

Sun-ha Hong

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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2018- Assistant Professor
Communication, Simon Fraser University
- 2016-2018 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities
Comparative Media Studies/Writing, MIT
- 2011-2016 Doctoral Student
Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania
- 2009-2011 Media Analyst
Media Monitors New Zealand

EDUCATION HISTORY

- 2016 Ph.D., Communication, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania
Title: Data Epistemologies / Surveillance and Uncertainty
Committee: Carolyn Marvin (Advisor), Sharrona Pearl, Marwan Kraidy
- 2010 M.A., Media Studies, Victoria University of Wellington
- 2008 B.A. (Honours), Media Studies, Victoria University of Wellington
- 2007 B.A., Media Studies & Classical Studies, Victoria University of Wellington

BOOKS

- 2020 [*Technologies of Speculation: The limits of knowledge in a data-driven society.*](#) NYU Press.
- 2017 (Edited Volume) [*Place, Space, and Mediated Communication: Exploring Context Collapse,*](#)
ed. Carolyn Marvin, Sun-ha Hong & Barbie Zelizer, Routledge.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Under Review "Prediction as Extraction of Discretion."
- Under Review "Trolled by the Enlightenment."
- Forthcoming "Predictions Without Futures." *History & Theory*. [h-index 41]¹
- 2021 "[Technofutures in Stasis](#): Smart machines, ubiquitous computing, and the future that keeps coming back." *International Journal of Communication*. [h-index 31] [Open Access]
- 2019 "[The futures of anticipatory reason](#): Contingency and speculation in the sting operation." *Security Dialogue* 50:4, 314-330. With Piotr Szpunar. [h-index 33]
- 2017 "[Criticising Surveillance and Surveillance Critique](#): why privacy and humanism are necessary but insufficient." *Surveillance & Society* 15:2, 187-203. [h-index 43]
- 2016 "[Data's Intimacy](#): Machinic sensibility and the quantified self." *Communication +1*, 5. [h-index unknown] [Open Access]
- 2015 "[Presence](#), or the sense of being-there and being-with in the new media society." *First Monday* 20:10. [h-index 65] [Open Access]
- 2015 "[Subjunctive and Interpassive Knowing in the Surveillance Society](#)." *Media and Communication* 3:2, 63-76. [h-index 15] [Open Access]
- 2015 "[Affecting in Discourse](#): Communicating Uncertainty and Communicating Uncertainly." *Subjectivity* 8:3, 201-223. [h-index 7]
- 2015 "[When Life Mattered](#): the politics of the real in video games' reappropriation of history, myth and ritual." *Games & Culture* 10:1, 35-56. [h-index 44]
- 2014 "[The Other-Publics](#): mediated othering and the public sphere in the Dreyfus Affair." *European Journal of Cultural Studies* 17:6, 665-681. [h-index 42]
- 2013 "The displacement of sport: media spectacles of street support in the 2002 World Cup." *Sport in Society* 16:6, 735-748. [h-index 35]

¹ All h-index figures are sourced from SCImago.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Forthcoming "Antiseptic Machine Life." In: *Relative Intimacies*, ed. Emily Watlington & Lou Cantor. MIT Press.
- 2020 "‘Fuck Your Feelings’: The Affective Weaponisation of Facts and Reason." In: [Affective Politics of Digital Media: Propaganda by Other Means](#). Routledge.
- 2018 "Surveillance, Sensors, and Knowledge through the machine." In: [Digital Existence: Ontology, Ethics and Transcendence in Digital Culture](#). Routledge.
- 2017 "Introduction." In: [Place, Space, and Mediated Communication: Exploring Context Collapse](#). Routledge. With Carolyn Marvin.
- 2017 "Strategic Narratives of the Arab Spring and After." In [Forging the World: Strategic Narratives and International Relations](#). University of Michigan Press. With Amelia Arsenault & Monroe Price.
- 2016 "Governing Governments: Discursive contestations of governmentality in the transparency *dispositif*." In: [Studies of Discourse and Governmentality. New perspectives and methods](#). John Benjamins. With François Allard-Huver.

RECENT PUBLIC PIECES

- Forthcoming "Where do we go when we try to 'know for ourselves'?" @ Commonplace.
- 29 Nov 2021 "[Same Old](#)" @ Real Life Magazine.
- 24 Jun 2021 "[Antiseptic Glass Stream](#)" @ LA Review of Books.
- 12 Apr 2021 "[Control Creep](#)" @ Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI).
- 19 Feb 2021 "[Why Transparency Won't Save Us](#)" @ CIGI.
- 26 Oct 2020 "[Quantified Life: an interview with Sun-ha Hong](#)" @ LA Review of Books.
- 23 Jun 2020 "[The limits of knowledge in a data-driven society](#)" @ *From the Square*, the NYU Press Blog.
- 20 Sep 2019 [Joint interview](#) with Trevor Paglen @ Art in America.

GRANTS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019 Insight Development Grant, SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council), Canada. **\$46,691 CAD.**
Project: "Personal truthmaking in the data-driven society"
- 2016 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Humanities, MIT. **\$142,500 USD.**
- 2015 Top 2 Student Paper Award, ICA [International Communication Association]
- 2012-2015 Summer Research Fellowship, Annenberg School for Communication, Penn
- 2011 Doctoral Fellowship, Annenberg School for Communication, Penn
- 2011 Chancellor's International Scholarship, University of Warwick (Declined)
- 2010 Summer Research Scholarship, Victoria University of Wellington
- 2008 Victoria Graduate Award, Victoria University of Wellington

KEYNOTES

- June 2022 *Living With Automation*, The Sigtuna Foundation, Sweden.
- May 2022 Higher School of Economics Graduate Student Conference, Russia. (Cancelled due to Russian invasion of Ukraine)
- 22 May 2019 Simon Fraser University School of Communication Graduate Student Conference, Canada.

INVITED TALKS

- (Additional book talks are currently being rescheduled due to COVID-19.)
- 26 Jul 2022 *Technologies of Speculation* Invited Book Talk @ Otago University, New Zealand
- 10 Dec 2021 *Technologies of Speculation* Invited Book Talk @ Seoul National University, South Korea
- 13 Oct 2021 *Technologies of Speculation* Invited Book Talk @ University of Colorado Boulder, USA
- 14 Jul 2021 *Technologies of Speculation* Invited Book Talk @ Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
- 29 Apr 2021 *Technologies of Speculation* Invited Book Talk @ Monash University, Australia
- 23 Apr 2021 Social Science Matrix, UC Berkeley, USA
- 20 Apr 2021 AI Arts & Culture Salon, University of Alberta, Canada
- 26 Feb 2021 *Technologies of Speculation* Invited Book Talk @ Simon Fraser University, Canada
- 12 Nov 2020 *Technologies of Speculation* Invited Book Talk @ London School of Economics, UK

- 11 Nov 2020 *Technologies of Speculation* Invited Book Talk @ University of Pennsylvania, USA
- 20 Oct 2020 *Technologies of Speculation* Invited Book Talk @ Concordia University, Canada
- 02 Oct 2020 *Technologies of Speculation* Invited Book Talk @ Ryerson University, Canada
- 26 Aug 2020 *Theorising the Web Presents*, sponsored by the Museum of the Moving Image, NYC.
- 26 Feb 2020 *Data Then And Now* Series, University of Washington, WA, USA.
- 22 Jan 2020 Digital Democracies Lab, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.
- 10 Apr 2019 *Confronting the Disinformation Age*. Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.
- 01 Apr 2019 McLuhan Centre, University of Toronto, Canada.
- 08 Mar 2019 *Technoscience and Political Algorithms Symposium*, UC San Diego, CA, USA.
- 20 Mar 2018 Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco, CA, USA.
- 06 Dec 2017 MIT Open Documentary Lab, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA.
- 19 May 2017 MIT List Visual Arts Centre, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA.
- 06 Mar 2017 Copenhagen Business School, Denmark.
- 15 Sep 2016 Comparative Media Studies / Writing Department, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA.
- 23 May 2016 Centre for Information Technology and Society. UC Santa Barbara
- 29 Oct 2015 University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy.
- 19 May 2015 UC San Diego, CA, USA.
- 05 Dec 2014 IKKM Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Weimar, Germany.

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 22 Mar 2018 Invited Contributor, *The Right to the Smart City: Designing for Public Value and Civic Participation*, Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University
- 10 Nov 2016 Day Visiting Scholar, Social Media Collective, Microsoft Research New England
- Fall 2014 Visiting Scholar, Department of Media Studies, University of Amsterdam
- Summer 2014 Banff Research in Culture Program, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity
- Summer 2012 Visiting Scholar, CELSA, Paris-Sorbonne University

RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

I present regularly at major conferences across my interdisciplinary areas, including ICA [International Communication Association], AOIR [Association of Internet Researchers], 4S [Society for Social Studies of Science], ACM FAccT [Fairness, Accountability & Transparency], and more. Below is a list of recent presentations only:

- June 2022 "Prediction as Extraction of Discretion."
ACM FAccT 2022. Seoul.
- May 2022 "The Primacy of Prediction and the Concentration of Discretionary Power".
ICA 2022. Paris.
- October 2021 "Is All The World A Prediction?"
4S 2021. Virtual Event.
- October 2020 "Fuck Your Feelings: The Affective Weaponisation of Facts and Reason."
AOIR 2020. Virtual Event. With Selena Neumark Hermann.
- October 2020 "The Moralisation of Predictivity in Data-driven Surveillance."
AOIR 2020. Virtual Event.
- August 2020 "Technofutures in Stasis: Repetition and stagnation in smart tech and ubiquitous computing."
ASA [American Sociological Association] 2020. Virtual Event.
- May 2020 "The Moralisation of Predictivity in Data-driven Surveillance."
ICA 2020. Virtual Event.
- May 2020 "Technofutures in Stasis: Repetition and stagnation in smart tech and ubiquitous computing."
ICA 2020. Virtual Event.
- 25 Jun 2019 "Smart machines, political disinformation, & the dubious Enlightenment of personal truthmaking."
Connected Life 2019. Oxford / London, England.
- 19 Jun 2019 "Smart machines, ubiquitous computing, and the future that keeps coming back."
The Web That Was: Archives, Traces, Reflections. Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- 17 May 2019 "Smart machines, political disinformers, & emerging cultures of personal truthmaking."
Media-in-Transition (MiT) 10: Democracy and Digital Media. Cambridge, MA.
- 11 Apr 2019 "Smart machines, political disinformers, & the dubious Enlightenment of personal truthmaking."
Theorising the Web 2019. New York City.

Research Networks

Affiliate, [DIGMEX](#) - International network for existential studies of digital media

Affiliate, [Digital Democracies Institute](#) @ Simon Fraser University

University Service

- Departmental search committees for tenure-track faculty hires (x3)
- Departmental Anti-Asian Racism committee, 2021-
- Departmental tenure and promotions committee, 2021-22
- Departmental research workshop series faculty liaison, 2021-22
- Faculty-wide undergraduate ambassador, 2019-21
- Departmental graduate admissions committee, 2018-19

INTERVIEWS & MEDIA

I am regularly interviewed for Canadian media on data/AI and technology issues, including CBC Radio and the *Vancouver Sun*. Other media appearances include documentaries (e.g. *The New Corporation*, dir. Joel Bakan & Jennifer Abbott, 2020) and podcasts (e.g. *The Deep Dive*, by Philip McKenzie).