

Sun-ha Hong

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sun_ha@sfu.casunhahong.org**EMPLOYMENT**

- 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

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

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](#)." *Big Data & Society*.
- R&R "Fact Signaling and Fact Nostalgia in the Data-Driven Society." *Big Data & Society*.
- 2022 "[Predictions Without Futures](#)." *History & Theory* 61:3, 371-390. [h-index 45]¹
[Open Access]
- 2021 "[Technofutures in Stasis](#): Smart machines, ubiquitous computing, and the future that keeps coming back." *International Journal of Communication* 15, 1940-1960. [h-index 45]
[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 75]
- 2017 "[Criticising Surveillance and Surveillance Critique](#): why privacy and humanism are necessary but insufficient." *Surveillance & Society* 15:2, 187-203. [h-index 48]
- 2016 "[Data's Intimacy](#): Machinic sensibility and the quantified self." *Communication +1*, 5.
[Open Access]
- 2015 "[Presence](#), or the sense of being-there and being-with in the new media society." *First Monday* 20:10. [h-index 74] [Open Access]
- 2015 "[Subjunctive and Interpassive Knowing in the Surveillance Society](#)." *Media and Communication* 3:2, 63-76. [h-index 25] [Open Access]
- 2015 "[Affecting in Discourse](#): Communicating Uncertainty and Communicating Uncertainly." *Subjectivity* 8:3, 201-223. [h-index 12]
- 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 51]
- 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 47]
- 2013 "The displacement of sport: media spectacles of street support in the 2002 World Cup." *Sport in Society* 16:6, 735-748. [h-index 42]

¹ All h-index figures are from 2022, and sourced from SCImago.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Forthcoming "Bias." In: *Handbook: Public Policy and AI*, ed. Regine Paul, Emma Carmel & Jennifer Cobbe. Edward Elgar.
- 2022 "[Antiseptic Machine Life](#)." In: *Relative Intimacies: Intersubjectivity vol.3*, ed. Emily Watlington & Lou Cantor. MIT Press / Sternberg 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

- 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.

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2020 "Privacy Must Be Defended: Review of *The Known Citizen: A History of Privacy in Modern America*, by Sarah E. Igo." *The New Rambler*.
- 2020 "Design, control, predict: logistical governance in the smart city, by Aaron Shapiro". *Information, Communication & Society* 25:10, 1517-1520.

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

- April 2023 Times of Surveillance Conference, King's College London, UK.
- June 2022 Living With Automation Conference, The Sigtuna Foundation, Sweden.
- May 2022 Higher School of Economics Graduate Student Conference, Russia.
(Cancelled due to Russian invasion of Ukraine)
- May 2019 Simon Fraser University School of Communication Graduate Student Conference, Canada.

INVITED LECTURES & BOOK TALKS

- July 2023 Automated Decision-Making & Society (ADM+S) Lab, Monash University, Australia
- April 2023 Digital Culture & Societies Hub, University of Queensland, Australia
- April 2023 Media, Communications and Cultural Studies, Goldsmiths, University of London, UK
- 26 Jul 2022 *Technologies of Speculation* Book Talk @ Otago University, New Zealand
- 10 Dec 2021 *Technologies of Speculation* Book Talk @ Seoul National University, South Korea
- 13 Oct 2021 *Technologies of Speculation* Book Talk @ University of Colorado Boulder, USA
- 14 Jul 2021 *Technologies of Speculation* Book Talk @ Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
- 29 Apr 2021 *Technologies of Speculation* 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* 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.

VISITS & WORKSHOPS

- Spring 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
- Fall 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

- June 2022 "Prediction as Extraction of Discretion."
ACM FAccT [Fairness, Accountability & Transparency] 2022. Seoul.
- May 2022 "The Primacy of Prediction and the Concentration of Discretionary Power".
ICA [International Communication Association] 2022. Paris.
- October 2021 "Is All The World A Prediction?"
4S [Society for Social Studies of Science] 2021. Virtual Event.
- October 2020 "Fuck Your Feelings: The Affective Weaponisation of Facts and Reason."
AOIR [Association of Internet Researchers] 2020. Virtual Event. With Selena N. 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.
- June 2019 "Smart machines, political disinformation, & the dubious Enlightenment of personal truthmaking."
Connected Life 2019. Oxford / London, England.
- June 2019 "Smart machines, ubiquitous computing, and the future that keeps coming back."
The Web That Was: Archives, Traces, Reflections. Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- May 2019 "Smart machines, political disinformers, & emerging cultures of personal truthmaking."
Media-in-Transition (MiT) 10: Democracy and Digital Media. Cambridge, MA.
- April 2019 "Smart machines, political disinformers, & the dubious Enlightenment of personal truthmaking."
Theorising the Web 2019. New York City.

[Older presentations omitted for length.]

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2019- Instructor, Simon Fraser University (x14 courses)
Includes 3 new courses and an overhaul of the core New Media & Society course.
- 2017-2018 Instructor, MIT (x3)
Includes the core Introduction to Comparative Media Studies course.
- 2015 Instructor, Annenberg School for Communication, UPenn (x1)
- 2013-2014 Teaching Assistant, Annenberg School for Communication, UPenn
- 2010-2011 Teaching Assistant, Victoria University of Wellington

GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING

- PhD, Senior Supervisor Rowan Melling, Saemi Jung
- PhD Committee/Examiner Anthony Glyn Burton, Arturo Lusoli, Kayla Hilstob,
Ben Gansky (External)
- MA, Senior Supervisor Catherine Dubé, Xuan Shi, Devan Prithipaul, Vinit Beley, Shirong Ding
- MA Committee/Examiner Xiaosu Li, Julian Iliev (External), Lauren Knight

SERVICE TO THE ACADEMY

Conferences

- Area Chair, ACM FaCCT [Fairness, Accountability and Transparency] (2022)
- Organising committee, Canadian Association of Cultural Studies Conference (2020)
- Conference co-organiser, "Context Collapse: Reassembling the social", Penn (2013)
- Conference reviewer, ICA [International Communication Association], AOIR [Association of Internet Researchers], IAMCR [International Association for Media and Comm Research]

Journals

- Editorial Board, Media Peripheries
- Reviewer, New Media & Society; Big Data & Society; International Journal of Communication; Science, Technology, and Human Values; First Monday; Games & Culture; and more.

Affiliations

- Member & Steering Committee (2023-), [Digital Democracies Institute](#) @ Simon Fraser University
- Affiliate, Visual & Interactive Computing Institute (VINCI) @ Simon Fraser University
- Affiliate, [DIGMEX](#) - International network for existential studies of digital media @ Sigtuna Foundation & Uppsala University, Sweden

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY**Workshop Organisation**

- Co-founded an annual Academic Job Market Workshop for graduate students (2018-)
- Co-founded a monthly departmental Brown Bag Series (2022-)

Committee Experience

- Departmental Anti-Asian Racism committee
- Departmental graduate program committee
- Departmental tenure and promotions committee
- Departmental faculty hire search committees
- Departmental graduate admissions committee
- Faculty-wide undergraduate ambassador
- Faculty Excellence Awards committee