Mobilizing Communication Rights for Humans, More-than Humans, and Beyond

The 19th Annual ICA Mobile Pre-Conference

When:
Wednesday, 19 June 2024.

Location:
⊙ HOTA, Home of the Arts
135 Bundall Rd, Surfers Paradise, Gold Coast, QLD 4217, Australia

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REGISTRATION IS OPEN!
All pre-conference presenters and attendees must register by **Friday, May 31st.** Registration includes a dinner reception (cocktail style) and coffee break pastries / snacks.

Registration fee:
- Tier A countries: $125.00 USD
- Tier B & C countries: $80 USD (spots are limited for tiers B & C, so please register asap!)

Follow [this link to register](#).

PRE-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE:

09:00 a.m. – 09:30 a.m.: ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

Lakeside Room A

Adriana de Souza e Silva (ICA Mobile Communication Division Vice-Chair)
NC State University, USA / Northeastern University, USA (as of July 1st, 2024)

09:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.: OPENING KEYNOTE LECTURE

Lakeside Room A

Creative mobile media methods (as kinning) in the age of the Anthropocene
Larissa Hjorth (RMIT University, Australia)

We are at a crossroads. As datafication and the politics of data storage and e-waste become growing contributors to the climate emergency, how can we rethink our methods ethically and sustainably? As AI systems become increasingly embedded in our everyday lives, which methods stay human and which ones become non human? In this talk, I will consider some of the ways in which arts-based approaches

to mobile media allow us different ways to uncover motivations, emotions, and meanings in the messiness of the everyday. I will focus on two case studies: older adults and pets as kin. I will discuss methods such as codesign play-shops, cultural probes (postcards), scenarios of use, and media maps that seek to uncover our kinning practices that provide alternative sense-making rituals.

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.: Coffee Break at Lakeside Terrace

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: WORKSHOPS

Lakeside Room A	Lakeside Room B
Optimizing Mobile Support for Physical and Mental Health: A glimpse of mHealth projects	**Making App Studies Mobile: Adapting critical qualitative and experiential approaches to smartphone applications**

Ellie Yang[1], Arian Kashefi[2], David de Segovia[3], Julius Klingelhöfer[4], Estelle Mi[5]

Ragan Glover[1], Justin Grandinetti[2]

[1] Illinois State University, USA
[2] Ghent University, Belgium
[3] FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany
[3] Kean University, USA

[1] University of Texas San Antonio, USA
[2] University of North Carolina Charlotte, USA

This workshop will introduce a variety of projects to answer three questions about Mobile Health ("mHealth"): (1) why can mobile benefit populations in need of heightened health care? (2) what risks and concerns may come with mobile health projects? and (3) how does mobile differentiate itself from other communication technologies in providing health support? Three sessions - brief presentations of five mHealth projects, in-depth interaction stations, and a plenary discussion – will be organized to reflect upon how we can better use mobile devices to inform communication strategy-making and provide evidence-based interventions to improve individuals' health. The workshop is to encourage researchers to consider the differences and distinctions with mobile while also putting those thoughts into the larger ecology of health practices and technologies for intervention. By joining this workshop, participants will engage in

Due to mobile phone's ubiquity as a primary point of web access, a large subset of scholarship now focuses the embeddedness of mobile applications in myriad aspects of everyday life. Apps can facilitate civic and social participation; however, issues of monetization, data collection, and marketplace centralization pose risks to human rights. Consequently, studies of apps in the field of mobile communication have a responsibility to ask how these apps mediate mobilities and information access while also becoming imbricated in relations of power. Inspired by recent ethnographic approaches for studying mobile applications, this workshop encourages critical qualitative and experiential research on mobile apps, attending specifically to aspects of mobile communication through analysis. In doing so, workshop facilitators will introduce a new approach for studying mobile apps that emphasizes the analytical categories of mobility,

a scholarly conversation about mHealth, interact with organizers on promising collaborations, and ponder possible mHealth applications to their own research.

sociability, interactivity, and interconnectivity. Participants will apply this approach in a workshop setting and consider future research goals.

12:30 p.m. – 01:30 p.m.: Lunch at Lakeside Terrace

01:30 p.m. – 02:30 p.m.: WORKSHOPS

Lakeside Room A	Lakeside Room B
Appified care? Reflections towards a cultural and individual understanding of intimate surveillance across the lifespan in the age of mobile technologies	**Moving Beyond the Metaphor: Exploring theoretical and methodological conceptualizations of the mobile media ecosystem**

Julie Dereymaeker[1], Tom De Leyn[2], Cecilia "Lia", Uy-Tioco[3], Ragan Glover[4], Anja Stevic[5], Christoph Lutz[6], Lemi Baruh[7], Jonalou Labor[8]

Alexandra Lux[1], Nariman Sawalha[1], Natalie Rödel[2], Claudia Riesmeyer[1], Veronika Karnowski[2], Constanze Rossmann[1], Rebecca Kamerer[1]

[1] Ghent University, Belgium
[2] Hasselt University, Belgium
[3] CA State University San Marcos, USA
[4] University of Texas San Antonio, USA
[5] University of Vienna, Austria
[6] BI Norwegian Business School, Norway
[7] The University of Queensland, Australia
[8] University of the Philippines

[1] LMU Munich, Germany
[2] University of Technology Chemnitz, Germany

Mobile media have had a profound impact on how the purposeful and well-intentioned surveillance of our close relationships (cfr. intimate surveillance) has engrained itself as a caring and normalized component of these relationships. The impact of mobile-enabled surveillance should be understood as situated within the socio-cultural context of the surveilled individual as well as of those that are surveilling. To investigate these dynamics, this workshop focuses on how mobile-enabled intimate

Empowering individuals with mobile technology for chronic disease self-management not only upholds their human rights to health information and participation in healthcare decisions but also promotes equitable access to personalized healthcare, thus fostering well-being and autonomy. However, previous studies examining mHealth effects predominantly employ short-term forced-exposure designs with specific apps that neglect that users make use of the entire mobile media ecosystem and differ in use and its drivers. Therefore, in order to gain a comprehensive understanding, we need to consider the mobile media ecosystem in its entirety when conducting research. This demands a clear definition of the concept, theoretical

surveillance shapes and is shaped by how we imagine, experience, and give meaning to various social roles throughout the lifespan. Therefore, in this workshop, participants take on the role of the surveilled and contemplate the impact of surveillance on individuals across their lifespan. Specific attention will be given to cultural differences to provide depth to each discussion.

adjustments, and methodological developments. Against this background, the workshop aims to delve into potential avenues for theoretical and methodological conceptualizations of the mobile media ecosystem, while using self-management as a specific example. This workshop is relevant for all scholars engaged in diverse fields concerned with studying mobile media use in a converging ecosystem.

02:30 p.m. – 03:00 p.m.: Coffee Break at Lakeside Terrace

03:00 p.m. – 04:00 p.m.: WORKSHOP

Lakeside Room A

Mobile Media and Museums: Incubators for informal literacy, digital inclusion and social change

Ingrid Richarson[1], Larissa Hjorth[1], Indigo Holcombe-James[1], Caitlin McGrane[1], Jasmine Aslan[1]

[1] RMIT University, Australia

Museums offer a unique context for informal literacy, social inclusion, community engagement and social change. Museums also offer opportunities for audiences to experiment with new and emerging technologies as a form of critical and social engagement. At the same time, museums and their publics can have uneven digital capabilities, which can create barriers to digital participation. As museums continue to adopt and adapt to digital transformations, we ask how mobile media learnings and possibilities provide ways to engage diverse publics for connection, community and social change? The goal of this 60-minute workshop is to imagine mobile media innovations that expand beyond the physical museum space into audiences' homes. We seek to explore how notions of human rights across human and more-than-human contexts can be examined and reinvented in and around museum mobile media.

04:00 p.m. – 04:15 p.m.: Short Break

04:15 p.m. – 05:15 p.m.: CLOSING KEYNOTE LECTURE

Lakeside Room A

Communication Rights After the Smartphone
Gerard Goggin (Western Sydney University, Australia)

In the last three decades, mobile phones and media have made a fundamental contribution to mobilizing (and abridging) and revising our understanding, lived experiences, social functions, and horizons of communication rights. In this talk, I reflect upon the conjuncture of *mobile communication rights* and how we might affect the landscapes and futures in our interregnum after the smartphone. I look at the global governance efforts, from the lineage of classic communication rights, in the wake of the 1980 MacBride report, through a range of initiatives from the 1990s onwards that sought to capture the new dimensions and dynamics of Internet, mobile phones, social media, data, and digital technologies, especially in relation to digital inequalities. Digital inclusion has been the subject of a concerted and sustained push by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) harnessing stakeholders – so, where are we at? Especially for the most marginalized and excluded individuals and groups, not only in relation to taken-for-grant mobile communications, but when it comes to the imagined futures and realities of advanced, emerging, and planetary mobile and digital technologies. To identify key challenges I look at cross-cutting case of disability, mobile communication, and rights, especially in relation to the perspectives and insights we can gain from the Asia-Pacific region.

05:15 p.m. – 06:00 p.m.: Break

06:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.: RECEPTION AND SOCIAL EVENT

Lakeside Terrace

HOTA, Home of the Arts (135 Bundall Rd, Surfers Paradise, Gold Coast, QLD 4217, Australia).

Conference Chair:
- Adriana de Souza e Silva, ICA Mobile Communication Division Vice-Chair (NC State University / Northeastern University, USA - as of July 1st, 2024)

Local Liaisons:
- Larissa Hjorth (RMIT University, Australia)
- Gerard Goggin (University of Sydney, Australia)

Organizing committee:
- Scott Campbel (University of Michigan, USA)

- Ragan Glover (University of Texas at San Antonio, USA)
- Kathrin Karsay (University of Vienna, Austria)
- Jonalou Labor (University of the Philippines, Diliman)
- Morgan Quinn Ross (The Ohio State University, USA)
- Cecilia Uy-Tioco (California State University, San Marcos, USA)
- Mariek Vanden Abeele (Ghent University, Belgium)

The Organizing Committee wishes to thank the sponsors of the pre-conference for their contributions: