

# 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 / Panels

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

## **Workshops / Short Courses**

Arizona State University, School for the Future of Innovation in Society, January 3-10, 2025  
Winter School Topic: Emerging Technologies: Accelerating Impactful Scholarship  
Oxford University, Nuffield College, September 30-October 2, 2024  
Workshop Topic: Digital Technologies and Sustainable Development

## **Service**

### *External*

FACCT Program Committee, 2024  
FACCT Student Volunteer, 2020

### *UC Berkeley*

Student Organizer, Algorithmic Fairness and Opacity Group, 2020-2022  
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