Assistant Professor
Cornell University
Department of Communication
Field Member, Information Science
Ithaca, NY 14853

nathan.matias@cornell.edu
natematias.com
linkedin.com/in/natematias

J. Nathan Matias, Ph.D.

Education

Ph.D.   Media Arts & Sciences (MIT Media Lab). Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2017

M.S.   Media Arts & Sciences (MIT Media Lab). Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2013

M.A.   English Literature. Cambridge University, 2011

B.A.   English Literature. Cambridge University, 2008

B.A.   English Literature & Computer Science. Elizabethtown College, 2005

Academic Appointments

2019–   Assistant Professor, Cornell University Department of Communication

Field Member, Department of Information Science (2020–)

Founder. The Citizens and Technology Lab (CAT Lab) (now at Cornell) (2017–)

Affiliated Faculty, Action Research Collaborative (2022–)

Faculty Fellow in Engaged Teaching (2019–2020)

Faculty Fellow in Engaged Research (2020–2021)

2022–2023   Lenore Annenberg and Wallis Annenberg Fellow in Communication and Siegel Research Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University

2022–2023   Visiting Associate Research Scholar, Knight First Amendment Institute, Columbia University

2017–2019   Associate Research Scholar. Princeton University Psychology Department, Center for Information Technology Policy, Sociology Department

2017–2019   Visiting Scholar, MIT Center for Civic Media, MIT Media Lab

2013–2017   Fellow & Affiliate, Harvard University. Berkman-Klein Center for Internet and Society

Awards & Honors

2024   George D. Levy Engaged Teaching and Research Award, Cornell University

2023   Rise25 Award, Mozilla Foundation, for "shaping future of the internet to be more ethical, responsible and inclusive."

2022   Finalist, Innovation by design Award, FastCompany, with Jonathan Zong

2022   Finalist, MIT Open Data Award, with Jonathan Zong

2017   Linda Tischler Award, FastCompany, for an innovative up-coming designer

2017   Aspen Institute Communications & Society Guest Scholar: AI Policy

2016   Harvey Fellowship, Mustard Seed Foundation

2014	MIT Horton Fellowship Award, for "spirited contributions to MIT graduate life"
2006–2008	Davies Jackson Scholarship, University of Cambridge
2006	Finalist, Rhodes Scholarship
2006	Hugh Cannon Memorial Scholar, American Institute of Parliamentarians
2005	Nelson Award, Association for Computer Machinery
2005	Louise Baugher Black Nonfiction Writing Award, Elizabethtown College
2005	Wenger Award for Distinguished English Senior, Elizabethtown College
2005	Best of Show, Student Art Show, Elizabethtown College
2005	Riddick Scholar, American Institute of Parliamentarians
2004–2005	College Scholar, Elizabethtown College
2003	Riddick Scholar, American Institute of Parliamentarians
2002-2005	Presidential Scholar, Elizabethtown College
2002-2005	Elizabethtown College Honors Program

Grants

2017–present **PI**: Unrestricted Gifts to CAT Lab. (**$228,000**)

2024–present **PI**: Ford Foundation: "Core Support, PIT Catalyst." (**$250,000**)

2024–present **PI**: Templeton World Charity Foundation: "Monitoring, Forecasting, and Intervening on Feedback Loops in Human-Algorithm Behavior." (**$530,000**)

2024-2025 **Co-PI** (with Sarah Gilbert): Cornell AI Moonshot Award: "Using AI To Study Forensic Data on Social Media Harms." (**42,600**)

2024–2025 **PI**: Rita Allen Foundation: Civic Science Fellowship. (**$187,795**)

2024 **PI**: George D. Levy Engaged Teaching and Research Award (**$5,000**)

2023–2024 **PI**: Siegel Family Endowment: "Workshop on Platforms, Causality, and the Law." (**$75,000**)

2023–2025 **Co-PI** (with Tom Ristenpart, Mor Naaman, James Grimmelmann, and Amy Zhang): National Science Foundation: "Collaborative Research: SaTC: CORE: Large: Privacy-Preserving Abuse Prevention for Encrypted Communications Platforms." (**$2,628,174**)

2023–2025 **PI**: John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation: "Flexible Support for the Citizens and Technology Lab." (**$900,000**)

2022–2023 **Conference Grant**: (with Neil Lewis Jr. and the American Association for the Advancement of Science) John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. "Faculty Parity Project." (**$74,897**)

2022–2024 **PI**: Ford Foundation: "Core Support, PIT Catalyst." (**$250,000**)

2022–2023 **PI**: John S. and James L. Knight Foundation: "The Citizens and Technology Lab: Research and Engineering Growth." (**$250,000**)

2022–2023 **PI**: Media Democracy Fund, New Venture Fund: "Ethics in Internet Related Research." (**$75,270**)

2022 **PI**: Ford Foundation: "Supporting the Public Technology Leadership Collaborative through Data-Society Research Institute." (**$9,714**)

2022	**Co-PI** (with Thomas Ristenpart, Nicola Dell, James Grimmelman): RFA for Cornell University Multi-investigator seed grants of the Academic Integration Program: "Travel grant for Intercampus Collaboration." (**$2,000**)
2021–2023	**Co-PI**: (with Susan Benesch and Rebekah Tromble): Media Democracy Fund, New Venture Fund: "Coalition for Independent Technology Research." (**$86,683**)
2021-2023	**PI**: Templeton World Charity Foundation: "Scaling Citizen Behavioral Science for Effective Online Dialogue and Knowledge Creation." (**$999,888**)
2020–2022	**PI**: John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation: "Flexible Support of the Citizens and Technology Lab: Growing and Protecting Civic Participation Online through Citizen Science." (**$300,000**)
2019–2020	**PI**: SUNY Open Educational Resources Grant: "Open Access Materials for Teaching Field Experiments." (**$5,000**)
2019	**Conference Grant**: MacArthur Foundation. "X-Grant, Citizens and Technology Summit." (**$15,000**)
2019	**PI**: Ethics and Governance of AI Initiative. "Governing human-algorithm behavior." (**$275,000**)
2018–2020	**PI**: Ford Foundation. "Improving civic engagement with citizen behavioral science." (**$100,000**)
2018–2020	**PI**: Templeton World Charity Foundation. "Software for Participatory Randomized Trials with Wikimedia Communities, Testing Effects of Networked Gratitude and AI-Directed Hospitality In Large-Scale Cooperation." (**$233,000**)
2017–2018	**PI**: Ethics and Governance of AI Initiative. "Governing Human-Algorithm Behavior."(**$140,000**)
2017–2018	**PI**: Mozilla Foundation. "Studying Online Harassment and Freedom of Expression." (**$20,000**)
2018	**Conference Grant**: MacArthur Foundation, Knight Foundation. Tow Center for Digital Journalism. "CivilServant Community Research Summit." (**$25,000**)
2016	**PI**: Harvey Fellowship. Mustard Seed Foundation. (**$12,000**)
2014	**Conference Grant**: John S. and James L. Knight Foundation: "Gender Data for Change Workshop." (**$10,000**)
2014	**PI**: John S. and James L. Knight Foundation: "Open Gender Tracker." (**$30,000**)
2012–2013	**Co-PI**: (with Gaia Marcus) Nominet Trust. "Social Mirror." (**£70,000**)

Publications

Books

[1] Marc Aidinoff, Lena Armstrong, Esha Bhandari, Ellery Roberts Biddle, Motahhare Eslami, Karrie Karahalios, **J. Nathan Matias**, Danaé Metaxa, Alondra Nelson, Christian Sandvig and Kristen Vaccaro. *Auditing AI*. Cambridge: MIT Press, forthcoming 2026.

Articles

This section includes both journal articles and computer science conference proceedings, which are considered equivalent to journal articles. As of March 2025, they have been cited 1469 times, with an h-index of 17.

* indicates graduate student or postdoctoral fellow ****** indicates undergraduate student

[1] Orben, A., **Matias, J.N.** (2025, forthcoming) Fixing the Science of Technology Harms. Science.

[2] **Matias, J.N.**, Penney, J. (2025, forthcoming) Science and Causality in Technology Litigation. Journal of Trust and Safety.

[3] Le Quéré, M. A.,* **Matias, J.N.** (2024) When Curiosity Gaps Backfire: Effects of Headline Concreteness on Information Selection Decisions. Scientific Reports. 15(1), 994.

[4] Wright, L.,* Muenster, R.,* Vecchione, B., Qu, T., Cai, S., Smith, A., Student Investigators, Metcalf, J., **Matias, J.N.** (2024) Null Compliance: NYC Local Law 144 and the Challenges of Algorithm Accountability. ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency. (acceptance rate 24%)

[5] *Zong, J., & **Matias, J. N.** (2023) Data Refusal from Below: A Framework for Understanding, Evaluating, and Envisioning Refusal Strategies. ACM Journal for Responsible Computing.

[6] **Matias, J. N.** (2023) Influencing Recommendation Algorithms to Reduce the Spread of Unreliable News. Scientific Reports, 13(1), 11715.

[7] **Matias, J.N.** (2023) Humans and algorithms work together — so study them together. Nature, 617(7960), 248-251.

[8] **Matias, J. N.**, Lewis, N. A., & Hope, E. C. (2022). US universities are not succeeding in diversifying faculty. Nature Human Behaviour, 13.

[9] **Matias, J. N.**, Pennington, E., & *Chan, Z. (2022). Testing Concerns about Technology's Behavioral Impacts with N-of-one Trials. 2022 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency. (acceptance rate 25%)

[10] *Zong, J., & **Matias, J. N.** (2022). Bartleby: Procedural and Substantive Ethics in the Design of Research Ethics Systems. Social Media + Society, 8(1).

[11] **Matias, J. N.**, *Hounsel, A., & Feamster, N. (2022). Software-Supported Audits of Decision-Making Systems: Testing Google and Facebook's Political Advertising Policies. Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction, 6(CSCW1), 119. (acceptance rate 26%)

[12] **Matias, J. N.**, Munger, K., *Quere, M. A. L., & *Ebersole, C. (2021). The Upworthy Research Archive, a time series of 32,487 experiments in U.S. media. Scientific Data, 8(1).

[13] *Kaiser, B., Wei, J., *Lucherini, E., *Lee, K., **Matias, J. N.**, & Mayer, J. (2021). Adapting security warnings to counter online disinformation. 30th USENIX Security Symposium (USENIX Security 21), 11631180. (16% acceptance rate)

[14] Zuckerman, E., **Matias, J. N.**, Bhargava, R., Bermejo, F., & **Ko, A. (2019). Whose Death Matters? A quantitative analysis of media attention to deaths of Black Americans in police confrontations, 20132016. International Journal of Communication.

[15] **Matias, J. N.** (2019). Preventing harassment and increasing group participation through social norms in 2,190 online science discussions. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 116(20), 97859789.

[16] **Matias, J. N.** (2019). The Civic Labor of Volunteer Moderators Online. Social Media + Society, 5(2), 205630511983677.

[17] **Matias, J. N.**, & *Mou, M. (2018). CivilServant: Community-Led Experiments in Platform Governance. Proceedings of the 2018 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. (acceptance rate 24%)

[18] *Gaffney, D., & **Matias, J. N.** (2018). Caveat emptor, computational social science: Large-scale missing data in a widely-published Reddit corpus. PLOS ONE, 13(7), e0200162.

[19] Gantman, A., Gomila, R., Martinez, J. E., **Matias, J. N.**, Paluck, E. L., Starck, J., Wu, S., & Yaffe, N. (2018). A pragmatist philosophy of psychological science and its implications for replication. Behavioral and Brain Sciences, 41.

[20] **Matias, J. N.**, Szalavitz, S., & Zuckerman, E. (2017). FollowBias: Supporting Behavior Change toward Gender Equality by Networked Gatekeepers on Social Media. Proceedings of the 2017 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing.
(25% acceptance rate)

[21] **Matias, J. N.** (2016). Going dark: Social factors in collective action against platform operators in the Reddit blackout. Proceedings of the 2016 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. **Best Paper Honorable Mention** (23% acceptance rate)

[22] **Matias, J. N.**, Dasgupta, S., & Hill, B. M. (2016). Skill Progression in Scratch Revisited. Proceedings of the 2016 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.
(27% acceptance rate)

[23] Spiro, E. S., **Matias, J. N.**, & Monroy-Hernández, A. (2016). Networks of gratitude: Structures of thanks and user expectations in workplace appreciation systems. Tenth International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media. (17% acceptance rate)

[24] Keegan, B. C., & **Matias, J. N.** (2016). Actually, it's About ethics in computational social science: A multi-party risk-benefit framework for online community research. AAAI Spring Symposium on Observational Studies in Social Media 2016 (acceptance rate n.d.)

[25] Rzeszotarski, J. M., Spiro, E. S., **Matias, J. N.**, Monroy-Hernández, A., & Morris, M. R. (2014). Is anyone out there?: Unpacking Q&A hashtags on twitter. Proceedings of the SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. (23% acceptance rate)

[26] **Matias, J. N.**, & Cheung, F. (2010). Emberlight: Share and publish spatial hypertext to the web. Proceedings of the 21st ACM Conference on Hypertext and Hypermedia - Hypertext 2010.
(37% acceptance rate)

[27] **Matias, J. N.**, & Williams, D. P. (2009). Comparing spatial hypertext collections. Proceedings of the 20th ACM Conference on Hypertext and Hypermedia - Hypertext 2009.
(37% acceptance rate)

[28] **Matias, J. N.** (2005). Philadelphia Fullerine: A case study in three-dimensional hypermedia. Proceedings of the Sixteenth ACM Conference on Hypertext and Hypermedia - Hypertext 2005.
ACM Nelson Award. **Best paper runner-up**
(32% acceptance rate)

Works Under Review and In Progress

[1] **Matias, J.N.**, Price, M. (solicited after pre-submission peer review) How Public Involvement Can Improve the Science of Artificial Intelligence. Proceedings of the National Academy of Scientists.

[2] **Matias, J.N.**, Tromble, R., Lazer, D., (solicited after pre-submission inquiry) Scientific Independence in Digital Technology Research. Nature.

[3] *Wright, L., **Matias, J.N.**, Mou, M., Penney, J., Klein, M. (under review) Automated Enforcement of Copyright Law Reduces Freedom of Expression Online.

[4] **Matias, J. N.**, *Gilbert, S., *Reddan, M., **Simko, T. (under review) Bolstering Rights of Assembly and Association in Communities Facing Online Harassment, a Field Experiment. https://osf.io/b42q6/

[5] **Matias, J. N.**, Kamin, J., Al-Kashif, R., Klein, M., & Pennington, E. (under review) How Cascades of Private Gratitude Sustain Public Goods: Four Field Experiments with Wikipedia. https://osf.io/dmwef/

[6] *Gonzalez, A., **Matias, J.N.** (under review) Measuring the Mental Health of Content Reviewers, a Systematic Review. https://arxiv.org/abs/2502.00244

[7] **Matias, J. N.**, Kamin, J., & *Gilbert, S. (2022). Estimating the effect of making policies visible in response to algorithm promotion on Reddit. https://osf.io/hvc9t/

[8] **Matias, J. N.**, Benesch, S., Ruths, D., & Joinson, A. (2018). Behavioral Outcomes of Making Policies Visible to People on Social Media. https://osf.io/kxtd9/

[9] **Matias, J. N.**, Kamin, J., Pennington, E., Klein, M., Agaron, S., & *Gilbert, S. How well do harassment prevention interventions transfer between communities? A meta-analysis.

[10] **Matias, J. N.** The Diffusion of Evidence in Digital Governance.

[11] **Matias, J. N.**, Kamin, J., Al-Kashif, R., Klein, M., & Pennington, E. Expressing Gratitude and Feeling Emotionally Drained on Wikipedia. https://osf.io/m9cy6/

[12] **Matias, J. N.**, Kamin, J., Klein, M., Pennington, E., & Devouard, F. Broadening African Self-Representation on Wikipedia: A Field Experiment. https://osf.io/xcukm/

Scholarly Reports

Publications commissioned by scholarly societies or foundations involving detailed academic feedback.

[1] **Matias, J. N.**, *Wright, L. (2022). Impact Assessment of Human-Algorithm Feedback Loops. Social Science Research Council.

[2] **Matias, J. N.**, Johnson, A., Boesel, W. E., Keegan, B., Friedman, J., & DeTar, C. (2015). Reporting, reviewing, and responding to harassment on Twitter. Double-blind academic review chaired by Zeynep Tufekci.

Refereed Workshop and Conference Presentations

These non-archival conference and workshop publications were peer reviewed.

[1] Vertesi, J. **Matias, J.N.** (2023) Divesting from Big Tech: Alternative possibilities for research and futuring in social computing. ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing.

[2] **Matias, J. N.** (2021) Nudging Algorithms by Influencing Human Behavior: Effects of Encouraging Fact-Checking on News Rankings. International Communication Association Annual Conference.

[3] **Matias, J. N.,** Kamin, J., Al-Kashif, R., Klein, M., & Pennington, E. (2021) The Diffusion and Influence of Gratitude Expressions in Large-Scale Cooperation: A Field Experiment in Four Knowledge Networks. International Communication Association Annual Conference.

[4] **Matias, J. N.,** Mou, M. E., Penney, J., & Klein, M. (2021) Do Automated Legal Threats Reduce Freedom of Expression Online? Preliminary Results from a Natural Experiment. International Communication Association Annual Conference.

[5] **Matias, J. N.**, & Penney, J. (2020) Digital Behavioral Influence and its Harms. Privacy Law Scholars Conference. (accepted but not presented due to COVID-19)

[6] **Matias, J. N.**, & Munger, K. (2019) The Upworthy Research Archive. The Conference on Digital Experimentation @ MIT.

[7] **Matias, J. N.** Teaching Large-Scale Experimentation to Undergraduates and Graduate Students. (2018) The Conference on Digital Experimentation @ MIT.

[8] *Zong, J., & **Matias, J. N**. (2018) Automated Debriefing: Interface for Large-Scale Research Ethics. **Best Demo Award**: ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing. ACM Press.

[9] **Matias, J. N.** (2017) Community-Led Platform Governance Experiments. The Conference on Digital Experimentation @ MIT.

[10] **Matias, J. N.** (2017) Authoritarian and Democratic Theories of Social Experimentation in 20th Century US Industry and Policymaking. Society for Social Studies of Science annual conference, Boston MA.

[11] **Matias, J. N.** (2017) Citizen Experiments in Moderation. CCCCCCCR Workshop, ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing.

[12] **Matias, J. N.** (2016) The Civic Labor of Online Moderators. Oxford Internet, Policy, and Politics Conference. Oxford, UK.

[13] **Matias, J. N.** (2016) The Cost of Solidarity: The Effect of Strike Participation on Community Participation in the reddit Blackout. The Conference on Digital Experimentation @ MIT.

[14] **Matias, J. N.** (2016) Evidence-Based Policy in Large-Scale Online Communities. What Works Global Summit. Campbell Collaboration, London, UK.

[15] **Matias, J. N.** Work In Progress: Mass Replication of Policy Evaluation Through Citizen-Led Randomized Trials. (2016) Data for Policy, Cambridge, UK.

[16] Matias, J. N. (2016) Participatory Field Experiments and Causal Inference For Monitoring and Advancing Social Justice. CHI 2016 Workshop: Design, Social Justice, & HCI.

[17] **Matias, J. N.** , & Wallach, H. (2015) Working Paper: Modeling Gender Discrimination by Audiences of Online News. *Computation + Journalism Symposium*, Columbia University.

[18] **Matias, J. N.,** **Diehl, S., and Zuckerman, E. (2015) Passing On: Reader-Sourcing Gender Diversity in Wikipedia. *Proceedings of the 33rd Annual ACM Conference Extended Abstracts on Human Factors in Computing Systems.*

[19] Bavitz, C., Barabas, C., **Matias, J. N.**, Xie, C., & Xu, J. (2015) Legal and Ethical Issues in the Use of Telepresence Robots. WeRobot 2015 Conference on Legal and Policy Issues Relating to Robotics, Seattle WA.

[20] Graeff, E., & **Matias, J. N.** (2015) Making Drones Civic: Values and Design Principles for Civic Technology. International Studies Association 2015.

[21] **Matias, J. N.**, & Monroy-Hernandez, A. (2014) NewsPad: designing for collaborative storytelling in neighborhoods. CHI'14 Extended Abstracts on Human Factors in Computing Systems. ACM Press.

[22] **Matias, J. N.**, Agapie, E., D'Ignazio, C., and Graeff, E. (2014) Challenges for Personal Behavior Change Research on Information Diversity. Workshop on Personalized Behavior Change, at The 32nd ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI'14).

[23] **Matias, J. N.**, & Geiger, S. (2014) Defining, Designing, and Evaluating Civic Activity in Collective Action Systems. Citizen-X workshop at The Second AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing.

Other Academic Resources

[1] **Matias, J. N.**, & Leavitt, A. (2020) COVID-19 Social Science Research Tracker. Coordinated 350+ teams to create a shared index of social science projects to facilitate collaboration and data sharing. Cited in 13 peer reviewed scholarly articles as of March 2025.

[2] **Matias, J. N.**, Benesch, S., Earley, P., Gillespie, T., Keegan, B., Levy, N., & Maher, E. (2015) Online Harassment Resource Guide. Wikimedia Meta-Wiki.

Selected Talks

Invited Government Presentations

2024-10-15   Workshop on Ethical Considerations when Studying Youth Online. U.S. White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

2024-04-04   Supporting independent research on online safety. U.S. - E.U. Trade and Technology Council: Joint Principles on Combatting Gender based Violence in the Digital Environment.

2023-10-14   Risks and Harms from Search, Recommenders, and Generative AI. US Citizens Assembly on AI Policy.

2023-08-05   Independent Researcher Data Access to Technology Platforms, Ethics, and Privacy. White House Office of Science and Technology Policy researcher round table.

2022-10-07   Evidence-Based Technology Regulation. U.S. Federal Trade Commission and Consumer Financial Protection Board.

2021-09-17   Unlocking and Protecting Evidence-Based Policy for Tech Governance. Canadian Commission on Democratic Expression.

2020-11-19   Democratic Experiments in Democratic Participation. Decidim Festival, Barcelona City Council.

2017-12-19   Combating Online Violence Against Politically-Active Women *Internet Governance Forum, held at the United Nations*, Geneva, Switzerland. With Sandra Pepera, David Kaye, Nighat Dad, and Seyi Akiwowo.

2013-10-29   Monitoring and regulating media plurality. The UK Office of Communications (OFCOM).

Invited Academic Colloquia and Seminars

2025-03-12   Humans and algorithms work together - so evaluate them together. Santa Fe Institute workshop on Measuring AI in the World.

2025-03-01   Aligning Science and Markets for Responsible AI. **Keynote speaker**, Duke University Responsible AI Symposium.

2025-02-12   Participatory Research on Social Media, Conflict, and Well-Being. Civic Science American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

2024-10-18   How Cascades of Private Gratitude Sustain Public Goods Online. Northeastern University Network Science Institute.

2024-10-17   Improving our Digital Environments with Citizen Science. MIT Data + Feminism Lab.

2024-10-17   What Good Can Research Software Do for Technology and Society? Harvard Applied Social Media Lab.

2024-05-21   Breaking Through Barriers to Usable Science on Tech & AI Policy. Stanford University Cyber Policy Center.

2024-04-10   Governing AI with Science. National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Workshop on Evolving Technological, Legal and Social Solutions to Counter Disinformation in Social Media.

2023-12-04   Can We Govern AI with Science? Princeton University School of Public and International Affairs.

2023-09-08   **Plenary speaker**, Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society 25th Anniversary, Harvard University.

2023-12-04   Can We Govern AI with Science? Princeton University School of Public and International Affairs.

2023-07-17   Collective security in a federated world. Carnegie Endowment for Peace.

2023-04-25   The Algorithm Governance Dilemma. Berkeley Artificial Intelligence Research Lab.

2023-04-17   Community Collaborations in Public-Interest Technology. MacArthur Foundation.

2023-03-01   The Coalition for Independent Technology Research. Stanford Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society.

2023-02-23   To Govern Algorithms, We Need New Science. UC San Diego Political Science Department.

2023-02-22   Improving our Digital Environments with Citizen Science. Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy.

2023-02-11   Protecting independent research. Social Science Foo, Meta Offices, Menlo Park.

2023-01-12   Forecasting and increasing faculty diversity in the U.S. American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington D.C.

2022-12-02   To Govern Algorithms, We Need New Science. Stanford University Human-Computer Interaction Seminar.

2022-11-17   Data Sovereignty in Community Behavioral Science. Temple University Institute for Law, Innovation, and Technology.

2022-10-03   The Algorithm Governance Dilemma. Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University.

2022-01-27   Governing Runaway Catastrophes of Human and Algorithm Behavior. Northwestern University Center for Latinx Digital Media.

2021-11-12   Content Moderation in Encrypted Communications. Yale Law School workshop on Community-Driven Governance. With Lucas Wright.

2021-11-11   Unlocking Corporate Experiments for Scientific Knowledge. Louisiana State University Manship School of Mass Communication Colloquium. With Kevin Munger & Marianne Aubin Le Quere.

2021-09-15   Why democracies need industry-independent research on governing algorithms. **Closing keynote**, Northeastern University Workshop on Auditing Algorithms.

2021-09-15 The Effect of Receiving Appreciation on Wikipedias. A Community Co-Designed Field Experiment. Wikimedia Research Showcase.

2021-09-10 Governing Human-Algorithm Feedback. Boston University Questrom School of Business Marketing Department Colloquium.

2021-03-10 Governing Human and Machine Behavior. Just Tech Colloquium, University of Illinois.

2021-01-13 Is it Safe Here? Panel on online harassment at New_ Public, hosted by the University of Texas at Austin Center for Media Engagement.

2020-12-19 Science, Accountability, and Creativity in the Governance of Human and Machine Behavior. Cornell University Information Science Colloquium.

2020-11-17 Creating a Fairer, Safer, More Understanding Internet. Elizabethtown College.

2020-11-11 Artificial Intelligence and the Law. Harvard Law School seminar on Christian Legal Perspectives.

2020-10-22 Will Social Media Be Our Downfall? A Conversation about The Social Dilemma. Veritas Forum, Cornell University.

2020-09-29 Governing Human and Machine Behavior with Citizen Behavioral Science. Colloquium: Berkeley Haas School of Management.

2020-08-03 Influencing Human and Machine Behavior with Citizen Behavioral Science. MIT Human Cooperation Lab.

2020-06-17 Community-Led Experiments in Platform Governance. Workshop on Empirical Approaches in Platform Governance Research, Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society.

2020-05-01 Artificial Intelligence and Christianity. AAAS Dialogue on Science, Religion, and Ethics.

2020-02-27 Citizen Behavioral Science. Society for Personality and Social Psychology: Political Psychology pre-conference.

2019-11-21 Advancing Flourishing Digital Societies Through Citizen Science. Cornell Tech Digital Life Seminar.

2019-10-21 Remaking the power of social experiments in everyday life. Cornell Science and Technology Studies Seminar.

2019-05-08 The Obligation of Industry-Independent Evaluation to Social Media Governance. Yale University Law School, Justice Collaboratory.

2019-04-08 The Role of Citizen Science in a Flourishing Digital Society. Data & Society Institute.

2018-10-12 AI, Big Data, and Bias in Sociotechnical Systems. Panel on AI, Media, and the Threat to Democracy at Northeastern University. With Sandy Pentland and Jeremy Merill.

2018-10-10 Protecting Media Environments with Citizen Behavioral Science. Brown Institute for Media Innovation, Stanford University.

2018-08-06 Citizen Behavioral Science. **Opening keynote speaker** at the 16th Annual International Open and User Innovation Conference, New York University.

2018-02-27 Managing Internet Risks with Citizen Behavioral Science. Media @ Risk Colloquium, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania.

2017-09-28 Governing Human & Machine Behavior in an Experimenting Society. *Gave this lecture that month at the Brown Institute for Media Innovation, Stanford HCI Seminar, Facebook, Twitter, and Disqus*

2017-09-28   The Computer Says No. University of Michigan. With Solon Barocas, H. V. Jagadish, and Christian Sandvig.

2017-08-10   Authoritarian and Democratic Data Science For Governing Human and Machine Behavior. **Keynote speaker**, Latin American Conference on Human-Computer Interaction Conference, Antigua, Guatemala.

2017-03-02   The Experimenting Society: Authoritarian and Democratic Directions for Data Science. UC Santa Cruz Tech 4 Good Lecture Series.

2016-09-08   Supporting Research & Innovation Through Student Legal Services. Boston University Law School.

2016-07-21   Forbidden Research: Why We Can't Do That. Moderating a panel with Alexandra Elbakyan, Christian Sandvig, Karrie Karahalios. MIT Forbidden Research Conference.

2016-03-16   Civic Labor Online: Volunteer Governance and Collective Bargaining by reddit Moderators. Oxford Internet Institute.

2016-03-09   Freedom to Innovate: Addressing Student Legal Risks at MIT and Queen Mary's Entrepreneurship and Cyberlaw Clinics. Babbage Seminar, University of Cambridge Computer Lab. With Patrick Cahill.

2016-02-23   Developing Effective Citizen Responses to Discrimination and Harassment Online. Berkman Center Seminar Series.

2016-01-29   Understanding and Responding to Gender Discrimination and Harassment Online. Sawyer Seminar, Rice University.

2015-10-14   Holding Networks Accountable for Misuse of Power. Platform Cooperativism Conference, at the New School, New York City.

2015-10-10   Advocating for the MIT/BU law Clinics for Entrepeneurship and Cyberlaw. With Kate Darling.

2015-08-21   Between Platforms and Community: Moderators on reddit. Microsoft Research New England.

2015-05-16   Holding Crowds Accountable To the Public. Berkman Center Seminar Series.

2014-09-10   Technologies in a Changing Media Landscape. Summit on Documentary and Digital Journalism. Panel, with Larry Birnbaum, Matt Carroll, Jake Shapiro, and Angela Morgenstern.

2014-06-23   Crowdsourcing Real-Time News with NewsPad and Eventful. MIT-Knight Civic Media Conference.

2014-06-11   Large Scale Analysis of Acknowledgment and Hidden Labor. Harvard / MIT / Yale / Columbia Cyberscholars Working Group, Yale Law School

2013-09-18   Technologies to Measure and Change Cooperation Across Diversity. University of Washington DUB Seminar.

2012-10-25   Networked Tactics of Gender Representation in the Media. Tow Center for Journalism, Columbia Journalism School.

2012-10-12   Data Science for Gender Equality in the News. Harvard / MIT / Yale / Columbia Cyberscholars Working Group, Harvard.

2012-07-23   Large Scale Analysis of Women's Representation in the News. St. John's College Samuel Butler Room Society, University of Cambridge.

2009-02-16   Operational Media. Anglia Ruskin University Cultures of Digital Economy.

Peer Reviewed Lectures, Workshops, Panels

2025-05-15   Preventing and Managing Occupational Intimidation of Researchers. International Communication Association Annual Conference. With Beatrys Rodrigues and Rebekah Tromble.

2025-02-25   Who's Got Your Back? Navigating NGO Challenges Amidst Diminishing Support. RightsCon. With Brittan Heller and Caroline Sinders.

2023-10-22   Risks and Protections for Independent Research by Journalists, Civil Society, and Community Science. The Post-API Conference: Social Media Data Acquisition after Twitter. University of Pennsylvania Annenberg School for Communication. With Sarah Gilbert.

2023-10-20   Revolutionary Models for Data Archives. Association of Internet Researchers. With Jo Lukito, Megan Brown, Libby Hemphill, Cameron Hickey, Kaiya Soorholtz.

2022-09-29   Making Trust and Safety Boring by 2050. Trust and Safety Research Conference.

2022-09-29   The Coalition for Independent Technology Research. Trust and Safety Research Conference.

2020-03-06   Collective Refusal and the Limits of Informed Consent for Data Protection. Data and Society Institute Contested Data Workshop. With Jonathan Zong.

2018-04-24   Managing Deviant Behavior in Online Communities *CHI 2018*. With Amy Bruckman, Piper Below, Lucas Dixon, Casey Fiesler, and Sarah Gilbert.

2017-05-08   How to Handle Online Risks? Panel with Donghee Yvette Wohn, Casey Fiesler, Libby Hemphill, and Munmun De Choudhury. ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI).

2015-09-23   Private Platforms Under Public Pressure. Roundtable at the 16th Annual Association of Internet Researchers Annual Conference, with Mike Ananny, Kate Crawford, and Christian Sandvig.

2014-04-25   Project Stories are Not Enough: Why Hackathons are More than Hacks. Theorizing the Web, April 2014.

2014-02-22   Gender Binaries and the Ideological Affordances of Data Activism. MIT Symposium on Gender and Technology.

2014-10-20   Using Data to Crowdsource Gender Diversity Online. Gender Data for Change Workshop, NYC.

2013-06-19   Designing Women's News Representation. MIT-Knight Civic Media Conference.

2012-07-03   Network Diversity in Arab Spring Citizen Media. Global Voices Summit.

2012-06-19   Media Diets. MIT-Knight Civic Media Conference. With Matt Stempeck.

2012-04-05   Open Brands, Funding, and Code as Social Responsibility. Carper Lecture and Panel Discussion, Elizabethtown College.

2012-06-28   Through the mirror: real-time network analysis for real-life impact. UK Social Network Association Conference. With Gaia Marcus.

2010-11-06   Moral Choice in Interactive Fiction. Web Art Science Camp, London.

2010-12-11   E-Lit Camp. Digital Narrative and Participatory Documentary. Boston.

2010-06-16   Past visions of hypertext and their influence on us today. Panel with Darrenn Lunn, Mark Bernstein, Cathy Marshall, James M. Nyce, and Frank Tompa.

2009-04-27   The Electronic Nature of Future Literatures. Literary Studies Now Symposium, University College, Oxford.

Selected Guest Lectures

2024-11-24   Industry-Independent Research and Journalism on Technology and Society. Guest Lecturer at UMass Amherst course on Media, Technology, and Culture.

2020-04-07   Online Field Experiments. Guest lecturer at MIT Sloan PhD course on Computational Social Science.

2019-08-27   Guest Lecturer for Digital Intelligence, a new large first-year lecture class merging humanities and computer science at NYU Stonybrook.

2019-04-25   Field Experiments in Policy and Business. Panel in the Harvard Business School course From Data to Decisions: The Role of Experiments (with Dhaliwal, I., Koomen, P., Kim, H.).

Public Lectures

2023-10-14   Risks and Harms from Search, Recommenders, and Generative AI. US Citizens Assembly on AI Policy, convened by Baobao Zhang.

2023-09-08   Plenary speaker, Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society 25th Anniversary, Harvard.

2023-07-28   How would Jesus Study Artificial Intelligence? Invited lecture at the American Scientific Affiliation Annual Meeting.

2023-04-17   Plenary speaker MacArthur Foundation Technology in the Public Interest Retreat.

2019-08-17   Technology for growth. Wikimania 2019, Stockholm University.

2019-08-25   Salon conversation and Q&A on research with Susan McTavish and Andrew Serazin of the Templeton World Charity Foundation, New York City.

2019-08-16   Testing ideas for flourishing communities: Imagining practical and ethical A/B tests. Wikimania 2019. With Julia Kamin.

2019-04-30   Citizen Behavioral Science. TED New York City.

2017-2019   Artificial Intelligence in Christian Faith and Practice. Numerous venues, including the Veritas Forum, Questions that Matter Symposium, Stone Hill Church, London Leadership Institute, Princeton Community Church.

2016-07-29   Citizen Randomized Trials in the Experimenting Society. Machine Eatable lecture series, DataKind NYC & New York Civic Hall.

2016-07-12   Reddit's Army of Science: How A Thousand Academics Coordinate the World's Largest Science Discussions. Kavli Science Communications Summit.

2016-04-12   Creating Change with Media and Data. MIT Media Lab Member Meeting.

2016-03-25   Explaining the reddit Blackout, The Civic Labor of Moderators, and Citizen Experimentation on reddit. Talk at reddit, inc.

2015-10-18   Gratitude. Sunday Assembly Boston.

2015-04-24   The Challenge of Digital Cosmopolitanism. Q Talks Weekend Workshop.

2014-06-22   Curiosity. MIT-Knight Civic Media Conference.

2014-03-10   Filters, Bias, and Collaboration. South by Southwest. With Sarah Szalavitz.

2014-07-16   Using Open Data and Stories to Broaden Crowd Content. Wikimedia Research Showcase.

2014-10-22   Quantitative Evaluation of Civic Technologies. mySociety annual retreat.

2013-11-23   Can Gender Metrics Make the News More Diverse? O'Reilly NewsFoo.

2013-08-17   Technologies for Cooperation Across Diversity. Passion Talks, Stanford University.

2012-07-03   Network Diversity in Arab Spring Citizen Media. Global Voices Summit.

2010-08-03   Performance Testing an SMS Service for the Super Bowl. Cambridge Geek Night.

Convening & Organizing

Event Organizing

2025-03-20   *Forensic Analysis of Social Media Data.* Citizens and Technology Lab, hosted at the Ford Foundation, New York City.

2024-01-11   *Platforms, Causality, and the Law.* Collaboration with Elizabeth Eagen, Brandi Geurkink, and the Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University.

2023-01-11   *Faculty Parity Project.* Collaboration with Neil Lewis Jr., the Knight Foundation, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

2022-07-27   *The Ethics of Field Experiments.* Workshop and collaboration with the Princeton University Center for Information Technology Policy.

2022-06-20   *Building a Coalition for Independent Tech Research.* Washington, DC. Two day summit for independent researchers studying technology and society.

2021-10-15   *Imagining a Coalition for Independent Tech Research.* Co-organized a summit on defending, protecting, and sustaining industry-independent research.

2020-12-08   *The Public Sphere Post-Election.* Convened 60 academics and community practitioners for a three day idea-generating summit.

2020-09-17   *Civic Science & Tech Research*, public event, panel, and public consultation launch with Consumer Reports and the Rita Allen Foundation.

2019-11   *Citizens and Technology Summit*, New York. Lead convenor. Convened 25 community representatives and researchers to develop new study ideas.

2019-08   *CivilServant Community Research Summit*, Stockholm. Convened 30 community representatives and researchers to develop new study ideas.

2019-08   *NetGain Philadelphia.* Advised a convening by Ford, MacArthur, Omidyar, and other funders to discuss new directions for industry-independent research and action on digital technology.

2018-01   *CivilServant Community Research Summit*, MIT. Lead convener. Convenor & Fundraiser. The summit convened 55 community representatives and researchers to develop research directions for citizen behavioral science.

2017-10   *Indigitous #Hack*, MIT. Boston organizing team. Indigitous connected Christian undergraduate designers, developers, and social scientists in 40 cities worldwide to imagine and create technologies to serve society.

2016-08   *Workshop on High Impact Research in Online Harassment and Moderation*, MIT. Convener & Fundraiser. Convened researchers, advocates, and tech companies to identify high-impact research on online harassment. Funded by Jigsaw.

2015-07   *International Workshop on Misogyny and the Internet*, Harvard Law School. Advisory Committee. Coordinated literature review by roughly 20 scholars from multiple disciplines and published a resource guide.

2014-10	*Gender Data For Change.* Convened news organizations, advocacy groups, and researchers to prototype research to understand and move towards women's equality in society. Fundraised and convened. Hosted by Microsoft NYC, funded by the Knight Foundation. Facilitation with Willow Brugh and DataKind.
2014-09	*Youth Civic Tech Summit*, London. Convened UK youth organizations with technology and data practitioners and charitable foundations to plan strategic directions for youth civic tech in the UK. Co-organized with Erhardt Graeff.
2014-09	*Community Building* track, Mozilla Festival. Supported Beatrice Martini and Heather Leson. My session was reported in the New York Times.
2013-10	*Measuring the News: Tracking Content and Engagement Online.* Mozilla Festival, London. With Erhardt Graeff, facilitated a workshop on analyzing news content and traffic data.
2013, 2014	*Boston Data Swap.* Convened graduate students from across Boston for a year-long competition to work with public interest data. On the leadership team with Adrienne Debigare, Dan O'Brien, David Lazer, and Brian Keegan.
2012-10	*Curating and Repackaging Citizen Video for the Web.* Mozilla Festival, London. Facilitated a group to compile shared resources on working with citizen video and publish the results.
2012–2014	*Festival of Learning.* Annual two day event convening MIT with 150 students for peer learning and creative play. Creator, fundraiser, and organizer of festival.
2010-11	*Web Art Science Camp*, London. Unconference for artists and academics connected to research on hypertext and electronic literature. Lead Organizer.
2018–2019	Technology & Society Seminar. Princeton Center for Information Technology Policy, with Ben Zevenbergen.
2018	Training Princeton University administrators in Randomized Controlled Trials with the Kahneman-Treisman Center for Behavioral Policy.
2013–2017	Cooperation Group Seminar. Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Harvard University. Co-convener with Brian Keegan.
2014	Coders Know Your Rights: A Practical Introduction to Technology and the Law. Workshop with Andrew Sellars, Kit Walsh, Kate Darling, and Wendy Seltzer.
2012–2013	Harvard / MIT / Yale / Columbia Cyberscholars Working Group. Co-convener with Mols Sauter.
2016-01-30	Introduction to Statistics for Humanities Students. Rice University School of Humanities Research Center.

Public Engagement

Policy Reports

I regularly contribute evidence-based policy documents to government consultations

[1] Gilbert, S., **Matias, J.N.** (2025) Ethical Guidelines for Research Using Pervasive Data. Submission to the U.S. National Telecommunicaions and Information Administration.

[2] **Matias, J.N.** (2023) AI Governance & Safety Depend on Community & Commercial Content Moderators. Submission to the U.S. National AI Advisory Council.

[3] **Matias, J.N.** (2023) AI Policy Will Fail Society Without Community Science. Submission to the U.S.

National Telecommunications and Information Administration AI Accountability Policy Request for Comment.

[4] **Matias, J. N.**, & *Wright, L. (2022) Innovation & Governance of Adaptive AI with Community Science. Submission to the U.S. Office of Science and Technology Policy Research and Development Strategic Plan.

[5] Benesch, S., Geurkink, B., Karpf, D., Lazer, D., Maréchal, N., **Matias, J. N.**, & Tromble, R., (2022) The Essential Role of Industry-Independent Research in U.S. National AI R&D. Submission to the U.S. Office of Science and Technology Policy Research and Development Strategic Plan.

[6] **Matias, J. N.**, Penney, J., & *Wright, L. (2022) Comments responding to US Copyright Office Notice of Inquiry Docket No. 2021-10.

Journalism

I write long-form and data journalism on topics related to the internet and society, often explaining the human angle of research findings in a historical context

σ indicates original data journalism and reporting

[1] **Matias, J.N.**, Haven, J. Social Media Warnings Alone Can't Solve the Youth Mental Health Crisis. Tech Policy Press.

[2] σ Gilbert, S., **Matias, J.N.**, Lukito, J. (2023) Enabling Independent Research Without Unleashing Ethics Disasters. Tech Policy Press.

[3] σ **Matias, J.N.** (2023) To Hold Tech Accountable, Look to Public Health. WIRED.

[4] Benesch, S., **Matias, J. N.**, & Tromble, R. (2021-10-28) It's Time to Cut a Permanent Window into Facebook's Black Box. The Atlantic.

[5] σ **Matias, J. N.**, Lewis, N., & Hope, E. (2021-09-7) Universities Say They Want More Diverse Faculties. So Why is Academia Still So White? FiveThirtyEight.

[6] Kaiser, B., Mayer, J., **Matias, J. N.** (2021-07-23) Warnings That Work: Combating Misinformation Without Deplatforming. Lawfare.

[7] Levine, A. S., & **Matias, J. N.** (2021-04-22) How to Generate Research Ideas that Impact Society.

[8] σ **Matias, J. N.**, *Hounsel, A., & *Hopkins, M. (2018-11-02) Do Big Social Media Platforms Have Effective Ad Policies? TheAtlantic.com.

[9] **Matias, J. N.** (2017-01-03) The Real Name Fallacy. The Coral Projectl a project of Mozilla, the New York Times, and the Washington Post.

[10] σ **Matias, J. N.**, *Rickman, A., *Steiner, M. (2017-06-26) Who Gets to Use Facebook's Rainbow 'Pride' Reaction? The Atlantic.

[11] σ **Matias, J. N.** (2016-04-18) A Toxic web: What the Victorians Can Teach Us About Online Abuse. The Guardian.

[12] σ LaFrance, A. (2016-02-17) I Analyzed a Year of My Reporting for Gender Bias (Again). *The Atlantic.* Contributed original data analysis and interviewed for article on gender representation in the news.

[13] σ **Matias, J. N.** (2015-11-24) Which Boston Neighborhoods Are Worst at Holiday Cooking? Boston Magazine.

[14] σ **Matias, J. N.** (2015-06-28) Were All Those Rainbow Profile Photos Another Facebook Study? The Atlantic. This article has been translated and republished hundreds of times.

[15] σ **Matias, J. N.** (2015-06-08) The Tragedy of the Digital Commons: Advocates for fairer, safer online spaces are turning to the conservation movement for inspiration. *The Atlantic.*

[16] σ **Matias, J. N.**, Ros, I., Hyland, A. (2013-03-8) Data on gender that will make you smile, not groan. *The Guardian Datablog.* Original analysis of women's representation in Global Voices.

[17] σ **Matias, J. N.** and Evans, L. (2012-10-23) Women's Representation in the Media: Readers Preferences for Online News Revealed. *The Guardian Datablog.* Original analysis of social media attention toward articles by women in UK news.

[18] σ Evans, L., **Matias, J.N**., Cherny, L. (2012-09-7) Womens Representation in the Media: The Best Data on the Subject To Date. The Guardian Datablog.

[19] σ **Matias, J. N.** (10-24-2016) How to Ethically and Responsibly Identify Gender in Large Datasets. PBS IdeaLab.

Public History

From 2011-2018 I contributed annual historical records on developments in information technology to the *Annual Review*, a reference maintained since it was founded by Edmund Burke in 1758.

Social Media

As part of my work in citizen science and in policy, I engage actively in social media conversations about topics related to my research. By the time I retired my Twitter account in November 2022, the account (@natematias) had 14.4k followers including leading policymakers, scientific funders, journalists, technology leaders, and venture capitalists in the US and internationally. My tweets received between half a million to a million impressions per month. I now contribute to public discourse on Mastodon at @natematias@social.coop, and on LinkedIn.

Participatory Journalism

My journalism often engages & collaborates directly with with the public.

2023   Cycling in the Footsteps of the 1966 Farmworkers March. A participatory journalism project with Ivan Sigal and Global Voices to tell stories about labor, history, and the environment in California's Central Valley

2012–2014   For two years, I managed @1book140, a large-scale Twitter book club at *The Atlantic*, where I facilitated an ongoing conversation with over 100,000 book club subscribers, conducted live online interviews with notable authors, and published those conversations.

2013–11   Managed the social media launch for *Out of Eden Walk*, a 12+ year expedition by Paul Salopek to walk the story of human migration. Our social media campaign coordinated with Salopek's National Geographic cover story announcing the expedition. With Ethan Zuckerman.

Blogging and Liveblogging

Blogging is a key part of my scholarly work to organize people and amplify the ideas of others. When I attend events, I publish summaries of the talks. I advise media strategy and train teams to cover large events. Since 2011, I have averaged 40 posts per year. My posts are read by thousands of people each month.

2019–   Citizens and Technology Lab. CAT Lab posts are at citizensandtech.org.

2017–   Medium. I now regularly post liveblogs of Cornell Communication colloquium talks and other events to Medium at natematias.medium.com.

2022   TrustCon (Palo Alto). Trained and led liveblogging for the first global gathering of technology industry trust and safety professionals. These areticles are published at citizensandtech.org.

2017–2019   Freedom to Tinker. I liveblogged presentations from the Princeton University Center for IT Policy freedom-to-tinker.com/author/nmatias.

2011–2017   MIT Center for Civic Media Blog. I posted hundreds of summaries of others' research at this blog, framing it for public understanding. I also blogged about my own research. civic.mit.edu/blog/natematias.

2015–2017   Microsoft Research Social Media Collective.

2015-11   Platform Cooperativism, New School, New York City

2015-12   Urbana 2015, St Louis. Trained a liveblogging team to publish 16 articles from sessions across this five day, 16k person international symposium.

2011–2014   Mozilla Festival. Contributor to media strategy and event production.

2012   Urbana 2012, St Louis. Liveblogged a five day, 16,000-person international symposium, publishing 8 articles.

2012   Global Voices Summit on Citizen Media, Nairobi. Liveblogged a two day summit, publishing 5 articles with Matt Stempeck.

2012   ROFLCON, Cambridge MA. With Matt Stempeck and Stephen Suen, liveblogged 30 sessions in this two day event. Wrote liveblogging index to coordinate and organize liveblogging teams.

2012   Truthiness in Digital Media, Harvard University Law School.

Selected Artistic Works

2014-04-26   The People's Bot. Art installation at *Theorizing the Web*, New York City.

2011   Modeling DNA with Balloons. Featured on Nature.com

2006   Read for the sky. With Susan Davitti Darling. Winner of sculpture competition, placed on the Pennsylvania State Capitol steps.

2005   Philadelphia Fullerine. Geodesic interactive documentary sphere. Winner of multiple awards. In the permanent collections of the Elizabethtown College Library.

Teaching

Courses Taught

2020-2024, fall **Communication and Technology** (COMM 2450). Cornell University. Lecture class.

2022-2023, spring **Governing Human-Algorithm Behavior** (COMM 4940). Cornell University. Undergraduate and Graduate seminar.
Syllabus: https://github.com/natematias/governing-human-algorithm-behavior

2020-2021, spring **The Design & Governance of Digital Experiments** (COMM 4242). Cornell University. Syllabus: https://natematias.com/courses/comm4940/

2019, spring **Designing Field Experiments at Scale** (SOC 412). Princeton University.
Syllabus: github.com/natematias/design-governance-experiments (2019 version)

2018, spring **Designing Field Experiments at Scale** (SOC 412). Princeton University. Undergraduate-graduate community-engaged course.
Syllabus: github.com/natematias/design-governance-experiments (2018 version)

2015, fall **Unpacking Impact** (MAS S61). MIT Media Lab. Graduate course on ethics of design and data science. With Ricarose Roque & Sayamindu Dasgupta.
Syllabus: `https://s61.media.mit.edu`

2008, fall **Tragedy in Electronic Literature**. English Tripos, University of Cambridge. Sponsored by Adrian Poole. Materials: `https://www.natematias.com/cam/trag-elit/`

Advising

Postdoctoral Advisees

Avriel Epps. Postdoctoral Fellow, Citizens and Technology Lab, Cornell University. (2024–)

Sarah Gilbert. Research Director, Citizens and Technology Lab, Cornell University. (2022–2023) Promoted to Research Associate.

Primary PhD Advisees

Lucas Wright '26, PhD candidate in Communication, Cornell University

Jennifer Otiono '27. PhD student in Information Science, Cornell University

Alexandra Gonzalez '28. PhD student in Information Science, Cornell University

Additional Dissertation Advisees (Committee Member)

William Frey '25, PhD candidate in Social Work, Columbia University.

Beatrys Rodrigues '26 PhD candidate in Communication, Cornell University.

Marianne Aubin Le Quere '25. PhD candidate in Information Science, Cornell Tech. Served as first year advisor (2019-2020) while primary advisor was on sabbatical.

Keigo Kusumegi '28, PhD student in Information Science, Cornell University.

PhD Alumni

Jonathan Zong, 24, PhD in Computer Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Committee member)

Sakshi Ghai, 23, PhD in Psychology, Cambridge University (Committee member)

Aparajita Bhandari '23. PhD in Communication, Cornell University (Committee member)

Maurice Jakesch '22, PhD in Information Science, Cornell University. (Committee member)

Theses and Independent Studies

Ingrid Luft (2024-2025). Cornell Communication. Senior undergraduate thesis on E.U. transparency requirements concerning enforcement of laws forbidding the distribution child sexual abuse material.

Jonathan Zong (2017-18). Princeton Computer Science. Senior undergraduate computer science thesis on the ethics of behavioral research.

Merry Mou (2016). MIT Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Supervised independent undergraduate research on the politics and ethics of data science.

Allan Ko (2016). MIT Comparative Media Studies. Supervised independent undergraduate research on the politics and ethics of data science.

Alyssa Smith (2014). MIT Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Supervised undergraduate research on quantitative analysis of gender in online media.

Gregory Young (2014) MIT Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Supervised computer science undergraduate research on Twitter and data science.

Diyang Tang (2014) MIT Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Supervised computer science undergraduate research on Twitter and data science.

Pamela Mishkin (2014) Harvard Berkman Klein Center Summer Internship. Supervised research on statistical analysis of gender in the media.

Joanna Kao (2013) MIT Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Supervised computer science undergraduate senior thesis on journalistic livestreaming and mobile video.

Sophie Diehl (2012) MIT Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Supervised independent undergraduate research and art projects on gender diversity and Wikipedia participation.

Service

Professional Service

2024–	Advisory Board, UN Human Development Report
2023–	Reviewer, Nature Human Behavior
2021–	Executive Committee, Coalition for Independent Technology Research
2021–	Advisory Board, National Internet Observatory, Northeastern University
2021–	Board Member Friends of Global Voices, Advisor, Rising Voices
2015–	Reviewer, CSCW: the ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing
2020-2022	Advisory board, Civic Signals, University of Texas Austin
2020–2021	Advisor, Knight-Gallup NewsLens Partnership
2020	Mentor, doctoral consortium at the ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency
2022	Reviewer, Templeton Foundation grants
2020	Reviewer, Sloan Foundation Infrastructure grants
2020	Reviewer, Social Science Research Council Just Tech Initiative grants
2019	Reviewer, Social Media + Society
2019	Reviewer, International Conference for Weblogs and Social Media
2015–2020	Reviewer, CHI: The ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems
2017	Mentor, doctoral consortium at the 8th Latin American Conference on Human-Computer Interaction

2016	Advisor, Pew Research Center reports on online behavior
2018	Reviewer, AfriCHI, the 2nd African conference for Human Computer Interaction
2014–2015	Reviewer, Innovate Salome, a sub-saharan African high school technology innovation scholarship program
2014	Organizer of The People's Bot, which offered free telepresent scholarships to academic conferences. This work inspired other conferences, including CHI and CSCW to offer robotic telepresence as a basic form of access
2006–2008	(and occasionally since then). Reviewer, Hypertext: The annual ACM Conference on Hypertext and Hypermedia

University & Departmental Service

2024-2025	Cornell University Faculty Senate Representative, Department of Communication
2023	Cornell University Communication faculty hiring committee
2020–	Advice, talks, committees, and support to Cornell on the harassment of academics and staff
2020	Speaker, SoNIC Summer Research Workshop for diversity and inclusion in computing, Cornell Computing and Information Science
2020–2022	Cornell University Communication Colloquium organizer
2019–2022, 2023–2024	Cornell University Communication Graduate Program Committee
2021	Technology policy discussions with Martha Pollack and friends of Cornell
2021	Cornell committee on the University's online harassment policies
2013–2015	Advocacy, planning: BU-MIT Entrepreneurship & Cyberlaw Clinics
2011–2014	MIT Media Lab Student Committee
2007–2008	Graduate Student Representative, St. John's College, Cambridge
2007–2009	Elections Officer, Cambridge Union Society
2003–2005	Academic Integrity Committee, Elizabethtown College
2003–2005	Elizabethtown College Honors Council

Press

Selected Coverage

My research has been frequently covered in the media in over 100 stories that have been translated widely, including cover stories in The Atlantic and Science Magazine. I also provide background expertise and on-the-record quotes to journalists internationally, including methods review for investigative stories. This has included The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Atlantic, MIT Technology Review, The Guardian, The Los Angeles Times, The Chronicle of Higher Education, The Columbia Journalism Review, the Globe and Mail, World Economic Forum, The Markup, Fortune, TechCrunch, ZDNet, TheNextWeb, FastCompany, Fox News, Bloomberg, and the Daily Mail.

2023-02-24	Anderson, Janna., Raine, Lee. The Future of Human Agency. Pew Research Center.
2022-12-06	Goodman, Sylvia. At This Rate, Faculty Diversity Will Never Reach Parity. The Chronicle of Higher Education.

2022-09-15   See the incredible honorees of the 2022 Innovation by Design Awards. FastCompany.

2022-04-24   O'Grady, C. In the Line of Fire: Scientists have been harassed for years. But a Science survey shows the pandemic has made things far worse for some. Science Magazine cover story.

2021-10-17   Seetharaman, D., Horwitz, J., Scheck, J. Facebook Says AI Will Clean Up the Platform. Its Own Engineers Have Doubts. Wall Street Journal.

2021-07-31   Herrman, J. Can Fake Accounts Save the Internet? New York Times.

2021-04-01   Applebaum, A. How to put out Democracy's Dumpster Fire. The Atlantic cover story.

2021-01-15   Gladstone, Brooke. Imagining Our Social Media Future. WNYC On the Media.

2020-09-10   Anthes, Emily. The Great Experiment: The pandemic is tragic. It's also an incredible chance to study human behavior. Washington Post

2020-03-19   Eagleson, H., Trube B. Students are Scrambling after Universities Close. Churches Can Help. Christianity Today.

2020-02-15   Seetharaman, D. Jack Dorsey's Push to Clean Up Twitter Stalls, Researchers Say. Wall Street Journal.

2019-09-16   Serazin. A. Human relationships are the all-purpose tool for sustainable development. World Economic Forum.

2019-08-21   Tracy, M., Hsu, T., Flitter, E. M.I.T. Media Lab in Crisis After 2 Scholars Vow to Leave Over Epstein Ties. The New York Times.

2018-02-16   Yong, Ed. I Spent Two Years Trying to Fix the Gender Imbalance in My Stories. The Atlantic.

2016-04-18   LaFrance, Adrienne. Should We Feed the Trolls? The Atlantic.

2015-10-08   McMurtrie, Beth. Universities Set Up Legal Clinics to Help Student Innovators. Chronicle of Higher Education. Interviewed about my work advocating for legal support for student innovation and research.

2014-05-11   Neyfakh, Leon. My Day as a Robot. The Boston Globe. Long-form feature article about my work on The People's Bot.

2014-02-15   Siegel, Robert. Wherefore Art Thou Robo-Shakespeare? Or Better Yet, How? NPR All Things Considered. Interviewed about my generative AI poetry and poetry writing software.

2012-10-24   Codrea-Rado, Anna. A Data Dream Team: One example of how academic researchers and journalists can work together on data projects. *Columbia Journalism Review*. Profile article.

NGO, Journalism, and Industry Positions

2025–   *SEDA Experts*. Expert witness.

2021–   Co-founder and Executive Board Member, Coalition for Independent Technology Research

2013, 2015   PhD Summer Intern. Microsoft Research.

2012–2014   Editor, @1book140, a large-scale Twitter book club at *The Atlantic*.

2010–2011   Engineer and language research liaison, *SwiftKey*, predictive text company acquired in 2016.

2010   Corporate funding liaison, Anglia Ruskin University, Cultures of Digital Economy Institute.

2008-2010   Performance engineer, Texperts & Knowledge Generation Bureau.

2010-2012   *Emberlight*, Cambridge, UK. Cofounder. Emberlight was a creative platform for teams to collaborate and publish visual, linked information to the web. It was also the subject of a peer

reviewed paper and demo.

2008-2010   *Texperts, Knowledge Generation Bureau.* Cambridge, UK. instrumentation, large-scale user modeling, and performance testing software for expansion into new markets and for our Super Bowl television ad in 2010. Designed systems to facilitate labor relations in microwork and human computation. Research liaison for partnerships with academic data scientists.

Professional Memberships

International Communication Association

Association for Computer Machinery

Association of Internet Researchers

Coalition for Independent Technology Research

American Association of University Professors