

Dr. Sarah Gilbert

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2023–present **Research Director (Research Associate)**, Citizens and Technology Lab, Cornell University Department of Communication, Primary Investigators: J. Nathan Matias Sarah Gilbert.
- 2021–2023 **Research Director (Postdoctoral Associate)**, Citizens and Technology Lab, Cornell University Department of Communication, Primary Investigator: J. Nathan Matias
- 2021–2022 **Postdoctoral Associate**, College of Information Studies, University of Maryland
- 2018–2021 **Postdoctoral Scholar**, College of Information Studies, University of Maryland
Project: PERVADE: Pervasive Data Ethics for Computational Research, Primary Investigators: Katie Shilton and Jessica Vitak

EDUCATION

- 2018 **University of British Columbia**, PhD, Library and Information Studies
Co-advisors: Caroline Haythornthwaite & Luanne Freund
Dissertation: *Motivations for participating in online initiatives: Exploring motivations across initiative types.*
- 2011 **Dalhousie University**, Master of Library and Information Studies
Advisor: Elaine Toms
Thesis: *Supporting the Student Research-Paper Writing Process: Activities, Technologies, and Sources*
- 2003 **Mount Allison University**, Bachelor of Arts, History

GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2026 **Lambert Foundation Pilot Grant**, *Scrolling at the Margins: Short-form Content and Online Discrimination Among Black Youth with ADHD Symptoms*, \$37,000. Senior Personnel with Avriel Epps; PI: Ashley-Maxie Morman.
- 2025 **Cornell University**, *Engaged Faculty Fellowship*, \$2000
- 2024 **Cornell University**, *Using AI To Study Forensic Data on Social Media Harms*, \$42,600
Co-PI with J. Nathan Matias
- 2022 **Media Democracy Fund, New Venture Fund**: *Ethics of Internet-Related Research*. Senior Personnel \$74,897, Senior Personnel, PI: J. Nathan Matias
- 2021 **NSF SaTC Medium**: *Learning Code(s): Community-Centered Design of Automated Content Moderation*. Award Abstract # 2131508. \$780,000, Senior Personnel. PIs: Katie Shilton, Hal Daumé III, Michelle Mazurek (project defunded in 2025, pursuant to Executive Order 14151)

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Full Papers

This section includes both journal articles and computer science conference proceedings, which are considered equivalent to journal articles.

- Domingo, L., **Gilbert, S.**, Cao, Y., Daumé, H., Mazurek, M., Shilton, K. (2026). Care, wisdom, and civics: Values-centered design to support online moderation with large language models. *Transactions on Computer Human Interaction*.
<https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/3796227> [impact factor: 6.6]
- Ajmani, L. H., Foriest, J. C., Taylor, J., Pittman, K., **Gilbert, S.**, & Devito, M. A. (2024). Whose Knowledge is Valued? Epistemic Injustice in CSCW Applications. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, 8(CSCW2), 1-28.
- Cao, YT., Domingo, L., **Gilbert, S.**, Mazurek, M., Shilton, K., Daumé, H., (2024). Toxicity Detection is NOT all you Need: Measuring the Gaps to Supporting Volunteer Content Moderators through a User-Centric Method. *Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing 2024*. [20.8% acceptance rate]
-  Fiesler, C., Zimmer, M., Proferes, N., **Gilbert, S.**, & Jones, N. (2024). Remember the Human: A Systematic Review of Ethical Considerations in Reddit Research. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, 8(GROUP), 1-33. Honorable Mention Award
- Lenhart, A., **Gilbert, S.**, & Shilton, K. (2024, March). CONTENTR: An Experiential Game for Teaching Value Tradeoffs in Social Media Governance. In *Proceedings of the 55th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education V. 1* (pp. 722-728). [33% acceptance rate]
-  **Gilbert, S.** (2023). Towards intersectional moderation: An alternative model of moderation built on care and power. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, 7(CSCW2), 1-32. [36.1% acceptance rate]. Best paper award [top 1% of all submitted papers]
- Gilbert, S.**, Shilton, K., Vitak, J. (2023). When Research is the Context: Cross-platform User Expectations for Social Media Data Reuse. *Big Data & Society*, 10(1). Doi: 10.1177/205395172311641 [impact factor: 8.7]
- Shilton, K., Moss, E., **Gilbert, S.**, Bietz, M., Fiesler, C., Metcalf, J., Vitak, J., Zimmer, M. (2021). Excavating Awareness and Power in Data Science: A Manifesto for Trustworthy Pervasive Data Research. *Big Data & Society*. Doi: 10.1177/20539517211040759
- Gilbert, S.**, Vitak, J., Shilton, K., (2021). Measuring Americans' Comfort With Research Uses of Their Social Media Data. *Social Media + Society* 7(3).
<https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051211033824> [impact factor: 4.76]
- Proferes, N., Jones, N., **Gilbert, S.**, Fiesler, C., Zimmer, Z. (2021). Studying Reddit: A Systematic Overview of Disciplines, Approaches, Methods, and Ethics. *Social Media + Society*, 7(2).
<https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051211019004>
- Palacin, V., **Gilbert, S.** Orchard, S., Eaton, A., Ferrario, M.A., Happonen, A. (2020). Drivers of Participation in Digital Citizen Science: Case Studies on Järviwiki and Safecast. *Citizen Science: Theory and Practice*, 5(1), 22. <http://doi.org/10.5334/cstp.290> [impact factor: 4.05]
- Gilbert, S.** (2020). "I run the world's largest historical outreach project and it's on a cesspool of a website." Moderating a public scholarship site on Reddit: A case study of r/AskHistorians. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CSCW)*, Vol. 4, No. CSCW1. Article 19. doi: 10.1145/3392822 [Acceptance Rate: 26%].

- Haythornthwaite, C., Kumar, P., Gruz, A., **Gilbert, S.**, Esteve Del Valle, M., & Paulin, D. (2018). Learning in the Wild: Coding for Learning and Practice on Reddit. *Learning, Media and Technology* <https://doi.org/10.1080/17439884.2018.1498356> [impact factor: 2.547].
- Esteve del Valle, M., Gruz, A., Haythornthwaite, C., Kumar, P., **Gilbert, S.**, & Paulin, D. (2018). Learning in the wild: Predicting the formation of ties in 'Ask' subreddit communities using ERG models. *Networked Learning*, 2018.
-  Kumar, P., Gruz, A., Haythornthwaite, C., **Gilbert, S.**, Esteve del Valle, M., & Paulin, D. (2018). Learning in the Wild: Coding Reddit for Learning and Practice. *Proceedings of the 51st Hawaiian International Conference on Systems Sciences*. Waikoloa, HI, 1933-1942. Retrieved from <https://scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/handle/10125/50131> [acceptance rate 48%]
Best paper nomination.
- Gilbert, S.** (2017). Portraits of participation: Exploring the relationship between social motivators and facets of participation in a Twitter-based community. *Proceedings of the 50th Hawaiian International Conference on Systems Sciences*, Waikoloa, HI, 2293–2302. Retrieved from <http://hdl.handle.net/10125/41432>
- Esteve del Valle, M., Gruz, A., Haythornthwaite, C., Paulin, D., & **Gilbert, S.** (2017). Social media in educational practice: faculty present and future use of social media in teaching. *Proceedings of the 50th Hawaiian International Conference on Systems Sciences*, Waikoloa, HI, 164–173. Retrieved from <http://hdl.handle.net/10125/41169>
- Gilbert, S.** (2016). Learning in a Twitter-based community of practice: Exploring the role of knowledge exchange as a motivation for participation in #hcsma. *Information, Communication & Society*, 19(9), 1214-1232. doi: 10.1080/1369118X.2016.1186715. [impact factor: 4.124]
- Gruz, A., Haythornthwaite, C., Paulin, D., **Gilbert, S.**, & Esteve De Valle, M. (2016). Uses and gratification factors for social media use in teaching: Instructors perspectives. *New Media & Society*, 1-20. doi: 10.1177/1461444816662933 [impact factor: 5.997]
-  **Gilbert, S.** & Paulin D. (2015). Tweet to learn: Expertise and centrality in conference Twitter networks. *Proceedings of the 48th Hawaiian International Conference on Systems Sciences*, Kauai, HI, 1920–1929. doi: 10.1109/HICSS.2015.231
Best student paper award, ASIS&T

Papers under review/pre-prints

- Matias, J. N., **Gilbert, S.**, Gonzalez, A., Edelson, L., Epps, A., Bragg, M., PhD, Maxie-Moreman, A., McCoy, D., Kaur Purba, A., Radesky, J., Susser, D., Wisniewski, P. Pre-print: [Accelerating the Science of Digital Harms through Data Donations to a Digital Harms Research Center](#).
- Matias, J.N., **Gilbert, S.**, Reddan, M., Simko, T. Bolstering Rights of Assembly and Association in Communities Facing Online Harassment, a Field Experiment.

In-progress, pre-registered studies

- Gilbert, S.**, Matias, J.N., Santos, N., “Participation Decoded: Content, Contest or Community.” Pre-registration on OSF: <https://osf.io/tp7da/overview>
- Matias, J.M., **Gilbert, S.**, Ito, V., Tripodi, F., Platt, E. “Visibility on Wikipedia: Impacts of Photos on Bios.” Pre-registration on OSF: <https://osf.io/nm8z6/files/n6ysa>

Book chapters

- Esteve Del Valle, M., Gruzdt, A., Kumar, P., **Gilbert, S.** (2020). Learning in the wild: Understanding networked ties in Reddit. In N. Bonderup Dohn, P. Jandric, T. Ryberg, & M. de Laat (Eds.), *Politics, Agency and Data in Networked Learning*. Springer.
- Paulin, D., & **Gilbert, S.** (2016) Social Media and Learning. In C. Haythornthwaite, R.N. Andrews, J. Fransman, & E.M. Meyers (Eds.), *SAGE Handbook of E-Learning Research* (2nd ed.) (pp. 354–374). Los Angeles: SAGE.
- 📌 Sundararajan, B., Sheehan, L., & **Gilbert, S.** (2013). Mediated Discourse in Higher Ed Classrooms Using Text Messaging. In P. Blessinger & L. A. Wankel, L.A. (Eds.), *Increasing Student Engagement and Retention using Classroom Technologies: Classroom Response Systems and Mediated Discourse Technologies* (pp. 199-232). Bingley, UK: Emerald [

Workshops, Panels, Doctoral Consortia (refereed, archived as extended abstracts)

- 2026 **Gilbert, S.**, Fiesler, C., Doyle, D.T., Epps, E., Lenhart, A., Starbird, K., Beatrys., B. TikTok on the Clock: Public Scholarship and CSCW in 2026. (CSCW) **[Workshop]**
- 2025 Zent, M, Chancellor, S., Fiesler, C., **Gilbert, S.**, Rifat., M. R., Smith, E., Yarosh., L., Young., S., Zimmer., M. “Context Matters: Ethical Challenges in Research with Online Communities” (CSCW). **[Workshop]**
- 2020 **Gilbert, S.**, Fiesler, C., Blackwell, L., DeVito, M., Dye, M., Goddard, S., Gray., K., Nemer, D., Smith, E. “Public Scholarship and CSCW: Trials and Twitterations” ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW). **[Workshop]**
- 2020 Pater, J., Nobels, A., **Gilbert, S.**, Zimmer, M., Fiesler, C. “Data is People.” International Conference Web and Social Media (ICWSM-2020). **[Workshop]**
- 2019 Kiene, C., Jhaver, S, Chandrasekharan, E., Dosono, B., Dym, B., **Gilbert, S.**, Jiang, J., Lo, K., Seering, J., Shores, K., & Wong, Y. “Volunteer Work: Mapping the Future of Moderation Research” ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW), Austin, TX. **[Workshop]**
- 2018 Bruckman, A., Below, J., Dixon, L, Fiesler, C., Gilbert, E. **Gilbert, S.**, Matias, J.N. Managing Deviant Behavior in Online Communities III. ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Montreal, QC. **[Panel]**
- 2017 **Gilbert, S.** “Motivations for Participating in Online Initiatives: Exploring Contributory Behaviour Across Initiative Types.” 20th ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW), Portland Oregon **[Doctoral Consortium]**
- 2014 **Gilbert, S.** “Bazaar Motivations: Exploring Participation in Collectively Sourced Projects.” 2014 Conference on Human Computation & Crowdsourcing (HCOMP), Pittsburgh, PA. **[Doctoral Consortium]**

REFEREED, NON-ARCHIVAL PUBLICATIONS

Presentations (*Papers given by me as a presenter or co-presenter)

- 2026 Matias, J. Nathan, **Gilbert, S.**, Platt, E., Tripodi, F., Ito, V., Weng, A. “The Role of Online Risks in Scholars’ Willingness to Appear on Wikipedia in Writing and Images” Wiki Workshop 2026.
- 2025 Ding, J., Li, H. & **Gilbert, S.** “A Toolkit for Community-Driven Data Governance” csv,conf,v9.

- 2025 **Gilbert, S.**, “Reluctant Saviors: Volunteer moderation and Social Media Collapse” Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S).
- 2024 **Gilbert, S.**, & E. Eagen. Moderation is Context Specific—But Not How You Think. TrustCon 2024 [panel acceptance rate: 26%]
- 2023 *Lenhart, A Tromble, R., Zimmer, M., **Gilbert, S.**, Silverman, B., High Reach Content Disclosures and Research Ethics. AOIR 2023 22nd Annual meeting of the Association of Internet Researchers Roundtable
- 2023 Matias, J.N., **Gilbert, S.** Risks and Protections for Independent Research by Journalists, Civil Society, and Community Science. The Post-API Conference: Social media data acquisition after Twitter.
- 2023 ***Gilbert, S.**, Fiers, F., Matias, J.N., Lokito, K., Chen., B. Navigating ethical cliffs and professional risks: A cross-constituency analysis of internet researchers’ perspectives on ethics AOIR 2023 22nd Annual meeting of the Association of Internet Researchers Ethics Panel 1.
- 2022 Lenhart, A., **Gilbert, S.**, & Shilton, K. Public Engagement in Social Media Policy Through Game Play: A Citizen Panel Case Study. Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), 2022.
- 2022 Lenhart, A., **Gilbert, S.**, & Shilton, K. Content Moderation by Design (CMbD) Card Game Extension Pack Creation. Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), 2022.
- 2021 Gliniecka, M., Reagle, J., Proferes, N., Fiesler, C., **Gilbert, S.**, Jones, N., Zimmer, M., Xia, H; Sehat, C.M., Prabhakar, T., Kaminski, A. AoIR Ethics Panel 2: Platform Challenges. AOIR 2021 22nd Annual meeting of the Association of Internet Researchers.
- 2021 ***Gilbert, S.** Learning from experience: How community moderation can inform commercial moderation. Platform Governance Research Network Conference.
- 2019 Vitak, J., Shilton, K., & ***Gilbert, S.** Trends in Trust: Measuring Americans’ Expectations for Trustworthy Research Use of Social Media Data. 2019 International Conference on Social Media and Society (#SMSociety), Toronto, ON.
- 2017 ***Gilbert, S.** *Exploring volunteer moderation in a large online community: Motivations and challenges of moderating r/AskHistorians*. All Things in Moderation Workshop, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2017 ***Gilbert, S.** *Motivations for Participating in Online Initiatives: Exploring Contributory Behaviour Across Initiative Types*. Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW), Portland Oregon [poster]
- 2017 Gruzd, A., Kumar, P., Haythornthwaite, C., Esteve Del Valle, M., **Gilbert, S.**, & Paulin, D. *Using Content Analysis to Study Learning in the Wild on Reddit*. World Conference on Online Learning, Toronto, ON.
- 2017 Kumar, P., Gruzd, A., Haythornthwaite, C. **Gilbert, S.**, Esteve Del Valle, M., & Paulin, D. *Developing Learning Analytics Methods on Reddit*. Learning & Student Analytics Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- 2017 Gruzd, A., Haythornthwaite, C., Kumar, P., Esteve del Valle, M., **Gilbert, S.**, & Paulin, D. *Using content analysis to study learning in the wild on Reddit*. Ryerson Learning & Teaching Conference, Toronto, ON.
- 2016 ***Gilbert, S.** & Paulin, D. *Tweet to learn: Expertise and centrality in conference Twitter networks*. Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) Special Interest Group – Social Informatics, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2015 ***Gilbert, S.** *Eager Tweepers: Exploring motivations for participating in a Twitter community of interest*. Social Media & Society, Toronto, ON. [extended abstract]

- 2015 ***Gilbert, S.** *Bazaar motivations: Exploring participation in crowd-based communities*. “More Research from the iSchool” panel session, British Columbia Library Association Conference, Vancouver, BC. [panel presentation]
- 2015 ***Gilbert, S.** *Bazaar motivations: Exploring participation in crowd-based initiatives*. Presented at the iSchool at UBC: School of Library, Archival & Information Science Research Day, Vancouver, BC. [poster]
- 2015 Paulin, D., Macfadyen, L., Haythornthwaite, C. & **Gilbert, S.** *Social Network Analysis of MOOCs: Illuminating Learning Networks*. Learning with MOOCs, New York, NY.
- 2015 Winne, P., Hatala, M., Wise, A., Paulin, D., Haythornthwaite, C., & ***Gilbert, S.** *Learning analytics and big data in higher education*. BCNET 2015, Vancouver, BC. [panel presentation]
- 2014 ***Gilbert, S.** & Paulin, D. *Tweeting to learn: An Exploration of Twitter-based learning during conferences*. Presented at the iSchool at UBC: School of Library, Archival & Information Science Research Day, Vancouver, BC. [poster]
- 2014 ***Gilbert, S.** *Bazaar Motivations: Exploring Participation in Collectively Sourced Projects*. 2014 Conference on Human Computation & Crowdsourcing (HCOMP), Pittsburgh, PA. [poster]
- 2013 ***Gilbert, S.** & Paulin, D. *Tweeting to Learn: An Exploration of Twitter-based Learning at Conferences*. Social Media and Society, Halifax, NS.
- 2013 Sundararajan, B., Sheehan, L., ***Gilbert, S.**, Gauthier, L.E. *Mediated Discourse in Higher Ed Classrooms Using Text Messaging*. Higher Education Teaching & Learning (HETL) Conference, Orlando, FL
- 2012 Sundararajan, B., Sheehan, L., ***Gilbert, S.** (2012, May). *Text Messaging as a Discussion tool in Higher Education Classrooms*. Dalhousie Conference on University Teaching and Learning, Halifax, NS.
- 2012 Sundararajan, B., Sheehan, L., ***Gilbert, S.** *The Texting Tourist: Texting to Learn in Higher Education*. Local and Mobile Conference, Raleigh, NC.
- 2011 ***Gilbert, S.** *Supporting the Student Research-Paper Writing Process*. Public talk given at Dalhousie School of Information Management, Halifax, NS.
- 2011 ***Gilbert, S.** & Elaine E.G. *Integrating Information Search with Work Task: Student Research and Writing Process*. GRAND (Graphics, Animation, and New Media), Vancouver, BC.
- 2011 ***Gilbert, S.** *The Student Research and Writing Process: Technologies, Activities, Information, and People*. Canadian Library Association (CLA) National Conference and Trade Show, Halifax, N.S.
- 2011 ***Gilbert, S.**, & Toms, E.G. *Designing a Tool for the Student Research and Writing Task*. Partnerships in Learning, Halifax, NS. [poster]
- 2010 ***Gilbert, S.**, McCay-Peet, L. & Toms, E.G. **Gilbert, S.**, McCay-Peet, L. & Toms, E.G. *Supporting Task with Information Appliances: Taxonomy of Functions and Tools*. In *Proceedings of the Fourth Workshop on Human-Computer Interaction and Information Retrieval (HCIR)*. Retrieved from http://research.microsoft.com/enus/um/people/ryenw/hcir2010/docs/papers/Gilbert_pp16.pdf [poster]
- 2010 Dutka, S., Weldon, J., **Gilbert, S.**, Hall, S., McCay-Peet, L., Toze, S. & Toms, E.G. *An NGALA for Coastal Zone Management*. Presented at Graphics, Animation & New Media 2010 (GRAND), Ottawa, ON.

WHITE PAPERS AND POLICY

- 2025 **Gilbert, S. & Matias, J.N** Comment on NTIA Ethical Guidelines for Research Using Pervasive Data Request for Comment submitted on behalf of the Citizens and Technology Lab <https://www.regulations.gov/comment/NTIA-2024-0004-0041>
- 2024 **Gilbert, S.,** Matias, J.N., Fiers, F. Sustainably Managing Threats and Risks to Independent Researchers on Technology and Society. Citizens and Technology Lab. DOI 10.17605/OSF.IO/GEJZ7

TALKS & WORKSHOPS

Invited Governmental Presentations & Consultations

- 2025 The Things We'll Never Know: A Science Fair of Cancelled Grants. Event Organized by the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.
- 2025 Institute for Data, Democracy & Politics (IDDP) Council for Pervasive Data Ethics. <https://iddp.gwu.edu/ethical-use-pervasive-data-research>
- 2024 Operationalizing Ethics into Online Safety and AI Research Workshop. White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.
- 2024 EU-U.S. Trade and Technology Council. Working Group 5 on 'Opening-up online platforms' black boxes' and 'From Data to Solutions against Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence.'
- 2023 Independent Researcher Data Access to Technology Platforms, Ethics, and Privacy. White House Office of Science and Technology Policy researcher roundtable
- 2022 Rep. Lori Trahan's H.R.6796 - Digital Services Oversight and Safety Act of 2022

Invited Talks & Panels

- 2026 "Translational Research + Tech" Invited talk at Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research
- 2026 "What Wikipedia reveals about the human potential for cooperation" Invited talk at Wikipedia Day NYC. J. Nathan Matias & Sarah Gilbert
- 2025 "Community Moderation, Human Rights Due Diligence, and Government Demands & Restrictions" Invited panelist at Global Network Initiative
- 2025 "Threats to Academic Freedom" Attention: Freedom, Interrupted Conference [invited panelist]
- 2024 "Do moderators dream of AI support? Understanding what moderators really need through community-engaged research" Workshop on Multimodal Content Moderation at The Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR).
- 2024 "Towards Intersectional Moderation: Accounting for Power with Care" All Things in Moderation.
- 2023 "Community-Engaged Research on AI and Society Online" Invited talk at Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research. J. Nathan Matias & Sarah Gilbert.
- 2023 Reddit Moderator Summit. Invited to interview Reddit CEO Steve Huffman
- 2023 "Community Stewardship for 21st Century Democracy" moderated by New_ Public at the Henry Luce Foundation
- 2022 Reddit Inc. panel on moderating curated spaces [Invited panelist]
- 2021 *Behind the Banhammer: An Ethnographic Exploration of Reddit Community Moderation*, Global Spotlight, University of Maryland
- 2021 *Trends in trust*. Social Data Science Center, University of Maryland, College Park

Guest Lectures

- 2023-24 “Behind the banhammer: An ethnography of community moderation on Reddit.” 529-Online Communities, taught by Dr. Michaelanne Thomas and Dr. Nicole Ellison, University of Michigan
- 2023 429-Online Communities. “When Research is the Context: Measuring Americans’ Expectations for Trustworthy Research Use of Social Media Data” taught by Dr. Oliver Haimson
- 2021 *Mixed Qualitative Methods*. CSCI 8115 HCI & UI Technology, taught by Dr. Stevie Chancellor at University of Minnesota
- 2020 *Governing the Internet*. CS598 The Antisocial Internet, taught by Dr. Eshwar Chandrasekharan at University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
- 2020 *Choosing a postdoc*. INST800 The Engaged Intellectual, taught by Dr. Mega Subramaniam at University of Maryland, College Park
- 2020 *I run the world’s largest historical outreach project and it’s on a cesspool of a website*. Comm St 227, Communication and Technology taught by Dr. Jeremy Birnholtz at Northwestern University
- 2018 “Online Participation.” INST289 Social Networking, taught by Dr. Jennifer Golbeck University of Maryland, University of Maryland, College Park

Workshops (non-archival)

- 2025 “Participatory Science about Technology and Society” Symposium at Conference for Advancing Participatory Sciences with Matias, J.N., Geurkink, B., Smith, A., and Whitney, T.
- 2025 “Workshop on Forensic Data on Social Media Harms” Co-organizer with Matias, J.N., Edelson., L., McCoy., D., Gonzales, A.
- 2024 “Who is safety for? Reconceptualizing safety in end-to-end encrypted apps” with Gonzales, A., and Vilchez, A. at “What is Safety?” CSCW 2024 Workshop [Workshop position paper]
- 2023 “Community-Driven Approaches to Research in Technology & Society” workshop sponsored by the Computing Community Consortium and the MacArthur Foundation [Invited participant]
- 2021, 2023 “Community Driven Governance Online: Past, Present, and Future,”/ “Beyond Moderation” workshops sponsored by the Justice Collaboratory at Yale Law School. [Invited panelist].
- 2022 “Theory, Fact, or Fake? Global Wikipedia Research Social,”
[https://wikimania.wikimedia.org/wiki/2022:Submissions/Theory, Fact, or Fake: Global Wikipedia Research Trivia Social](https://wikimania.wikimedia.org/wiki/2022:Submissions/Theory_Fact_or_Fake:_Global_Wikipedia_Research_Trivia_Social). Wikimania
- 2015 Paulin, D., **Gilbert, S.**, Haythornthwaite, C., Gruz, A., Absar, R. “Beyond the backchannel: Leveraging Twitter to enact learning processes.” Session for Interaction and Engagement, iConference, Newport Beach, CA. [Workshop Organizer]
- 2015 **Gilbert, S.** “Participants in the crowd: Deliberations on the ethical use of crowdsourcing in research.” Big Data and Ethics Workshop conducted at 18th ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW). Retrieved from
<https://cscwethics2015.files.wordpress.com/2015/02/gilbert.pdf> [Workshop Position Paper]

MEDIA

Popular press op-eds

- 2025 “Three reasons Meta will struggle with community fact-checking.” *MIT Technology Review* <https://www.technologyreview.com/2025/01/29/1110630/three-reasons-meta-will-struggle-with-community-fact-checking/>
- 2024 “Why Reddit’s decision to cut off researchers is bad for its business—and humanity” (with Brandi Geurkink). *Fast Company*.
<https://www.fastcompany.com/91014116/reddit-researchers-bad-for-business>
- 2023 “Enabling Independent Research Without Unleashing Ethics Disasters” (with J. Nathan Matias and Josephine Lukito). *Tech Policy Press*.
<https://techpolicy.press/enabling-independent-research-without-unleashing-ethics-disasters/>

Select press coverage

- 2025 *The New York Times*. “Will I lose my job?” Federal Workers Flock to Reddit for Answers. https://www.nytimes.com/2025/03/19/technology/reddit-va-federal-workers.html?unlocked_article_code=1.5E4.Vm5u.4wwbwdu1Z_i&smid=url-share
- 2024 PRIMeR (Public Responsibility in Research & Medicine). Research Ethics Reimagined Episode 5 “Research Ethics Across Domains With Nicholas Proferes, PhD, Sarah Gilbert, PhD, and Kyle Pittman, MPA” Podcast Guest.
<https://primr.org/podcast/research-ethics-across-domains/>
- 2024 *Nature*. “How scientists are making the most of Reddit.”
<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-00906-y>
- 2024 *The Washington Post*. “Reddit’s shares soar in stock market debut.”
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2024/03/21/reddit-ipo-explained-stock-users/>
- 2023 *The Guardian*. “How social media’s biggest user protest rocked Reddit.”
<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2023/dec/30/reddit-moderator-protest-communities-social-media>
- 2023 *Cornell University*. Cornell Postdoc Spotlight: Sarah Gilbert.
<https://gradschool.cornell.edu/spotlights/postdoc-spotlight-sarah-gilbert/>
- 2023 *Financial Times*, “Peak social media: Building better platforms.” Podcast guest.
<https://www.ft.com/content/40ce24ee-46d4-44c0-bedc-8b81f0f451de>
- 2023 *CNBC*, “Reddit’s rise and recent revolts.” Interview guest.
<https://www.cnn.com/video/2023/07/30/the-reddit-revolts-and-what-they-mean-for-the-companys-ipo-plans.html>
- 2023 *The Washington Post*, “Why have many Reddit communities gone private? The blackout, explained.”
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2023/06/12/reddit-blackout-begins/>
- 2023 *The Guardian*, “TechScape: After a brutal blackout, will Reddit ever be the same?”
<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2023/jun/20/techscape-reddit-blackout-forums-ipo-profit>
- 2023 *The Associated Press*, “Thousands of Reddit communities go dark to boycott third-party app charges” <https://apnews.com/article/reddit-blackout-api-protest-3695f5ae62af0ae11d004b9a30fd0097>

- 2023 *CNBC*, “Reddit is in crisis as prominent moderators loudly protest the company’s treatment of developers” <https://www.cnbc.com/2023/06/16/reddit-in-crisis-as-prominent-moderators-protest-api-price-increase.html>
- 2023 *CBS News*, “Thousands of Reddit forums are going dark this week. Here's why.” <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/thousands-of-reddit-forums-are-going-dark-this-week-heres-why/>
- 2023 *Vice*, “Reddit Moderators Brace for a ChatGPT Spam Apocalypse” <https://www.vice.com/en/article/jg5qy8/reddit-moderators-brace-for-a-chatgpt-spam-apocalypse>
- 2021 *Internet Health Report*, <https://2020.internethealthreport.org/>
- 2020 *The Atlantic*, “Where Everyone Goes When the Internet Breaks.” <https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2020/02/downdetector-websites-crash-ookla-outages-reddit/607048/>

HONOURS & AWARDS

- 2023 **Postdoctoral Achievement Award for Excellence in Leadership.** Cornell University
- 2011 **Dalhousie School of Information Management Research Award**
School of Information Management, Dalhousie University
- 2011 **Nomination to Phi Beta Mu** (International Library and Information Studies Honours Society), School of Information Management, Dalhousie University

TEACHING

Advising

Erika Melder, '27. PhD Candidate in Computer Science, Northeastern (Committee member)

Courses Taught

- INST201 Introduction to Information Science, University of Maryland
(Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Fall 2021)
- INST466 Technology, Culture & Society, University of Maryland (Summer 2019—co-taught with Shawn Janzen)

Teaching Assistantships

- LIBR509 Foundations of Bibliographic Control, University of British Columbia, Graduate
(Fall 2012 through to Spring 2018)
- LIBR511 Cataloguing and Classification, Graduate (Spring 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016)
- MGMT Knowledge Management, Undergraduate (Spring, 2012)

SERVICE

Committees

- 2026 **Associate Editor:** ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)
- 2025 **Senior Program Committee,** ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)
- 2024-2026 **Colloquium Committee Chair,** Cornell Department of Communication
- 2022-24 **Program Committee,** ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)

2024	Program Committee , 7th Workshop on Technology and Consumer Protection (ConPro '24)
2020-21	Organizing Committee—Research/Meta Co-chair , ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)
2019	Program Committee , 82nd Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology.
2019	Program Committee , 10 th International Conference on Social Media & Society
2018	PhD Student Representative , iSchool Associate/Full Professor Search Committee, University of British Columbia
2017-2018	Student Representative , Colloquium Days, University of British Columbia
2013	Local Arrangements Committee , Human Computer Interaction & Information Retrieval (HCIR) Workshop
2009–2011	Student Representative , Curriculum and Continuing Education Committee, Dalhousie University

Peer reviewing

Grants

- NSF Information & Intelligent Systems Division — panel reviewer
- NSF Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences — ad hoc reviewer

Books

- MIT Press

Journals & Conferences

- ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (CSCW)
- ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
- American Behavioral Scientist
- Association for Information Science and Technology Conference (ASIS&T)
- Big Data & Society
- Communications of the ACM
- Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS)
- International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media
- Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology (JASIST)
- Journal of Business Ethics
- Journal of Communication
- Journal of Computer Mediated Communication
- Journal of Information, Communication & Ethics in Society
- Journal of Knowledge Management
- Journal of Medical Internet Research
- Mobile Media & Communication
- Nature Computational Science
- New Media & Society
- Social Media + Society
- Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (ToCHI)

Other Reviewing

- CITI Program: research ethics modules
- SSRC (Social Science Research Council) SDI (Social Data Initiative) ethics review for the Social Data Research and Dissertation Fellowships program.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2018–2025 ACM (Association for Computing Machinery)

SELECT PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- 2026 Reddit post on research: *AskHistorians Community Survey Results*.
https://reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/1sm6lhx/askhistorians_community_survey_results/
- 2024 Freedoms of Assembly and Association in Digital Technologies [blog post co-authored with J. Nathan Matias.] <https://citizensandtech.org/2024/10/assembly-and-association/>
- 2022 From Avifauna to Megafauna: Migrations in Online Social Spaces.
<https://citizensandtech.org/2022/11/migrations-in-online-social-spaces/> [blog post]
- 2022 Imagining Lasting Change in Content Moderation: A Citizen's Agenda
<https://citizensandtech.org/2022/10/lasting-change-on-content-moderation/> [blog post with J. Nathan Matias]
- 2022 Live Blogging Trust Con <https://citizensandtech.org/2022/09/trustcon-2022/> [blog posts with J. Nathan Matias]
- 2022 Research Engagement Through Trivia Games: Wikimania Report.
<https://citizensandtech.org/2022/09/engagement-through-trivia/> [blog post]
- 2022 Study Results: How well do harassment prevention interventions transfer between communities? <https://citizensandtech.org/2022/08/harassment-prevention-across-communities/> [blog post with J. Nathan Matias, Julia Kamin, Eric Pennington, Max Klein & Shamay Agaron]
- 2021 Tech + Research: Welcoming Women to Computing Research (Research workshop geared towards engaging undergraduate women in computing). *What Did I Say Wrong? Surveying Experiences of Content Moderation in Online Communities*. [Project co-organizer]
- 2021 Citizen Panel: Regulating Social Media
<https://evidlab.umd.edu/citizen-panel-regulating-social-media/> [Panel co-organizer]
- 2020 Reddit post on research: *They were notorious of moderators of Reddit, surfing a tidal wave of [removed]. But behind the comment graveyard, the knowledgeable team was trapped in a private hell. The AskHistorians mods, as you've never seen them before... in my published paper.*
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/i7sfwx/they_were_notorious_of_moderators_of_reddit/
- 2018 Reddit post on research: [Meta] *I'm back with the final post summarizing my PhD dissertation work on AskHistorians! This post describes the visible and invisible work of AskHistorians moderations (and why they do it).*
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/a5j123/meta_im_back_with_the_final_post_summarizing_my/
- 2018 Reddit post on research: [Meta] *I wrote my PhD dissertation on AskHistorians! Buckle up for Part 2, on the cultural and technical impacts of Reddit on AskHistorians (and*

- AskHistorians*, on Reddit).
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/a4yc1v/meta_i_wrote_my_phd_dissertation_on_askhistorians/
- 2018 Reddit post on research: *[Meta] I wrote my PhD dissertation on AskHistorians! Rather than ask you to read the whole thing, I've summed up my findings in three posts. This is Part 1, on learning and knowledge exchange in AskHistorians.*
https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorians/comments/a3p1ig/meta_i_wrote_my_phd_dissertation_on_askhistorians/
- 2015 Blog post: *What motivates #hcsmdca members' participation? An analysis of our Feb 4 chat.*
<https://cyhealthcommunications.wordpress.com/2015/03/06/what-motivates-hcsmdca-members-participation-an-analysis-of-our-feb-4-chat/>
- 2015 Blog post: *Why do you take part in #hcsmdca? Introducing a study examining motivations for participating in online groups..*
<https://cyhealthcommunications.wordpress.com/2015/02/02/why-do-you-take-part-in-hcsmdca-introducing-a-study-examining-motivations-for-participating-in-online-groups/>
- 2011 Blog post: *The Ties That Bind: Can Social Media Support Activist Campaigns?*
<http://socialmedialab.ca/?p=2412>
- 2010 Blog post: *Weak Ties: Examining Connections in Social Networks.* SIMcast blog.
<https://blogs.dal.ca/sim/2010/10/12/weak-ties-examining-connections-in-social-networks/>