

The newsletter of the special interest group on social informatics of the Association of Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T)

Volume 1 | Issue 2 | July 2024

20th Annual Social Informatics Research Symposium

Theme: "Exploring Social Informatics in the Algorithmic Environment"

October 23-24, 2024

CALL FOR PAPERS

The ASIS&T Special Interest Group on Social Informatics (SIG-SI) invites submissions for its 20th Annual Social Informatics Research Symposium: "Exploring Social Informatics in the Algorithmic Environment," to be held on October 23-24, 2024, prior to the ASIS&T Annual Meeting .

WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

In the rapidly evolving landscape of information science and technology, the intersections of social media algorithms, Artificial Intelligence (AI), large language models (LLM), AI-Generated Content (AIGC), and Social Informatics represent emerging areas of research, development, and societal impact. This workshop, titled "Exploring Social Informatics in the Algorithmic Environment" aims to bring together leading researchers, industry practitioners, policymakers, and community leaders in the field of Social Informatics (SI) to discuss recent advances, challenges, and future directions in these interrelated domains. Through a combination of short and long paper presentation and discussion session, participants will explore the technical, ethical, and social implications of AI and AIGC, with a special focus on their roles in shaping the fabric of social informatics...

→ Page 3

PUBLICATION SPOTLIGHT



I'm the same, I'm the same, I'm trying to change: Investigating the role of human information behavior in view change by Dana McKay, Stephann Makri, Marisela Gutierrez-Lopez, Colin Porlezza, Andrew Macfarlane, Glenda Cooper, Sondess Missaoui (JASIST, Volume 75, Issue 7, July 2024, Pages: 844-858). Visit the following URL for the article <https://asistdl.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/asi.24885>.

ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

Call for Papers

p. 1, 3

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

p. 2

Call For Nominations For SIG-SI AWARDS

p. 4

AM 2024

Theme of this year's ASIS&T Annual Meeting is "Putting People First: Responsibility, Reciprocity, and Care in Information Research and Practice."

p. 5

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Alicia Julia Wilson Takaoka

This is our first ever member spotlight. We had Alicia Julia Wilson Takaoka, a Postdoctoral Fellow in Information Systems and Software Engineering at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU).

SIG-SI: Alicia, congratulations on your remarkable achievements in early 2024. Could you tell us more about some of the highlights?

Alicia: Thank you! It's been an exciting few months. One of the biggest highlights was winning the 2024 Best Presentation award at the Symposium on AI, Europe Chapter, and SIG-AI (ASIS&T).



Alicia Takaoka

SIG-SI: That's impressive! What was your presentation about?

Alicia: My presentation focused on the ethical construction of publicly available datasets and the concept of Reality Pregnancy, which I've been working on defining and operationalizing.

SIG-SI: Your work in AI ethics has also been recognized widely. You were named one of the 2024 100 Brilliant Women in AI Ethics. Could you elaborate on that?

Alicia: Yes, I was honored to be included in that list. It was primarily for my lectures on the ethical construction of publicly available datasets and my efforts in defining and operationalizing Reality Pregnancy. It's gratifying to see the importance of ethical considerations in AI being recognized.

SIG-SI: You've also been involved in organizing workshops. Could you tell us about those?

Alicia: Certainly. I co-organized the workshop "WS13 Growth Mindset and Resilience: Thriving Through Setbacks" at ACM womENcourage in Spain. Additionally, I co-chaired the workshop "We've Got Problems: A workshop on participatory design for practitioners and users of care software" at ECSCW. Both workshops aimed to address crucial aspects of resilience and participatory design in the tech industry.

SIG-SI: You have taken on several roles and positions as well. Could you share more about these?

Alicia: I'm currently serving as the Web Co-Chair for the Foundations of Software Engineering (FSE). Additionally, I've submitted a grant for Digital Europe titled "Advancing Research Methods on Gender Balance in Informatics."

SIG-SI: That's quite an extensive list of achievements. You've also been invited to give talks. What topics did you cover?

Alicia: In January 2024, I gave a talk titled "Design, Creation, and Participation" as part of the Experts in Teams series hosted by Alenka Temeljotov Salaj. Then in March, I spoke about "Software for a Better Society, On Writing, or What Was I Supposed to Do Again?" Both talks focused on the intersection of design, ethics, and societal impact in the realm of software development.

SIG-SI: It's clear that you've had a very productive and impactful few months. What motivates you to keep pushing the boundaries in your field?

Alicia: My motivation comes from a deep-seated belief in the potential of technology to improve society, coupled with the responsibility to ensure it's done ethically. Seeing the positive impact of my work and the recognition from peers keeps me inspired to continue pushing the boundaries.

SIG-SI: Thank you for sharing your insights and accomplishments with us, Alicia. We look forward to seeing what you achieve next.

Alicia: Thank you for having me! It's been a pleasure to share my journey.

20th Annual Social Informatics Research Symposium...*from page 1*

This workshop aims to gather researchers, industry practitioners, policymakers, and community leaders to discuss the technical, ethical, and social implications of AI, large language models, AI-generated content, and social media algorithms. We welcome full and short paper submissions addressing topics such as the role of algorithms in shaping social behaviors, human-AI interaction, theoretical and methodological approaches in social informatics, and global comparative studies on algorithmic cultures. Submissions are due by July 31, 2024. Acceptance of the submissions will be announced by August 15, 2024. Please submit your abstract via sigsi-workshop@outlook.com. Please make sure to include all author information, title, and keywords in the email.

ASIS&T Special Interest Group Social Informatics (SIG-SI) has hosted 19 annual Social Informatics Research Symposiums during the ASIS&T Annual Meeting for the purpose of disseminating and discussing current research and research in progress that investigates the social aspects of information and communication technologies (ICTs). The symposiums included ASIS&T members across many areas and served as an annual forum for SI researchers to present and discuss their work. We define "social" broadly to include critical and historical approaches as well as contemporary social analysis and define "technology" broadly to include traditional technologies, computer/networking systems, mobile and pervasive devices, as well as data analytics and artificial intelligence.

To emphasize the ASIS&T Annual Meeting theme this year, "Putting People First: Responsibility, Reciprocity, and Care in Information Research and Practice", we aim to center around the interactions of SI, everyday life, and the algorithmic environment in the half-day workshop, which continues the SIG-SI's scholarly tradition of focusing on the interactions of people, technology and society. We are especially interested in the theoretical and methodological discussions on how to theorize, study, understand, and serve people embedded in algorithmic technologies and environments.

WORKSHOP THEMES AND TOPICS

We invite submissions on a range of themes, including but not limited to:

- The Role of Algorithms and AI in Shaping Information and Social Behaviors:
 - Influence of AI on Information Consumption
 - AI, Echo Chambers, and Political Polarization
 - Combatting Misinformation and Deepfakes
- Human-AI Interaction and Societal Impact:
 - Enhancing Human-AI Collaboration
 - Social Media Algorithms and User Experiences
- Theoretical and Methodological Approaches in SI:
 - Theorizing SI in the Age of AI
 - Methodological Innovations in Studying Algorithmic Environments
 - Interdisciplinary Approaches to SI Research
- Global Comparative Studies in SI and Algorithmic Cultures:
 - Cross-Cultural Impacts of AI and Social Media Algorithms
 - Comparative Policy Analysis on AI Governance
 - Global Perspectives on Digital Inequity and AI
 - Case Studies of SI in Different Countries

SUBMISSION TYPES

We welcome Full Papers (need extended abstracts up to 1500 words), and Short Papers (need short abstracts with up to 500 words). See Page 1 for the method of submission.

Call for Nominations for SIG-SI Annual Awards:

Best Paper Award, and the Emerging Social Informatics Researchers Award

(Closing Date Extended to 31st of July 2024)

Best Paper: Open to researchers at all career stages, including students, early-career researchers, and established scholars. This award celebrates a peer-reviewed journal or conference proceeding paper published in 2023. The recipient(s) will be honored with a \$100 cash prize and an invitation to present their work at the ASIS&T 2024 Annual Meeting.

Emerging Social Informatics Researchers: Dedicated to up to two students focusing on social informatics research. Preference is given to lead authors of peer-reviewed works. Winners will receive ASIS&T Annual Meeting registration support and the chance to showcase their projects at the ASIS&T 2024 Annual Meeting.

Application process

To apply, please send the following supporting materials to Julaine Clunis (jclunis@uwm.edu), SIG SI Awards Coordinator, by July 31st, 2024, 11:59 pm EDT (UTC-4): We will notify award winners via email in August 2024. Please use the subject line "SIG SI 2024 Award Submission - [Award Category] - [Applicant's Name]" when submitting.

Additional Details Required:

For the Best Paper Award:

- A full reference of the nominated article, including authors, title, and publication venue.
- A brief explanation of why this article is being nominated.
- A brief bio of the author(s).
- A digital copy of the article (PDF preferred).

For the Emerging Social Informatics Researchers Award:

- Your name and university/institutional email address.
- Your university/institution and department.
- A short statement (~300 words, plus references) describing your research in social informatics.
- Proof of student status (current course schedule or a letter from your program, department, or dissertation/thesis chair).
- Reference any relevant paper or poster submitted or accepted to the ASIS&T 2024 Annual Meeting (included in your email or as an attached PDF).

Eligibility

We encourage submissions from all members of the social informatics and ASIST&T community. At least one author of the best paper must be a member of ASIST&T at the time of submission.

Award winners should also be registered as ASIST&T members. Please provide a proof of valid ASIST&T membership when submitting papers to the call for award.

For any questions or clarifications regarding the application process, please contact SIG SI Chair - Pu Yan (mpuyan@pku.edu.cn) or SIG SI Awards Coordinator - Julaine Clunis (jclunis@uwm.edu).



The 87th Annual Meeting of ASIS&T, scheduled for October 25-29, 2024, focuses on "Putting People First: Responsibility, Reciprocity, and Care in Information Research and Practice."

The theme emphasizes the integration of human considerations in information research and practice, particularly in AI systems. The meeting aims to explore the responsibilities and ethical considerations in creating and evaluating information systems, programs, and services, highlighting the importance of community and research partnerships and people-first considerations in theoretical frameworks, methodologies, and everyday routines in information science. For details, visit <https://www.asist.org/am24>

2024 Annual Meeting Panels: Some Highlights

SUNDAY, 27 OCTOBER

- *Accessibility for Motor Disabilities in Immersive Technologies*
- *What Does it Mean to "Misuse" Research Data?*
- *Embracing Ubuntu: Cultivating Inclusive Information Access in Decolonizing African Information Curriculum*
- *Conceptions of Everyday Life in Information Science (SIG-USE)*
- *Emphasizing the Social in Sociotechnical Approaches to the Digital Curation of Visual Information*

MONDAY, 28 OCTOBER

- *Ethnographic Stories in Information Science*
- *Social Media and Crisis Informatics Research in LIS (SIG-SM)*
- *Social Risks in the Era of Generative AI*
- *Who Are They? Redefining Demarcation of Research Participant Characteristics and Related Conceptualizations*
- *Health Misinformation Research*
- *Information Standards and Guidelines on AI: Ethical Concerns, Trustworthiness, Quality Assessment, and Human Oversight (Standards Committee)*

TUESDAY, 29 OCTOBER

- *Exploring Some Impacts of Advances in Artificial Intelligence: A Social Informatics Approach*
- *Human Subjectivity in Information Practice and AI Governance*

Keep in touch with us:



<https://www.asist.org/sig/sigsi/>



www.facebook.com/groups/ASISTsigSI



<https://twitter.com/SigsiAsist>