

**Jeff Nagy**  
Department of Communication  
Stanford University  
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## **EDUCATION**

**Stanford University**, Stanford, CA

**Ph.D.** in Communication, expected Summer 2021

Committee: Fred Turner (advisor); Angèle Christin; Shane Denson; Xiaochang Li

**University of Iowa**, Iowa City, IA

**M.F.A.** in Creative Writing, May 2010

**Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA

**B.A.** magna cum laude in Literature, May 2007

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

History of science and technology, particularly intersections between the history of computing and the behavioral sciences; history and future of computer-mediated labor, particularly emotional and gendered labor; social integration of emerging technology; politics and political economy of platforms, interfaces, and algorithms.

## **DISSERTATION**

### **Watching Feeling: Emotional Data from Cybernetics to Social Media**

This dissertation uncovers how computer scientists, psychologists, marketers, and others came together in attempts to make emotion computable over the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Drawing on original archival research, I examine the transformation of emotion into data from post-World War II cybernetics to contemporary sentiment analytics. Then, I use this history to reconsider the role that emotional data play as manipulatable variables and corporate assets in the political economy of digital platforms.

Expected completion: July, 2021.

## PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Pink Chat: Networked Sex Work Before the Internet.” *Technology and Culture* 62(1): 57-81. doi.org/10.1353/tech.2021.0002

“The Selling of Virtual Reality: Novelty and Continuity in the Cultural Integration of Technology,” with Fred Turner (Stanford – Communication). *Communication, Culture, & Critique* 12(4), December 2019: 535-552. doi.org/10.1093/ccc/tcz038

“Putting the Home in Homemade Porn: Real Estate in Pornography after the Financial Crisis,” with Connie Scozzaro (Brown University – English), *Polygraph* 26, Duke University Press, December 2017.

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

**Dissertation Research Grant**, The Suppes Center for the History and Philosophy of Science, Stanford University, July 2020

Awarded \$2500 to support archival research on the early use of computers in psychiatry at Rockland State Psychiatric Hospital in Orangeburg, NY.

**Geballe Dissertation Fellowship**, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, 2019-2020

One of six recipients of a Stanford-wide competitive fellowship for advanced graduate students. Awarded a year of full support on the basis of demonstrated excellence in humanities scholarship.

**Graduate Student Research Grant**, The Europe Center, Stanford University, Summer 2017

Awarded \$3500 of support for early-stage dissertation research on pre-Internet public networks in Europe, which led to an article forthcoming in *Technology and Culture*.

**SAP Stanford Graduate Fellowship**, Stanford University, 2015-2019

Twelve academic quarters of full support awarded for exceptional incoming doctoral students in natural and social sciences.

**Critical Writing Fellowship**, Recess Gallery, New York, NY, 2014

Recipient of a six-week fellowship pairing critical and creative writers with artists. Collaborated with installation artist Chris Domenick for a show at Recess Gallery.

**Teaching Writing Fellowship**, University of Iowa, 2009-2010

A full year of support awarded as a second-year student in the Iowa Writers' Workshop on the basis of demonstrated excellence in writing and the teaching of writing.

**Provost's Fellowship**, University of Iowa, 2008-2009

A full year of support awarded as an incoming students at the Iowa Writers' Workshop on the basis of exceptional promise.

## **REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

“Touching Emotions at Rockland State Hospital: Manfred Clynes and the Datafication of Feeling, 1956-1972.” Joint session of the Society for the History of Technology and the History of Science Society, October 8, 2020. (Deferred until 2021 SHOT/HSS meeting.)

“Watching Feeling: Histories of Emotional Surveillance.” Organized theme panel in the pre-conference for the Communication History Division. Panelists: Fred Turner (chair), Luke Stark, Kira Lussier. International Communication Association, Washington, DC, May 24, 2019.

“From Human Relations to Human Resources: Digital Labor on France's Minitel.” Communication History Division pre-conference. International Communication Association, Prague, Czech Republic, May 24, 2018.

“The Selling of Virtual Reality: Novelty and Continuity in the Cultural Integration of Technology,” with Fred Turner. *Lessons from the Field*, Data & Society Institute, New York City, October 30, 2017.

“‘Stakhanovites of Conviviality’: Digital Affective Labor on France's *Minitel Rose*.” Annual conference of the Society for the History of Technology, Philadelphia, October 27, 2017.

“Putting the Home in Homemade Porn: Real Estate in Pornography after the Financial Crisis,” with Connie Scozzaro (JHU - English). *Pleasure & Suspicion*, Duke University, February 26-27, 2016.

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Coordinator, Communication Works-in-Progress Group, 2019-2021.

Graduate Student Co-founder and Coordinator, Stanford Humanities Center Workshop on Digital Aesthetics, 2017-2018; 2019-2020.

## **LANGUAGES**

Fluent in French; reading competency in Portuguese and Italian.

Proficient in C, C++, and Java.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

History of Science Society

Society for the History of Technology

Society for Cinema and Media Studies

Society for Social Studies of Science

International Communication Association