Moderation in Decentralized Governance". In: *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 7.CSCW2 (2023), pp. 1–27.
- [C.12] **Qunfang Wu**, Louisa Kayah Williams\*, Ellen Simpson, and Bryan Semaan. "Conversations About Crime: Re-Enforcing and Fighting Against Platformed Racism on Reddit". In: *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 6.CSCW1 (2022), pp. 1–38.
- [C.11] **Qunfang Wu** and Yun Huang. "Examining Police Agencies' Dialogic Accounting Practices in Facebook Conversations". In: *Digital Government: Research and Practice* 1.2 (2020), pp. 1–17.
- [C.10] Yun Huang, Yisi Sang, **Qunfang Wu**, and Yaxing Yao. "Higher Education Check-Ins: Exploring the User Experience of Hybrid Location Sensing". In: *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 3.CSCW (2019), pp. 1–26.
- [C.9] **Qunfang Wu**, Yisi Sang, and Yun Huang. "Danmaku: A New Paradigm of Social Interaction via Online Videos". In: *ACM Transactions on Social Computing (TSC)* 2.2 (2019), pp. 1–24.
- [C.8] Yun Huang and **Qunfang Wu**. "Understanding Interactions Between Municipal Police Departments and the Public on Twitter". In: *International Conference on Information*. Springer. 2018, pp. 37–46. [**Best Paper Award: Top 1**]
- [C.7] **Qunfang Wu**, Saurabh Gupta, and Yun Huang. "Examining Conversations Between Police Agencies and the Public on Facebook". In: *Proceedings of the 19th Annual International Conference on Digital Government Research: Governance in the Data Age*. 2018, pp. 1–10.
- [C.6] **Qunfang Wu**, Yisi Sang, Shan Zhang, and Yun Huang. "Danmaku vs. Forum Comments: Understanding User Participation and Knowledge Sharing in Online Videos". In: *Proceedings of the 2018 ACM Conference on Supporting Groupwork*. 2018, pp. 209–218.
- [C.5] Yun Huang, **Qunfang Wu**, and Youyang Hou. "Examining Twitter Mentions Between Police Agencies and Public Users through the Lens of Stakeholder Theory". In: *Proceedings of the 18th Annual International Conference on Digital Government Research*. 2017, pp. 30–38.
- [C.4] Yun Huang, **Qunfang Wu**, Xing Huang, and Jennifer Bort. "A Multiplatform Investigation of Law Enforcement Agencies on Social Media". In: *Information Polity* 22.2-3 (2017), pp. 179–196.
- [C.3] **Qunfang Wu**, Xin Guo, and Jimin Wang. "Co-Word Analysis on the Field of Marine Economy in China". In: *Proceedings of Chinese Society for Oceanography* 2015. Beijing: Maritime Press, 2015, pp. 336–342.
- [C.2] Xiaoli Tang, **Qunfang Wu**, and Jimin Wang. "Relationship Between Non-Cited Rates and Journal Evaluation Indicators: A Case Study in Economics". In: *Library and Information Service* 58.19 (2014), pp. 100–104.
- [C.1] **Qunfang Wu**, Xiaoli Tang, and Jimin Wang. "Improvement and Empirical Research on Journal's First-Citation-Speed-Index". In: *Library and Information Service* 58.24 (2014), pp. 86–90.

### Posters & Workshop Papers & Demos

- [E.12] Serena Hillman, Carolyn Pang, Samira Jain, Carman Neustaedter, Jofish Kaye, Ali Rizvi, David McDonald, **Qunfang Wu**, and Craig MacDonald. "Beyond Theory: A UX Outcomes Casebook for HCI Education". In: (2024).
- [E.11] **Qunfang Wu**. "Digital Solidarity Systems: Characterizing Bottom-Up Resistance Against Algorithmic Inequalities". In: *The Open Panel "Technology and Precarity in Work" in the 2023 Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Meeting in Honolulu*. 2023.
- [E.10] **Qunfang Wu**, Zitong Huang, Yaqi Zhang, and Chung-Chin Eugene Liu. "Auditing Personalized Recommendation Algorithms Through Spontaneous Click-Based User Interaction". In: *The Workshop of Supporting User Engagement in Testing, Auditing, and Contesting AI in CSCW 2023*. <https://cscw-user-ai-auditing.github.io/>. 2023.
- [E.9] **Qunfang Wu**, Zitong Huang, Yaqi Zhang, and Chung-Chin Eugene Liu. "Spontaneous and Sophisticated: Re-Evaluating Click-Based User Interaction for Personalized Recommendation in Algorithmic Systems". In: *The Workshop of Understanding Evaluating UX Outcomes at Scale in CSCW 2023*. <https://uxoutco.me/attend>. 2023.

- [E.8] Brian McKernan, Bryan Semaan, Louisa Kayah Williams, Isabel Munoz, **Qunfang Wu**, and Sucheta Lahiri. "COVID as the Cherry on Top": The Impact of COVID-19 and Other Co-Occurring Crises on Marginalized Communities' Identities and Worldviews". In: *Proceedings of the Eastern Sociological Society's (ESS) Annual Conference*. 2022.
- [E.7] **Qunfang Wu**. "Development of a Community-Based Mobile Application: Facilitating Vulnerable Populations' Social-Support Seeking for Managing Fear of Crime". In: *Doctoral Colloquium of the International Conference on Information*. 2020.
- [E.6] **Qunfang Wu** and Yaxing Yao. "Towards Designing a Technology Ecosystem for Managing the 'Fear of Crime'". In: *Workshops of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems: Crime and/or Punishment: Joining the Dots between Crime, Legality and HCI*. 2020.
- [E.5] Yun Huang, Yisi Sang, **Qunfang Wu**, and Yaxing Yao. "Studying User Experience of a Hybrid Location Sensing System". In: *Extended Abstracts of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. 2019, pp. 1–6.
- [E.4] Yun Huang, **Qunfang Wu**, and Yaxing Yao. "Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) Beacons Alone Didn't Work!". In: *Proceedings of the 2018 ACM International Joint Conference and 2018 International Symposium on Pervasive and Ubiquitous Computing and Wearable Computers*. 2018, pp. 62–65.
- [E.3] **Qunfang Wu** and Yun Huang. "Examining Q&A of Peer Tutor Learning via Online Videos". In: *Extended Abstracts of the 2018 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. 2018, pp. 1–6.
- [E.2] Yun Huang and **Qunfang Wu**. "BandCaption: Crowdsourcing Video Caption Corrections". In: *Demos of the 2017 Collective Intelligence Conference*. 2017.
- [E.1] Yun Huang, Yaxing Yao, Jennifer Bort, and **Qunfang Wu**. "Danmaku: Understanding its Usage in China and its Broader Potential". In: *Workshops of the 2017 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing: CSCW in China and Beyond*. 2017.

## GRANTS & AWARDS

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- Research Grant, Inequality in America Initiative at Harvard University, 2023, \$17,500.
- Postdoc Travel Grant, CITAP at UNC, Chapel Hill, 2023, \$4,000.
- Syracuse Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Engagement Fellowship, "Understanding Female Entrepreneurs' Resistance Behaviors in Algorithmic Systems" (Role: Co-Mentor), SU, 2022, \$4,962.
- Summer Research Competition, "Toward a Design Framework for Digital Equality: A Literature Review of Racialized Socio-Technical Mechanisms in Online Platforms," iSchool, SU, 2022, \$6,500.
- Dissertation Fellowship, SU, 2021-2022, \$26,500.
- Doctoral Students Awarded Summer Dissertation Fellowships, SU, 2020, \$4,000.
- Doctoral Colloquium Travel Funding, iConference, 2020, \$900.
- Summer Research Competition, "Understanding Social Support Seeking Behaviors to Mediate Fear of Crime on Mobile Apps," iSchool, SU, 2019, \$6,500.
- National Science Foundation (NSF) Innovation Corps Grant, "Beacon-Enabled Smart Location-Based Service" (Role: Entrepreneurial Lead; PI: Dr. Yun Huang), 2018, \$50,000.
- The Lee Dirks Best Paper Award, iConference, 2018.

## INVITED TALKS

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- April 29, 2024, "Design for Social Equity," Information Studies Seminar - Foundations of HCI, Syracuse University.
- April 15, 2024, "Design for Social Equity," Virginia Tech.
- April 09, 2024, "Design for Social Equity," Northeastern University.
- November 29, 2022, "Platform Design and Governance for Social Justice," the Tournesol Team.
- August 5, 2022, "Moderation, Governance, and Design for Disrupting Platformed Racism," SU HCI Summer Workshop.

- March 25, 2022, “Engaging Equity, Ethics and Inclusion in Human-Computer Interaction,” China Development Student Think Tank.
- April 23, 2020, “The Power of Prototype in HCI,” Dataraction HCI Talk Series.
- August 8, 2019, “Understanding Interactions Between Municipal Police Departments and the Public on Twitter,” guest lecture for *Social Media in the Organization* (Instructor: Jennifer Sonne), SU.
- October 30, 2018, “How to Read a Regression Table,” guest lecture for *Research Methods in Information Studies* (Instructor: Caroline Haythornthwaite), SU.
- October 2016, guest lecture for *Data Administration Concepts & Database Management* (Instructor: Yun Huang), SU.

## ORGANIZED WORKSHOPS & PANELS

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- Beyond Theory: A UX Outcomes Casebook for HCI Education. 05/12/2024. In: CHI 2024 Special Interest Group. <https://www.carolynpang.com/call-for-book-chapters>
- Symposium on Misinformation and Marginalization. CITAP. 10/16/2023. <https://citap.unc.edu/events/symposium-on-misinformation-and-marginalization/>

## SELECTED MEDIA PRESS

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- “Inside the Deceptive Techniques of TikTok’s Livestream Sellers.” 2024. <https://www.khoury.northeastern.edu/inside-the-deceptive-techniques-of-tiktoks-livestream-sellers/>
- “Stars on a Bigger Stage.” 2018. <http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201804/18/WS5ad68fe1a3105cdcf6518e70.html>
- “Huang and Wu Take Best Paper Award in 2018 iConference.” 2018. <https://ischool.syr.edu/articles/news/view/huang-wu-take-best-paper-award-2018-iconeference/>
- “Huang Awarded NSF I-Corps Grant for Technology Commercialization Research.” 2018. <https://news.syr.edu/2018/03/huang-awarded-nsf-i-corps-grant-for-technology-commercialization-research/>

## SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

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**HCC+D Lab, School of Information Studies, Syracuse University**  
**Research Assistant**

**Syracuse, NY, US**  
 July 2020-April 2021

### COVID-19 Resilience Project

- Participated in grant writing: SU ICCAE Small Research Grants Program “Building Everyday Resilience with Technology: Exacerbated Marginalization in COVID-19” (PI: Dr. Brian McKernan; Co-PI: Bryan Semaan)
- Identified and maintained relationships with organizations (e.g., Office of Disability Services at SU, Aurora of CNY, Exceptional Family Resources) to recruit participants
- Conducted 19 semi-structured interviews with participants who identified themselves as members of marginalized populations
- Analyzed the interview data and identified different experiences of racism before and during the pandemic

**SALT Lab, School of Information Studies, Syracuse University**  
**Research Assistant**

**Syracuse, NY, US**  
 August 2016-April 2019

### “SU Connect” Project (iOS and Android mobile apps)

- Designed, developed, and evaluated sensing mobile apps
- Led sensor (beacon) installation and server performance monitoring
- Conducted 100+ interviews for customer discovery and business model optimization for the NSF I-Corps project
- Analyzed database log data to identify user segregation and co-location patterns
- Conducted field studies to understand users’ behavior while using an opportunistic sensing system

### “BandCaption” Project (a web-based online video system)

- Developed and evaluated a video system for online learning
- Participated in writing NSF grants: “Enabling Accessibility and Linking Digital Media Collections for Informal

Online Learning”(PI: Dr. Yun Huang); 2U “Accessible and Personalized Online Social Learning” (PI: Dr. Yun Huang)

- Conducted statistical tests and content analysis of how users shared knowledge via multiple commenting modalities in videos
- Conducted a field study and analyzed system logs to understand Q&A norms in reciprocal peer tutoring via self-generated videos

**Mercer College, Mercer China**

**Consultant Assistant (Intern)**

**Beijing, China**

*October 2013-May 2014*

- Collected and analyzed information on competitors
- Updated client databases and wrote monthly and yearly sales reports
- Responded to client questions about products, workshop registration, and feedback

## TEACHING

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- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| • Lecturer. IT Girls Program (Coordinating Instructor: Laurie Ferger), SU                 | <i>Summer 2022</i> |
| • Instructor. Information Visualization, SU   | <i>Spring 2021</i> |
| • Co-Instructor. Information Visualization (Instructor: Jeff Hemsley), SU                 | <i>Fall 2020</i>   |
| • Teaching Assistant. Natural Language Processing (Instructor: Lu Xiao), SU               | <i>Spring 2020</i> |
| • Teaching Assistant. Human Interaction with Computers (Instructor: Bryan Semaan), SU     | <i>Fall 2019</i>   |
| • Teaching Assistant. Privacy Policy, Law, and Tech (Instructor: Yang Wang), SU           | <i>Fall 2017</i>   |
| • Teaching Assistant. Demystifying the Chinese Economy (Instructor: Justin Yifu Lin), PKU | <i>Spring 2014</i> |

## STUDENT MENTORING

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| • Ruyuan Wan, University of Notre Dame PhD student   | <i>2024</i>      |
| • Lingbo Tong, University of Notre Dame PhD student  | <i>2024</i>      |
| • Yigang Qin, City University of Hong Kong undergraduate, now a doctoral student at SU           | <i>2022-2024</i> |
| • Zitong Huang, SU History undergraduate   | <i>2022-2023</i> |
| • Yaqi Zhang, SU Architecture undergraduate  | <i>2022-2023</i> |
| • Tayara Romero, SU Mechanical Engineering undergraduate   | <i>2021-2022</i> |
| • Danielle Nimako, SU iSchool undergraduate  | <i>2021</i>      |
| • Christy Khoury, SU iSchool master’s student, now a doctoral student at SU                      | <i>2020-2021</i> |
| • Louisa Williams, SU iSchool undergraduate, now a doctoral student at University of Michigan    | <i>2020-2021</i> |
| • Tian Xu, SU iSchool master’s student, now a doctoral student at University of Colorado Boulder | <i>2019</i>      |
| • Eldon Tsoi, SU iSchool undergraduate, now a Global Technology Analyst at Bank of America       | <i>2019</i>      |
| • Lingyun Ke, SU Computer Science master’s student, now a Software Engineer at Meta              | <i>2018</i>      |
| • Niti Saluja, SU iSchool master’s student, now a Delta One Strategist at Morgan Stanley         | <i>2018</i>      |
| • Saurabh Gupta, SU iSchool master’s student, now a Business Intelligence Engineer at Amazon     | <i>2018</i>      |
| • Jiayi Zou, SU Computer Science master’s student, now an iOS App Developer at ByteDance         | <i>2017-2018</i> |
| • Yisi Sang, SU Education master’s student, now a Data Scientist at Apple                        | <i>2017-2018</i> |
| • Qiuyan Liu, SU iSchool master’s student  | <i>2017-2018</i> |
| • Sudan Zhuang, SU iSchool undergraduate, now a Product Manager at Microsoft                     | <i>2017-2018</i> |
| • Jianyi Liu, SU iSchool master’s student  | <i>2017</i>      |
| • Shan Zhang, SU iSchool master’s student, now at Twilio   | <i>2017</i>      |

## SERVICE

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**Service to the Community, with 6 special recognitions for outstanding reviews**

- Reviewer, CHI 19’, 21’, 23’, 24’

- Reviewer, CSCW 20', 21', 23', 24', 25'
- Reviewer, DIS 19', 23'
- Reviewer, ASIS&T 20', 23'
- Reviewer, New Media and Society 23'
- Reviewer, ICIS 23'
- Reviewer, Psychology of Popular Media 22'
- Reviewer, TOCHI 22'
- Reviewer, iConference 19', 20'
- Reviewer, DG.O 18'
- Student volunteer, CHI 19'

#### **Service to the School**

- Search Committee, iSchool, SU, Fall 2019
- Faculty Committee, iSchool, SU, Fall 2018
- Personnel Committee, iSchool, SU, Fall 2017

## **REFERENCES**

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#### **Bryan Semaan, advisor**

Associate Professor  
University of Colorado Boulder  
bryan.semaan@colorado.edu

#### **Deen Freelon, postdoc mentor**

Allan Randall Freelon Sr. Professor  
University of Pennsylvania  
deen.freelon@asc.upenn.edu

#### **Jeff Hemsley, co-advisor**

Associate Professor  
Syracuse University  
jjhemsle@syr.edu

#### **Cliff Lampe, Ph.D. dissertation committee**

Professor  
University of Michigan  
cacl@umich.edu