

Call for  
Contributions  
Deadline for  
Submission  
November 2, 2020

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New  
Materialist  
Informatics  
23–25  
March  
2021 **Now online!**

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**Deadline for Submission**  
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**New Materialist  
Informatics**  
**23–25 March 2021**

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**New Materialist Informatics:  
Computing and Worldmaking**

In recent decades new materialist thought has emerged as a transversal field of inquiry that successfully brings together and constructs hybrid spaces between the social sciences & the humanities and the natural & technical sciences & engineering. Within those spaces, engagement with the concerns around "the digital" has figured prominently. Increasing computing power and technological advancements that power the 4th industrial revolution as well as contribute to the 6th extinction highlight further need to account for the material basis as well as material consequences of informatics and to ask how techno-politics and techno-epistemologies can be reconfigured for these complex times. In this context, it is also particularly salient to further build hybrid research spaces spanning information sciences and the (post)humanities. "Materialist informatics" (Haraway, Hayles, Colman) thus can be seen as precisely such a field that highlights the inter- and intra-connectedness of computing and worldmaking, and the material stakes of such intra-connectedness.

**About the Conference**

This 11th new materialist conference invites participants to investigate the possible intersections between new materialism and informatics. How can new materialism and informatics be brought together in ways that help build liveable and sustainable techno-lifeworlds? What new perspectives with regard to contemporary crises might emerge at such intersection and beyond? What kind of conceptual and methodological tools are needed for new materialist informatics design and research? This conference wishes to include and go beyond the new materialist readings of computing and computational artefacts and generate innovative perspectives on how techno-worldings can be performed from a new materialist perspective.

**Confirmed Keynotes**

**Shaowen Bardzell**

Professor of Informatics in the School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering,  
Indiana University, USA.

**Wendy Hui Kyong Chun**

Canada 150 Research Chair in New Media  
at the School of Communication,  
Simon Fraser University, Canada.

**Maaike Bleeker**

Professor of Theatre Studies in the Department of Media & Culture Studies, Utrecht University, Netherlands.

**Felicity Colman**

Professor of Media Arts and Associate Dean of Research for the London College of Fashion, University of the Arts, London, UK.

**Aimi Hamraie**

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Health, and Society and American Studies at the Department of Medicine, Health, and Society, Vanderbilt University, USA.

**Safiya Umoja Noble**

Associate Professor in the Department of Information Studies, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), USA.

**11th International  
New Materialisms Conference**

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**Conference Themes**

**The conveners of New Materialist Informatics invite to approach these questions from a multiplicity of disciplinary perspectives, including humanities and social sciences, design, engineering and computer science. Suggested topics for abstracts for papers, panels as well as workshops and demonstrations include (but are not limited to):**

- Theoretical and conceptual frameworks for new materialist informatics
- Material conditions and effects of informatics
- Informational matters, matter as informational
- Artistic research and material(ist) informatics
- Environmental and medical informatics from a new materialist perspective
- Methodologies for new materialist informatics research
- New materialist design of computational artefacts: propositions, case studies, approaches, methodologies
- HCI and new materialism
- Transdisciplinary translations and their vocabularies: computer science - engineering - design - new materialism
- Material intersections of informatics and race, dis/ability, gender, class and sexuality
- Informatics beyond the global North: indigenous and post/decolonial computing
- Contemporary concerns for new materialist informatics: pandemic reconfiguring of matter and technology, technologies of protest, matters of high-tech borders, viral technopolitics

**Contribution Forms and Specifications**

For papers and panels, please submit an up to 300-word abstract as well as name(s), biographical note(s) (150 words) and affiliations of author(s). For workshops, please submit an up to 300-word abstract including suggested workshop plan; name(s), biographical note(s) (150 words) and affiliations of author(s); specifications for technical and material needs; maximum expected number of participants. For demonstrations, please submit an up to 300-word abstract and visualisation(s) or detailed description of proposed work; name(s), biographical note(s) (150 words) and affiliations of author(s); specifications for technical and material needs.

Please submit your contributions through the conference system, available via [www.uni-kassel.de/go/NMI2021](http://www.uni-kassel.de/go/NMI2021) after July 1, 2020.

**Conference Timeline**

July 1, 2020	Abstract submission system opens
November 2, 2020	Deadline for submission
December 1, 2020	Notifications of acceptance
December 15, 2020	Registration open
March 23-25, 2021	Conference

**COVID INFO**

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the conference will take place online.

**Organizers and Contact**

**The conference is organized by Gender/  
Diversity in Informatics Systems Research  
Group (GeDIS) and Research Center for  
Information System Design (ITeG),  
University of Kassel, Germany. If you have  
any questions, please email us at  
[NMI2021@uni-kassel.de](mailto:NMI2021@uni-kassel.de).**