

# Aaron Shaw

Communication Studies Department  
Northwestern University

Frances Searle Building  
2240 Campus Drive, 2-142  
Evanston, IL 60208

<http://aaronshaw.org>  
[aaronshaw@northwestern.edu](mailto:aaronshaw@northwestern.edu)

## Appointments

### **Northwestern University, 2012-.**

Director of Graduate Studies, Media, Technology & Society (MTS) Program. 2015-.  
Assistant Professor, Department of Communication Studies. 2013-.

Assistant Professor (by Courtesy), Sociology.  
Faculty Associate, Northwestern Institute for Policy Research.  
Faculty Affiliate, Buffett Institute for Global Studies.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Communication Studies. 2012-2013.  
Visiting Assistant Professor (by Courtesy), Sociology. 2012-2013.

### **Harvard University, Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society 2008-.**

Faculty Associate, 2013-.  
Fellow, 2008-2013

## Education

### **University of California, Berkeley**

2012. Ph.D., Sociology.

Dissertation: *An Interactional Account of Online Collective Action*

Committee: Peter Evans; Yochai Benkler; Marion Fourcade; Coye Cheshire

2010. Master of Arts, Sociology.

Thesis: *Insurgent Expertise: Free/Libre Open-Source Software Politics in Brazil*

### **Stanford University,**

2005. Master of Arts, Humanities.

Concentration in Cultural Anthropology (Commencement Speaker)

2004. Bachelor of Arts (with Honors), Humanities.

Concentration in Modern Thought & Literature

## Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

2016. National Science Foundation, IIS:CHS: Pathways to Community Success: Advancing a Comparative Science of Online Collaborative Organization, Co-PI with Benjamin Mako Hill, University of Washington (\$499,684).
2016. Summer Institute on Organizations and Their Effectiveness. Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS) at Stanford University.
2014. Faculty and Administrator Honor Roll, Northwestern University Associated Student Government (ASG).
2014. Microsoft Research, FUSE Labs. Sharing Economy Grant, Co-investigator with Haoqi Zhang and Liz Gerber, Northwestern University (\$25,000).
2013. Microsoft Research, FUSE Labs Junior Faculty Research Award (\$25,000).
- 2013-2014. Junior Faculty Fellow, Searle Center for Advancing Teaching & Learning, Northwestern University.
- 2013-Present. Faculty Associate, Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University.
2013. Honorable Mention, Dordick Dissertation Award, Communication & Technology Division, International Communication Association (ICA),
2013. Information Technology and Politics Section of the American Political Science Association (APSA). Best Paper Award for *A Tale of Two Blogospheres: Discursive Practices on the Left and Right*.
- 2008-2013. Fellow, Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University.
2012. Post-doctoral Fellow, Center for Information Technology Policy (CITP), Princeton University (declined).
2012. Communication and Information Technology Section of the American Sociological Association (CITASA), Best Paper Honorable Mention for *Centralized and Decentralized Gatekeeping in an Open Online Collective*.
2012. Communication and Information Technology Section of the American Sociological Association (CITASA), Best Graduate Student Paper Honorable Mention for *A Tale of Two Blogospheres: Discursive Practices on the Left and Right*.
2011. ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW2011), Best Paper Honorable Mention for *Designing Incentives for Inexpert Raters*.
- 2010-2011. Berkman Center Law Lab Fellowship supported by Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.
- 2009-10. Hornaday Graduate Summer Fellow, Greater Good Science Center, UC Berkeley.

2009. UC Berkeley Sociology Department Research Grant.
- 2008-2009. Berkman Center Fellowship supported by the Ford Foundation.
2008. UC Office of the President, Labor & Employment Research Fund (LERF) Fellowship.
2007. U.S. Department of Education, Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowship.
2007. Andrew Mellon Summer Fellowship for Latin American Sociology.
- 2006-07. U.S. Department of Education, Foreign Language and Area Studies Graduate Fellowship.

## Publications

### Refereed Articles

- 2017 (*forthcoming*). Narayan, Sneha, Jake Orlowitz, Jonathan Morgan, Benjamin Mako Hill, and Aaron Shaw. The Wikipedia Adventure: Field Evaluation of an Interactive Tutorial for New Users. *Proceedings of the 2017 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW 2017)*.
- 2017 (*forthcoming*). Kim, Yongsung, Aaron Shaw, Haoqi Zhang, and Elizabeth Gerber. Understanding Trust Amid Delays in Crowdfunding. *Proceedings of the 2017 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW 2017)*.
- 2017 (*forthcoming*). Twyman, Marlon, Brian C. Keegan, and Aaron Shaw. Black Lives Matter in Wikipedia: Collaboration and Collective Memory Around Online Social Movements. *Proceedings of the 2017 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW 2017)*.
2016. Kim, Yongsung, Emily Harburg, Shana Azria, Aaron Shaw, Elizabeth Gerber, Darren Gergle, and Haoqi Zhang. Studying the Effects of Task Notification Policies on Participation and Outcomes in On-the-go Crowdsourcing. In *Fourth AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing, HCOMP '16*.
2016. Burgess, Eleanor R. and Aaron Shaw. Evaluating Open Collaboration Opportunities in the Fire Service with FireCrowd. *Proceedings of the 12th International Symposium on Open Collaboration, OpenSym '16*.
2015. Hill, Benjamin Mako and Aaron Shaw. Page Protection: Another Missing Dimension of Wikipedia Research. *Proceedings of the 11th International Symposium on Open Collaboration, OpenSym '15*.
2015. Hargittai, Eszter and Aaron Shaw. Mind the Skills Gap: The Role of Internet Know-How and Gender in Contributions to Wikipedia. *Information, Communication, and Society* 18(4): 424-442.

2014. Hill, Benjamin Mako and Aaron Shaw. Consider the Redirect: A Missing Dimension of Wikipedia Research. *Proceedings of the International Symposium on Open Collaboration (OpenSym '14)*.
2014. Shaw, Aaron and Benjamin Mako Hill. Laboratories of Oligarchy? How the Iron Law Extends to Peer Production. *Journal of Communication* 64(2): 215–38.
2014. Zhang, Haoqi, Andres Monroy-Hernandez, Aaron Shaw, Sean Munson, Elizabeth Gerber, Benjamin Mako Hill, Peter Kinnaird, and Shelley Farnham. WeDo: Exploring Computer Supported Collective Action. *Proceedings of the International Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (ICWSM)*.
2013. Hill, Benjamin Mako and Aaron Shaw. The Wikipedia Gender Gap Revisited: Characterizing Survey Response Bias in Peer Production Communities. (with Benjamin Mako Hill). *PLoS ONE*. 8(6):e65782.
2013. Hargittai, Eszter and Aaron Shaw. Digitally Savvy Citizenship: The Role of Internet Skills and Engagement in Young Adults' Political Participation Around the 2008 Presidential Election. *Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media (JoBEM)* 57(2):115-134.
2013. Kittur, Aniket, Jeffrey V. Nickerson, Michael S. Bernstein, Elizabeth Gerber, Aaron Shaw, John Zimmerman, Matt Lease, and John J. Horton. The Future of Crowd Work. *Proceedings of the 2013 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW 2013)*.
2012. Shaw, Aaron. Centralized and Decentralized Gatekeeping in an Open Online Collective. *Politics & Society*. 40(3): 349-388.
2012. Antin, Judd and Aaron Shaw. Social Desirability Bias and Self-Reports of Motivation: A Cross-Cultural Study of Amazon Mechanical Turk in the US and India. *Proceedings of the 2012 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)*.
2012. Shaw, Aaron and Yochai Benkler. A Tale of Two Blogospheres: Discursive Practices on the Left and Right. *American Behavioral Scientist*. 56(4): 459-487.
2011. Shaw, Aaron. Insurgent Expertise: The Politics of Free/Libre and Open Source Software in Brazil. *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*. 8 (3): 253-272.
2011. Shaw, Aaron, John Horton and Daniel Chen. Designing Incentives for Inexpert Human Raters. In *Proceedings of the 2011 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW2011)*.
2010. Hester, Vaughn, Aaron Shaw, and Lukas Biewald. Scalable Crisis Relief: Crowdsourced SMS Translation and Categorization with Mission 4636. In *Proceedings of the 2010 ACM Conference on Development (ACM DEV 2010)*.

## **Book Chapters and Invited Articles**

- 2017 (*forthcoming*). Foote, Jeremy, Aaron Shaw, and Benjamin Mako Hill. A Computational Analysis of Social Media Scholarship. In *Sage Handbook of Social Media*, edited by Jean Burgess, Thomas Poell, and Alice Marwick, Russell Sage Foundation.
- 2017 (*forthcoming*). Hill, Benjamin Mako and Aaron Shaw. Studying Populations of Online Communities. In *Oxford Handbook of Networked Communication*, edited by Brooke Foucault Welles and Sandra Gonzalez Bailon. Oxford University Press.
2015. Benkler, Yochai, Aaron Shaw, and Benjamin Mako Hill. Peer Production: A Form of Collective Intelligence. In *The Handbook of Collective Intelligence*, edited by Michael Bernstein and Thomas Malone. MIT Press.
2015. Shaw, Aaron. Hired Hands and Dubious Guesses: Adventures in Crowdsourced Data Collection. In *Digital Research Confidential*, edited by Eszter Hargittai and Christian Sandvig. MIT Press.
2014. Shaw, Aaron, Haoqi Zhang, Andrés Monroy-Hernández, Sean Munson, Liz Gerber, Benjamin Mako Hill, Peter Kinnaird, and Patrick Minder. Computer Supported Collective Action. *Interactions*, Social Media Forum. 21(4):74-77.
2009. Shaw, Aaron. The Access Divide: Brazil and the United States Struggle to Balance Innovation and Equality in the Information Age. *Americas Quarterly*, Winter Issue.
2008. Shaw, Aaron. The Problem with the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (and what to do about it). *Knowledge Ecology Studies*, Vol. 2. Available at: <http://kestudies.org/ojs/index.php/kes/issue/view/3/showToc>.
2008. Shaw, Aaron. Cultura livre, movimentos e humanização do Capital, *Le Monde Diplomatique Brasil*, 12 December, Available at: <http://diplo.uol.com.br/2008-12,a2690>
2008. Shaw, Aaron. Why Politics and Institutions (Still) Matter for ICT4D, Publius Project, Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Available at: <http://publius.cc/2008/09/26/shaw-why-politics-and-institutions-still-matter-for-ict4d/>.

## **Selected Lectures and Presentations**

### **Invited Lectures and Non-Archival Conference Presentations**

*The Hidden Costs of Requiring Account Creation: Evidence from Peer Production*  
(with Benjamin Mako Hill)

- 2017. Law and Technology Speaker Series, The Information Society Project at Yale Law School, New Haven, CT, January.
- 2016. Workshop and Lecture Series on the Law & Economics of Innovation, ETH Zurich, Center for Law & Economics, Department of Humanities, Social and Political Science, November.
- 2016. Voice, Technology & Impact Workshop, Department of Communication, University of Washington, Seattle, May.
- 2015. ANN-SONIC-NICO 7<sup>th</sup> Annual International Workshop on Network Theory, Northwestern University, October.

*Social Structures of Productive Online Volunteer Communities*

*(with Jeremy Foote and Benjamin Mako Hill)*

- 2016. Organizational Communication Mini-Conference (OCMC), Evanston, IL, October.
- 2016. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA), Seattle, WA, August.
- 2016. Annual Meeting of the International Communication Association (ICA), Fukuoka, Japan, June.

*The Wikipedia Adventure: Field Evaluation of an Interactive Tutorial for New Users*

*(with Sneha Narayan, Jake Orlowitz, Jonathan Morgan, and Benjamin Mako Hill)*

- 2016. Workshop and Lecture Series on the Law & Economics of Innovation, ETH Zurich, Center for Law & Economics, Department of Humanities, Social and Political Science, November.
- 2016. Annual Meeting of the International Communication Association (ICA), Fukuoka, Japan, June.

*Beyond Access: How User Research in Online Communities Can Empower Libraries*

- 2015. Keynote Presentation, "Library in the Life of the User," OCLC Research partners' meeting, Chicago, IL, October.

*Learning from Populations of Online Organizations*

*(with Benjamin Mako Hill)*

- 2015. International Communication Association (ICA) Pre-conference: Communication in a Networked Age. San Juan, Puerto Rico, May.
- 2015. International Communication Association (ICA) Pre-conference: Computational Approaches to Advance Communication Research. San Juan, Puerto Rico, May.
- 2015. Computational Social Science Summit, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, May.

*Freedoms of Access and Engagement?*

2015. Center for Diaspora and Transnational Studies, University of Toronto, January.  
2014. Hermanns Lecture, English and Philosophy Departments, University of Texas at Arlington, October.

*Laboratories of Oligarchy? How the Iron Law Extends to Peer Production*

(with Benjamin Mako Hill)

2014. Collective Intelligence Conference, MIT, Cambridge, MA, June.  
2014. Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April.  
2013. Computational Social Science Workshop, University of Chicago, November.  
2013. Chinese University of Hong Kong, C-Centre, August.  
2013. MIT Economic Sociology Working Group, May.  
2013. Cooperation Group, Berkman Center, Harvard, April.  
2013. Center for Information Technology Policy, Princeton, April.  
2013. European Consortium of Political Researchers (ECPR), Joint Workshop Sessions. Mainz, Germany, March.

*Status, Social Signaling and Collective Action in a Peer Production Community*

(with Benjamin Mako Hill and Yochai Benkler)

2012. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, August.  
2011. Laboratory for Social Research Seminar, UC Berkeley, October.  
2011. Wikimedia Foundation, San Francisco, CA, August.  
2011. Open and User Innovation Workshop. Vienna, Austria, June.  
2011. MIT Economic Sociology Working Group, May.

*Internet Skills and Wikipedia's Gender Inequality*

(with Eszter Hargittai)

2014. Annual Conference of the International Communication Association, Seattle, May.  
2014. Wikimania, Barbican Center, London, August.  
2014. Berkman Center for Internet & Society Luncheon Series, Harvard University, January.

*Intentional Crowds: Using goal-aligned microtasks to mobilize groups*

2013. Human Crowdsourcing Lunch Series, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, March.

*Hired Hands and Dubious Guesses: Adventures in Crowdsourced Data Collection*

2012. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. Denver, August.

*The Internet, Young Adults, and Political Engagement in the 2008 Presidential Election*  
(with Eszter Hargittai)

2012. Annual Conference of the International Communication Association. Phoenix, May.

2011. Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, March.

*Centralized and Decentralized Gatekeeping in an Open Online Collective*

2012. Northwestern University, Communication Studies Department, Evanston, January.

2011. Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Association (ASA). Las Vegas, August.

2011. Universidade Estadual de Campinas (UNICAMP), Laboratório de Jornalismo (LabJor). Campinas, Brazil. June.

*A Tale of Two Blogospheres: Discursive Practices on the Left and Right*

(with Yochai Benkler)

2011. International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference. Boston, May.

### **Panels and Public Talks**

2014. Welcoming new voices vs. defending the world's knowledge: The future of Wikipedia's open community. National Communication Association (NCA), Human Communication and Technology Division Panel. Chicago, November.

2013. Wiki ecology: Understanding wiki-success through comparative analysis. Wikimania 2013, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, China, August.

2012. Fail whaling: Designing from deviance and failures in social computing. ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, (with Michael Bernstein, Michael Conover, Benjamin Mako Hill, Andrés Monroy-Hernández, Brian Keegan, Sarita Yardi, R. Stuart Geiger, and Amy Bruckman), Austin, TX, March.

2011. Using social awards build better free culture and free software projects: Evidence from three field studies." Presented to the Wikimedia Foundation. San Francisco, CA. August.

2011. Using social awards to build better free software & culture projects (with Benjamin Mako Hill). 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Fórum Internacional Software Livre (FISL), Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil. July.

2010. Introductory remarks. CrowdConf 2010: The Future of Distributed Work, Research Track. San Francisco, CA. October.



2010. Invited panelist, Current Scholarship on the Political Blogosphere, Netroots Nation. Las Vegas, NV. July.

### **Internal Presentations, Workshops, and Guest Lectures**

2016. Learning for Life Lectures. Northwestern University, November 9.

2016. Teaching and Learning with Small Group Projects. Searle Center Faculty Fellows Presentation, Northwestern University, March 10.

2015. Teaching with Wikipedia. Searle Center for for Advancing Teaching & Learning Faculty Round table, Northwestern University, Spring.

2014-2016. Guest Lecture: Peer Production. Communication Studies 227, "Communication and Technology," Northwestern University, Fall.

2014. Guest Lecture: Learning from Peer Production: Tough Problems for Open Online Communities. Linguistics 363 / Slavic 322, "Making a Dictionary," Northwestern University, Spring.

2014. Guest Lecture: Crowds and Human Computing. COMM 587B, "Innovation Communities," University of Washington, Spring.

2014. Accounting for Transaction Costs in Collective Action Online, Management and Organizations (MORS) Group Workshop on Social Movements and Social Enterprise, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, Spring.

2011. Designing for Cooperation with Social Incentives (with Benjamin Mako Hill and Yochai Benkler). Harvard Law School, Introduction to Internet Law (iLaw) Course. Cambridge, MA. September.

## **Student Advising**

### **Graduate Advisor**

Jeremy Foote, MTS (2014-Present).

Thomas Rousse, MTS (2014-Present).

Sneha Narayan, TSB (2013-Present).

### **Graduate Dissertation Committee**

Michael Greenberg, TSB.

Erin Klawitter, MTS.

### **General Exam Supervision**

Yongsung Kim, TSB (2016, 2017).

Miriam Boon, TSB (2016).

Marlon Twyman, TSB (2016).

Sabrina Connell, MTS (2015).  
Michael Greenberg, TSB (2014).  
Erin Klawitter, MTS (2013).

### **Undergraduate Research Supervisor**

Bria Marie Royal, Communication Studies (2015-2016).  
Amiko Krisa Bunag Lagrimas, Communication Studies '15 (2015).  
Eleanor Burgess, Communication Studies '15 and Fulbright Scholar (2013-2015).

## **Teaching**

### **Instructor**

*Online Communities and Crowds (undergraduate, 2013, 2014, 2016).*  
<http://aaronshaw.org/teaching/2016/occ>  
*Northwestern University, Communication Studies 378.*

*Introduction to Graduate Research in Media, Technology and Society (graduate, 2016).*  
<http://aaronshaw.org/teaching/2016/mts501>  
*Northwestern University, Media, Technology & Society 501.*

*The Practice of Scholarship (graduate, 2016)*  
[http://wiki.communitydata.cc/Practice\\_of\\_scholarship\\_\(Spring\\_2016\)](http://wiki.communitydata.cc/Practice_of_scholarship_(Spring_2016))  
*Northwestern University, Media, Technology & Society 503.*

*Online Collective Action (graduate, 2013-present).*  
<http://aaronshaw.org/teaching/2015/peer>  
*Northwestern University, Media, Technology & Society 525.*

*Research Design for Causal Inference (graduate, 2013-2015).*  
<http://aaronshaw.org/teaching/2015/causal>  
*Northwestern University, Media, Technology & Society 525.*

## **Service and Engagement**

### **Professional Service**

2017. Program Committee Member, Collective Intelligence Conference.  
2017. Program Committee Member, AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP).  
2016-2017. Program Committee Member, International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2).

2016. Faculty discussant, Research Escalator Session, Organizational Communication Division, Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA).
2016. Program Committee Member, ACM Symposium on Open Collaboration (OpenSym).
2015. Program Committee Co-Chair, ACM Symposium on Open Collaboration (OpenSym), Wikipedia Research Track.
- 2015-. Editorial Board Member, *Social Media & Society*.
2015. Program Committee Member (Associate Chair), ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW).
- 2012-2015. Program Committee Member, SoHuman Workshop on Crowdsourcing and Human Computation (SocInfo).
- 2010-2012. Program Committee and Conference Co-Chair. *CrowdConf: The Future of Crowdsourcing and Distributed Work*. San Francisco, CA.
- 2006-2007. Business Manager and Editorial Collective Member, *Berkeley Journal of Sociology*.
- Ad hoc Reviewer for the National Science Foundation, MIT Press, Sage Press and publications/conferences in Communication, Human Computer Interaction, Sociology, and Political Science including *Journal of Computer Mediated Communication*, *CSCW*, *CHI*, *International Journal of Communication*, *Journal of Information Technology and Politics*, *Social Problems*, *OpenSym*, *Computational Linguistics*, *HICCS*, and *ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (TOCHI)*.

### **University Service**

#### *Northwestern University*

- 2015-. Director of Graduate Studies, Media, Technology & Society Program.
- 2015-. Media, Technology & Society Graduate Admissions Committee (Chair).
- 2015-2016. Computation and Communication Faculty Search Committee.
- 2015-2016. Advisory Committee, Master of Science in Communication; Communication Studies Department.
2015. Organizer, ANN-SONIC-NICO 7<sup>th</sup> Annual International Workshop on Network Theory, Fall.
- 2014-2015; 2016-2017. Coordinator, Media, Technology & Society Speaker Series.
- 2014-2015. Communication Studies Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.
- 2013-. Communication Studies, Digital Media Module Steering Committee.
2013. Co-organizer, [Wiki Research Hackathon](#).

### **Professional Affiliations**

International Communication Association  
 Association of Computing Machinery  
 American Sociological Association  
 Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)

**Industry and Non-Profit Affiliations**

2014-. Citizen Science Advisory Board Member, Adler Planetarium & Oxford University.

2014-. President, Board of Directors, Tamarindo Foundation, Inc.

2009-2011. Consulting Research Scientist. CrowdFlower Inc., San Francisco, CA.