

ZOE KAHN

PhD Candidate, UC Berkeley School of Information
zkahn@berkeley.edu

Education

University of California, Berkeley, 2018 – Present

PhD Candidate, School of Information

Research co-advisors: Jenna Burrell and Joshua Blumenstock

Thesis committee: Jenna Burrell (chair), Joshua Blumenstock, Deirdre Mulligan, and Morgan Ames

Topic: Bridging perspectives: data privacy and social cohesion in digital social protection in rural Togo

Affiliations: Global Policy Lab; Algorithmic Fairness & Opacity Group (AFOG); AI Policy Hub

New York University, 2010 – 2014

B.A. with Honors in Sociology, summa cum laude

Honors thesis co-advisors: Deirdre Royster and Ruth Horowitz

Topic: State variation in collateral consequences in the US criminal justice system

Journal Articles and Conference Proceedings

Zoe Kahn. “Digital social protection and social cohesion: the role of human intermediaries in rural Togo.” (submitted).

Amy Heger, Samir Passi, Shipi Dhanorkar, **Zoe Kahn**, Ruotong Wang, and Mihaela Vorvoraneau. “Responsible AI maturity model.” (submitted).

Zoe Kahn, Meyebinesso Farida Carelle PERE, Emily Aiken, Nitin Kohli, and Joshua E. Blumenstock. “Expanding perspectives on data privacy: insights from rural Togo.” *ACM Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW)*. (2025, accepted).

Zoe Kahn and Jenna Burrell. “A sociocultural explanation of Internet-enabled work in rural regions.” *ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (TOCHI)* 28, no. 3 (2021): 1-22.

Jenna Burrell, **Zoe Kahn**, Anne Jonas, and Daniel Griffin. “When users control the algorithms: values expressed in practices on twitter.” *Proceedings of the ACM on human-computer interaction* 3, no. CSCW (2019): 1-20.

Batya Friedman, Lisa P. Nathan, Milli Lake, Nell Carden Grey, Trond T. Nilsen, Robert F. Utter, Elizabeth J. Utter, Mark Ring, and **Zoe Kahn**. “Multi-lifespan information system design in post-conflict societies: An evolving project in Rwanda.” In *CHI'10 Extended Abstracts on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, pp. 2833-2842. 2010.

Workshop papers

Zoe Kahn and Nitin Kohli. “Provocation on Expertise in Social Impact Evaluations for Generative AI (and Beyond).” *NeurIPS workshop on Evaluating Evaluations: Examining Best Practices for Measuring Broader Impacts of Generative AI*. (2024).

Fellowships

Connecting the EdTech Research EcoSystem (CERES) Fellow, 2022-2024
AI Policy Hub Fellow, 2022-2023
Algorithmic, Fairness, and Opacity Group Fellow, 2018-2019
Center for Long-Term Cybersecurity Fellow, 2018-2019
Center for Technology, Society, and Policy Fellow, 2018-2019

Grants

Connecting the EdTech Research EcoSystem (\$15,000) (Co-PI Kahn)
Social Science Research Council, 2020 (\$7,000) (Kahn with PI Blumenstock)
Center for Technology, Society, and Policy, 2018 (\$5,000) (Co-PI Kahn)

Teaching

INFO288: Big Data & Development, Co-instructor (Prof. Joshua Blumenstock, Dr. Emily Aiken), 2024
INFO203: Social Issues of Information, TA (Prof. Morgan Ames), 2022
INFO188: Behind the Data: Humans and Values, lead TA (Prof. Deirdre Mulligan), 2021
INFO203: Social Issues of Information, TA (Prof. Morgan Ames), 2021
INFO188: Behind the Data: Humans and Values, TA (Prof. Deirdre Mulligan), 2020

Teaching Awards

Berkeley School of Information Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award (Info 203), 2022
Berkeley School of Information Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award (Info 188), 2021

Work Experience

Consultant, GiveDirectly, October 2024 – Present (Topic: AI Explainability)
Product Manager Intern, Microsoft Office AI, Summer 2024 (Topic: Microsoft Copilot)
Product Manager Intern, Microsoft Office AI, Summer 2023 (Topic: Red-teaming LLMs)
Design Researcher Intern, Microsoft Office, Summer 2022 (Topic: Inclusive Research)
Research Intern, Microsoft Research, Summer 2021 (Topic: Responsible AI Maturity Model)
Legal Assistant, Rekhi & Wolk, P.S., *Seattle, Washington*, 2016 – 2018
Product Manager, Honest Buildings, *New York City, New York*, 2015
Customer Success Specialist, Honest Buildings, *New York City, New York*, 2014
Research Assistant, University of Washington, *Seattle, Washington*, Summer 2013

Invited Talks, Workshops, Panels

Oxford University, Nuffield College, October 2024
Talk: Digital Social Protection and Social Cohesion: Human Intermediaries in Rural Togo
White House, Office of Science & Technology Policy, July 2024
Panel Topic: Participatory Algorithm Design
Microsoft, Deployment Safety Board, July 2024
Talk: Expanding Data Privacy: Insights from Rural Togo and Implications for Generative AI
Center for Effective Global Action, May 2024
Talk: Expanding Data Privacy: Insights from Rural Togo
GEO Indigenous Water Summit, October 2023
Talk: Methods for Public Participation in Algorithm Design
Connected by Data, October 2023
Panel Topic: Public Participation in Data and AI Governance

Stanford CS 46N, Working with Data: Delights and Doubts (Prof. Jennifer Widom), April 2023
Talk: Exploring Assumptions and Unanticipated Dynamics in the Design of Novissi
Stanford CS 46N, Working with Data: Delights and Doubts (Prof. Jennifer Widom), November 2022
Talk: Exploring Assumptions and Unanticipated Dynamics in the Design of Novissi
Stanford CS 46N, Working with Data: Delights and Doubts (Prof. Jennifer Widom), April 2022
Talk: Exploring Assumptions and Unanticipated Dynamics in the Design of Novissi
UC Berkeley Info 288, Big Data & Development (Prof. Joshua Blumenstock), April 2021
Talk: AI Ethics in Big Data for Development
Othering and Belonging Conference, March 2019
Panel Topic: AI and Big Data

Service

External

FACCT Program Committee, 2024
FACCT Student Volunteer, 2020

UC Berkeley

PhD Representative, 2024-2025
PhD Representative on Dean Search, 2024
PhD Application Review for Students from Non-dominant Backgrounds, 2021-2024
Student Technology Council, 2021-2022