

Call for Abstracts

97. No paper, No pencil, No tape measure: Situated Craft Practices, Computation, and Automation

Our panel seeks to create a space to examine situated hand-making practices occurring within social, cultural, and physical environments, alongside current trends in computation, digitization, and automation. Our purpose is to examine craft practices (hand, mind, and material), computation, and technology through intersecting STS lenses of feminism, post-colonialism, and indigeneity (Banu Subramaniam et al. n.d., 407–33). In conversation with the 2019 4S theme of Innovations, Interruptions, Regenerations, we hope to engage in critical discourse around casting analog making practices as, “dirty, [messy], and repetitive,” while casting automation as an innovative means to “better knowledge, insights, and outcomes” (“Autodesk University 2018” n.d.) We ask: How might automation “interrupt” knowledge, participation, and sociality when it comes to craft practices, and the historically marginalized? What methods and conceptual frameworks might we and marginalized communities employ in design and technology to avoid “stripping clean [the] history and culture” of these vulnerable groups? How might these making practices inform new conceptions of feminism, post-colonialism, and indigeneity? **We invite works that explore theories, histories and projects around craft, computation, and technology – from education to practice** (Risatti 2007; Sennett 2012; Dormer 1997). How might situated practices be a form of resistance against colonialism, automation, their ordering, and their violence toward vulnerable communities? What unique challenges and opportunities do we face as we imagine co-production between craft and automation such that their intertwined histories of power and violence are acknowledged and repaired? Our goal is to develop new perspectives and re-conceptualizations of craft, computation, and automation.

Panel Chairs:

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Open panel paper submissions should be in the form of abstracts of up to 250 words. They should include the paper’s main arguments, methods, and contributions to STS. When submitting papers to open panels on the abstract submission platform, you will **select the Open Panel you are submitting to**. Papers submitted to an open panel will be reviewed by the open panel organizer(s) and will be given first consideration for that session. Also at the time of submission, you will also be asked to nominate **two alternative open panel preferences** for your paper. In the event that your paper is not included in the open panel of your first preference it will be considered for the alternative panels indicated in your submission. **Abstracts due: February 1st 2019.**

4S 2019
NEW ORLEANS
Innovations, Interruptions, Regenerations
SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL STUDIES OF SCIENCE
ANNUAL MEETING
NEW ORLEANS
SEPTEMBER 4-7, 2019

<https://www.4s2019.org/>

The theme of the 2019 annual meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science – Innovations, Interruptions, Regenerations – calls for presentations, panels and other events that are innovative in form and content, conveying and examining insights from science and technology studies (STS) into innovation itself, innovations in STS and ways STS can be both a source and site of regenerations of many kinds. Extending the transnational character and commitments of 4S, the meeting will highlight STS innovations in different locations – in education, research, practice, and academic organizing. The meeting will include a Making & Doing exhibit, and a special exhibit – Innovating STS – that will showcase how diverse STS departments, networks, organizations and streams of scholarship (actor-network theory, feminist and postcolonial STS, and so on) have taken shape, continually interrupting and regenerating the field as a whole.

Conference sessions will examine how STS can interrupt entrenched ideas in innovative ways, generating alternative possibilities and pathways. STS studies of innovation will be highlighted, drawing out how the promise of innovation has both created space for STS in many settings and prompted important critiques. Sessions will also advance critical perspectives on ideas, practices and infrastructures in STS itself, opening discussion about STS and 4S futures. Events that bring people together in new ways – within and beyond the setting of the meeting itself – are especially encouraged, as are activities that draw conference participants into issues of special importance in New Orleans, the broader Gulf Coast region and the Anthropocene writ large. Zooming in to local conditions and out to structural dynamics and shared problems, the 2019 4S meeting will provide rich opportunities to reflect on and regenerate both STS and 4S.

Accepted open panels - <https://www.4s2019.org/accepted-open-panels/>

Submit abstract here - <https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/ssss/4s19/>