

Dr. Michael Ann DeVito, PhD

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APPOINTMENTS

Postdoctoral Computing Innovation Fellow (January 2021-Present)

Identity Lab, Department of Information Science, University of Colorado Boulder

Two-year competitive NSF-funded fellowship through the Computing Research Association

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Media, Technology, and Society, Northwestern University (December 2020)

Interdisciplinary doctorate in Communication and Human/Computer Interaction

Graduate Specialization: Cognitive Science

Dissertation: Presenting the Self on Unstable Ground: Adaptive Folk Theorization as a Path to Algorithmic Literacy on Changing Platforms

Advisor/Chair: Jeremy Birnholtz (Northwestern); *Committee:* Darren Gergle (Northwestern), Jeffrey Hancock (Stanford), Karrie Karahalios (University of Illinois)

M.A., Media and Public Affairs, George Washington University (2015)

Thesis: Facebook Family Values: A News Feed Hierarchy of Needs

Committee: Kerric Harvey, David Karpf, Emily Thorson

B.A., Journalism and Mass Communication, George Washington University (2013)

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES & CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- [1] **DeVito, M.A.**, Walker, A.M., and Fernandez, J.R. (2021) Values (Mis)alignment: Exploring Tensions Between Platform and LGBTQ+ Community Design Values. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, in press.
- [2] Nova, F.F., **DeVito, M.A.**, Saha, P., Rashid, K.S., Turzo, S.R., Afrin, S., and Guha, S. (2021) "Facebook Promotes More Harassment": Social Media Ecosystem, Skill and Marginalized Hijra Identity in Bangladesh. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, in press.
- [3] Walker, A.M., and **DeVito, M.A.** (2020) "'More gay' fits in better": Intracommunity Power Dynamics and Harms in Online LGBTQ+ Spaces. *Proceedings of the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.
- [4] **DeVito, M.A.**, Walker, A. M., and Birnholtz, J. (2018) "Too Gay for Facebook." Presenting LGBTQ+ Identity Throughout the Personal Social Media Ecosystem. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, Vol. 2, CSCW, Article 44. (26% acceptance rate)
- [5] **DeVito, M.A.**, Birnholtz, J., Hancock, J.T., French, M., and Liu, S. (2018) How People Form Folk Theories of Social Media Feeds and What It Means for How We Study Self-Presentation. *Proceedings of the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, Paper 120. (25% acceptance rate)
- [6] **DeVito, M.A.**, Gergle, D., and Birnholtz, J. (2017) "Algorithms ruin everything": #RIPTwitter, Folk Theories, and Resistance to Algorithmic Change. *Proceedings of the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, 3163-3174. (25% acceptance rate)

- [7] **DeVito, M.A.**, Birnholtz, J., and Hancock, J.T. (2017) Platforms, People, and Perception: Using Affordances to Understand Self-Presentation on Social Media. *Proceedings of the 20th Annual ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing*, 740-754. (35% acceptance rate)
- [8] **DeVito, M.A.** (2017) From Editors to Algorithms: A Values-Based Approach to Understanding Story Selection in Facebook's News Feed. *Digital Journalism*, 5(6), 753-773.

COMMUNITY CONVENING & ORGANIZING CONTRIBUTIONS

- [1] Cameron, L., Christin, A., **DeVito, M.A.**, Dillahunt, T., Elish, M.C., Gray, M.L., Qadri, R., Raval, N., Valentine, M., and Watkins, E.A. (2021, May) "This Seems to Work": Designing Technological Systems with The Algorithmic Imaginations of Those Who Labor. Workshop to be convened at the 2021 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.
- [2] Gilbert, S.A., Fiesler, C., Blackwell, L., **DeVito, M.A.**, Dye, M., Goddard, S., Gray, K.L., Nemer, D., and Smith, C.E. (2020, October) Public Scholarship and CSCW: Trials And Twitterations. Workshop convened at the 2020 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing.
- [3] Sukumar, P.T., Avellino, I., Remy, C., **DeVito, M.A.**, Dillahunt, T., McGrenere, J., and Wilson, M. L. (2020, April). Transparency in Qualitative Research: Increasing Fairness in the CHI Review Process. Panel Convened at the 2020 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Honolulu, HI.
- [4] **DeVito, M.A.**, Walker, A.M., Lustig, C., Ko, A., Spiel, K., Ahmed, A., Allison, K., Scheuerman, M., Dym, B., Brubaker, J., Simpson, E., Bagalkot, N., Raval, N., Muller, M., Rode, J., and Gray, M.L. (2020, April). Queer in HCI: Supporting LGBTQIA+ Researchers and Research Across Domains. Special Interest Group Convened at the 2020 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Honolulu, HI.
- [5] **DeVito, M.A.**, Walker, A.M., Birnholtz, J., Ringland, K., Macapagal, K., Kraus, A., Munson, S., Liang, C., and Saksono, H. (2019, November) Social Technologies for Digital Wellbeing Among Marginalized Communities. Workshop convened at the 2019 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing, Austin, TX.
- [6] Walker, A.M., **DeVito, M.A.**, Maestre, J.F., Sieck, K.A., Kresnye, K., Jelen, B., Shih, P.C., Wolters, M., and Alqassim, M. (2019, May) ARC: Moving the Method Forward. Special Interest Group convened at the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Glasgow, Scotland, UK.
- [7] Spiel, K., Keyes, O., Walker, A.M., **DeVito, M.A.**, Birnholtz, J., Brule, E., Light, A., Barlas, P., Hardy, J., Ahmed, A., Rode, J.A., Brubaker, J.R., and Kannabiran, G. (2019, May) Queer(ing) HCI: Moving Forward in Theory and Practice. Special Interest Group convened at the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Glasgow, Scotland, UK.
- [8] **DeVito, M.A.**, Hancock, J.T., French, M., Birnholtz, J., Antin, J., Karahalios, K., Tong, S., and Shklovski, I. (2018, April) The Algorithm and the User: How Can HCI Use Lay Understandings of Algorithmic Systems? Panel convened at the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Montreal, QC, Canada.

NON-ARCHIVAL CONFERENCE PAPERS & POSTERS

- [1] Walker, A.M., **DeVito, M.A.**, Ringland, K., and Reddy, M. (2019, November) (In)visible Choices: Articulation Work and the Rise in US Maternal Mortality. Poster presented at the 2019 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing, Austin, TX.
- [2] Walker, A.M. and **DeVito, M.A.** (2019, June) Stigma in Supportive Online Spaces: Special Challenges for Non-monosexual and Non-binary Well-Being. Paper presented at the National LGBTQ Health Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- [3] **DeVito, M.A.** (2018, April) Commentary on 'The Other Side: Algorithm as Ritual in Artificial Intelligence.' Session at alt.CHI, part of the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Montreal, QC, Canada.
- [4] French, M., Hancock, J., Liu, S., **DeVito, M.A.**, and Birnholtz, J. (2018, May) Confronting the unexpected: The nature and effects of attributing responsibility to social media platforms for expectancy violations. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the International Communication Association, Prague.
- [5] **DeVito, M.A.** (2016, April). I Don't Want To See This: Selective Avoidance, Friend Links, and Political Filter Bubble Formation on Facebook. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- [6] **DeVito, M.A.** (2015, June). The Sentimental Robot: Soldiers, Metal Psychopaths and Artificial Intelligence. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the International Association for Computing & Philosophy, Newark, DE.
- [7] **DeVito, M.A.** (2015, April). Let Me Google That For You: Truth, Thought And Trust In The Age of Search Engines. Paper and poster presented at the Annual Conference of the Broadcast Education Association, Las Vegas, NV.

DOCTORAL CONSORTIA & INSTITUTES

- [1] **Consortium for the Science of Sociotechnical Systems**, Summer Research Institute, 2019, New Brunswick, NJ.
- [2] **CHI Doctoral Consortium**, 2019, User Adaptation to Constant Change in Algorithmically-Driven Social Platforms, Glasgow, Scotland, UK.
- [3] **iConference Doctoral Colloquium**, 2019, User Adaptation to Constant Change in Algorithmically-Driven Social Platforms, Washington, DC.

WORKSHOP PAPERS

- [1] **DeVito, M.A.** (2019, November) Reporting Theoretical Sampling in Small-Scale Grounded Theory Studies: An Overly-Honest Methodological Transparency Experiment & Reflection. Paper to be presented at the Qualitative Research Methods for CSCW: Challenges and Opportunities Workshop, part of the Annual ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing, Austin, TX.
- [2] **DeVito, M.A.** (2018, November) Folk Theories as a Contextual Lens on Privacy and Audience Management. Paper presented at the Privacy in Context Workshop, part of the Annual ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing, Jersey City, NJ.

- [3] **DeVito, M.A.** (2017, May) Supporting Algorithmic Literacy with User Curiosity-Prompting Design. Paper presented at the Designing for Curiosity workshop, part of the Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Denver, CO.
- [4] **DeVito, M.A.** (2017, February) Implications for Theory: Creating a Virtuous, Multidisciplinary Cycle. Paper presented at the Theory Transfers workshop, part of the Annual ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing, Portland, OR.

COMPETITIVE GRANTS & AWARDS

Computing Innovation Fellowship, Computing Research Association

Northwestern University

Sexualities Project at Northwestern Summer Research Grant (2017, 2018, 2019 - \$2500 each)
Graduate Research Grant (2019-2020, \$3000)
Irving J. and Laura Lee Fellowship (2018-2019)
Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health and Wellbeing Travel Grant (2019)
Sexualities Project at Northwestern Travel Grant (2018, 2019)
Cognitive Science Travel Grant (2017)
Pre-Doctoral Summer Research Support (2015)

George Washington University

Competitive Graduate Teaching Assistantship (2013 – 2015)
School of Media and Public Affairs Thesis Research Grant (2015)
School of Media and Public Affairs Conference Travel Grant (2015)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Researcher, Northwestern University Social Media Lab, 2015 – present
Led research projects on self-presentation and folk theories in algorithmically-driven social media platforms; independently designed and executed research on LGBTQ+ online communities; supervised undergraduate research staff

Member, Northwestern University Social Media Working Group, Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health and Wellbeing, 2017-present

Graduate Research Assistant, The George Washington University, 2014
Cross-disciplinary research for book on television's writing culture for Patricia Phalen

TEACHING & MENTORING AWARDS & EXPERIENCE

Northwestern University

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award (2019)
Digital Media Module Graduate Fellow, Communication Studies, 2019-present
Research Experience for Undergraduates Coordinator, Social Media Lab, 2016-present

Instructor & Course Designer, 2018 (Spring/Fall) - Human/Algorithm Interaction, upper-level undergraduates

Designed new course for undergraduate writing requirement focusing on algorithm studies in HCI and putting together one's first research proposal

Instructor & Course Designer, 2016-2019 - Computing Everywhere, upper-level undergraduates
Designed and co-taught "Algorithms, Categories, and Design: The Case of Dating, Gender, and Sexual Orientation," "Algorithms Everywhere," and "Text Wrangling the Election: Computational Approaches to Classical Communication Studies" units yearly

Teaching Assistant, 2016, 2017, 2020 - Communication and Technology, introductory undergraduates

Undergraduate Research Mentoring: Faalon Andrews, Amanda Davis, Huy Do, Matthew Fadden, Samantha Hassett, Bennett Hensey, Emily Hoecker, Minkyong Kim, Yoko Kohmoto, Victoria Alfred-Levov, Justine Yucesan, Ankai Zhang

George Washington University

Instructor, Course Designer, 2014 - Sustainability Reporting, upper-level undergraduates
Redesigned and taught multimedia reporting class focusing on environmental and science reporting using data journalism and graphic design and animation techniques

Teaching Assistant, 2013 - Multimedia Reporting to Inform and Engage, undergraduates
Teaching Assistant, 2013 - Media in A Free Society, large-format introductory undergraduate

Undergraduate Research and Science Communication Mentoring: Alyssa Bruns, Sumner Byrne, Eileen Emerson, Joy Finneran, Anna Sumi

INVITED TALKS AND GUEST LECTURES

Using Folk Theories and Community Critique to Bridge People, Platforms, and Social Theory: The Cases of Social Media Self-Presentation and Queer Online Communities. Invited talk at University of Maryland Baltimore County Department of Information Systems, February 2020.

Modeling Human/Platform Relationships via Folk Theorization: The Case of Social Media Self-Presentation. Invited talk at The University of Texas at Austin School of Information, February 2020.

Forming Research Questions on Complex Topics: The Case of Algorithmic Self-Presentation, Guest lecture for Social Media and Online Social Interactions, Northwestern University, October 2019.

Folk Theories: A Cool Thing Humans Do To Adapt To Technology, Guest lecture for Communication and Technology, Northwestern University, September 2019.

Online Methods for Rapid Grounded Theory Work with Marginalized Populations, Invited talk at Marquette University, August 2019.

"More gay' fits in better": Intracommunity Stigmatization in LGBTQ+ Online Spaces, Invited talk at the Sexualities Project at Northwestern's Summer Research Symposium, April 2019.

From Interviews to Findings: Levels of Analysis in Grounded Theory Studies, Guest lecture for Graduate Qualitative Methods, Northwestern University, January 2019.

Folk Theories: A Tool for Self-Presentation in an Age of Algorithms, Guest lecture for Communication and Technology, Northwestern University, October 2019.

“Too Gay for Facebook”: Presenting LGBTQ+ Identity Across the Social Media Ecosystem, Invited talk at the Sexualities Project at Northwestern’s Summer Research Symposium, April 2018.

“Too Gay for Facebook”: Presenting LGBTQ+ Identity Across the Social Media Ecosystem, Invited talk at the Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health and Wellbeing, Chicago, IL, March 2018.

People (Sort of) Know Stuff: Values, Ethics, Needs, and How to Know What Your Users Don’t Know About Themselves, Guest lecture for Intro to Human-Computer Interaction, Northwestern University, January 2018.

SERVICE

Northwestern University

General Chair and Program Co-Chair, InfoSocial Graduate Research Conference, 2016-2017

Outside Engagement Chair, Comm Studies Graduate Student Steering Committee, 2016-2017

ACM

Meta Co-Chair, CSCW 2020, 2021

Student Volunteer, CSCW 2019

Member & Qualitative Representative, Transparent Reporting Standards Group (2019-present)

Reviewing: CHI (2017*, 2018*, 2019, 2020*, 2021*), CSCW (2018, 2019*, 2020*, 2021*), Digital Journalism (2017, 2018), Social Science Computer Review (2018), Journal of Adolescent Research (2018, 2019, 2020), Information, Communication and Society (2019), ACM Transactions on Social Computing (2019), Human-Computer Interaction (2019), Telematics and Informatics (2020), Computers in Human Behavior (2021)

**Received special recognition for outstanding reviews*

Community

Founding Member, Chicago Bisexual Health Taskforce, 2018-2019

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Computing Machinery

ACM Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction (SIGCHI)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Managing Editor, Planet Forward, 2012-2015, Washington DC

Supervise and edit all content for university-based sustainability communication initiative, run education and internship programs, mentor undergraduate and graduate interns, supervise student staff, supervise all website and social media operations, execute content plans for major Washington, DC events, contribute to high-level project planning and strategy

Web Producer, Face The Facts USA, 2012-2013, Washington DC

Administer all website and social media operations, write headline and promotional copy, produce fact-based videos, assist in production of televised events