

# Margarita Boenig-Liptsin

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## POSITIONS

### ETH Zürich

Assistant Professor (tenure track) of Ethics, Technology, and Society, September 2022 - present  
Department of Humanities, Social Science, and Political Science

**Institut d'Études Avancées, Paris;** Research Fellow September 2021 - June 2022

### University of California, Berkeley

Research Associate, Division of Computing, Data Science, and Society January 2022 - present  
Lecturer, Division of Computing, Data Science, and Society January 2021 - July 2021  
Lecturer, Department of History 2018 - December 2020  
Director, Human Contexts and Ethics Program,  
Division of Computing, Data Science, and Society June 2019 - July 2021

## EDUCATION

**Harvard University;** History of Science, Science and Technology Studies; Ph.D. (11/2015)

**Université Paris-1;** Philosophie; Ph.D. (*Co-tutelle*, concurrent with Harvard degree) (11/2015)

**Stanford University;** International Relations, Minor Economics; B.A. with Honors (2008)

## RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

2021 - 2022	Sorbonne University - Paris Institute of Advanced Study Chair Research Chair on "Major Societal Changes: Environmental Transition / AI," Paris Institute of Advanced Study, Paris, France (9/2021-7/2022), with a project "Dignity at Risk: Discovering the Human in Algorithmic Risk Scores."
2016 – present	Non-resident Research Associate, Program on Science, Technology and Society, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (6/2016-present), on a National Science Foundation funded project, "Traveling Imaginaries of Innovation: The Practice Turn and Its Transnational Implementation."
2015 – 2016	Postdoctoral Fellow, Program on Science, Technology and Society, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (9/2015-5/2016), on a National Science Foundation funded project, "Traveling Imaginaries of Innovation: The Practice Turn and Its Transnational Implementation."
2013 – 2015	Co-researcher, Templeton Foundation funded project, "The Transhumanist Imagination: Innovation, Secularization and Eschatology."
2005	Research Assistant, Political Science/International Relations Summer Research Project, Stanford, CA.
2004 – 2009	Project Assistant, Contemporary World History Project (CWHP), Stanford, CA.

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2019 - 2021 Mozilla Responsible Computer Science Challenge Grant, \$150,000 Stage I (2019-2020) and \$64,000 Stage II (2021), Co-PIs Cathryn Carson and John Canny, grant author and project director.
- 2015 – 2016 National Science Foundation Fellowship, “Traveling Imaginaries of Innovation: The Practice Turn and Its Transnational Implementation.”
- 2014 – 2015 Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship.  
2014 Harvard Horizons finalist.
- 2012 Lurcy Foundation Fellowship (through Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences)
- 2012 Chateaubriand Sciences Sociales Fellowship (declined)
- 2008 Lawrence V. Ryan Prize for Innovative Research in an Interdisciplinary Field in the Humanities (for Stanford Honors Thesis titled, “Capturing Complexity: Is there a contradiction in the ambition of scientists of nanotechnology to create complexity and control it?”)
- 2006 Essay contest winner for the France-Stanford Ethics of Nanotechnology Conference, France (for essay titled, "At the Threshold: Developing a Subconscious Response to Nanotechnology")
- 2005 – 2006 Nominee, Hoefer Prize in Undergraduate Writing, Stanford University (for essay titled, “VirtualPastures – Information and Communication Technologies, Governmentality, and the Public Sphere”)

## CONFERENCE PAPERS, PANELS, and INVITED TALKS

- 2023 Séminaire romand d'histoire des sciences et des techniques, EPFL Lausanne, paper title, "Just Right: An Imaginary of Data and Justice"
- 2022 Université Catholique de Lille, conference "A l'épreuve des données," paper titled, "Just Right: An Imaginary of Data and Justice"
- 2022 Sorbonne Center for AI, conference "Beyond Quantity: Research with Subsymbolic AI" conference, paper titled, "Artificial Intelligence in Knowing the Human," invited paper
- 2022 Society for Wom\*en in Social Sciences and Humanities (SWISH), Gender and Science Lecture Series, ETH Zürich, paper titled, "Relational Ethics for Data and Computing: Traits, origins and projects of relation-centered approaches to technology ethics," invited paper
- 2022 Center for Law, Ethics and Digital Technologies at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University and CEU Democracy Institute, Budapest webinar "Trust in the Digital Age," invited paper
- 2022 AI, the Brain, and Society conference, École Normale Supérieure, Paris, invited panelist
- 2022 Institute d'Études Avancées de Paris Carte Blanche Seminar, "Constitutions of the Human for the Information Age"
- 2022 American University of Paris Presidential Lecture Series, "Technology and the Human Future," invited talk, "Human Dignity and the Calculus of Human Worth"
- 2021 Université Catholique de Lille, Éthiques, Technologies et Transhumanisme, journée d'études, "Changer de temps ? autour de *Temps-paysage*, un livre de Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent," invited paper title "The Ethics of Possibility: Ethical aim in the time of algorithms"
- 2021 University of Cincinnati "Data Day" invited panelist, "Bias, Miscommunication, and Equity in Data"
- 2021 Society for the History of Technology, New Orleans, LA, "Pedagogy of Engineering Ethics" panel presenter

- 2021 Society for the Social Studies of Science, "Ethics by Explanation: Transactional Underpinnings of 'Explainable AI'" paper in panel titled, "Won't you be my neighbor? Towards Theory and Ethics in Society," and paper "Assessing the Value of a Home: Lessons from a data initiative for training data scientists' ways of seeing and knowing"
- 2021 National Workshop on Data Science Pedagogy, UC Berkeley, "Teaching Data Science and Justice," panel organizer and "Human Contexts and Ethics Teacher Training" workshop organizer.
- 2021 MozFest, "Responsible Computing Curricula -- How Did We Do It?" presenter
- 2020 Arize AI, invited fireside chat with company co-founder on "AI Ethics and Explainability"
- 2020 Science and Democracy Network, paper "Just Right: Imaginaries of Data and Justice," and panel organizer, "Teaching STS Online"
- 2020 Cologne Summer School on Perspectives and Visions of Digital Societies, webinar titled, "Imaginaries of Data Justice"
- 2020 National Workshop on Data Science Pedagogy, UC Berkeley, "Human Contexts and Ethics in the Data Science Classroom" panel organizer.
- 2020 BitProject webinar, "Teaching with Data Science: Interdisciplinary Learning Experiences Promoting Undergraduate Research," presentation on Human Contexts and Ethics of Data
- 2019 Mozilla Responsible Computer Science Challenge, University College London, Lesson presentation, "Human Contexts and Ethics in CSc100: Design Lifecycle and Twitter/Trump Scenario"
- 2019 Science and Democracy Network, Harvard University, "Teaching the Ethics of Technology," Panel organizer
- 2018 Science and Democracy Network, TUM School of Management & Munich Center for Technology in Society, "Co-productionist Data Ethics."
- 2017 Society for the History of Technology, Philadelphia, PN, "The Information Society and How to Live in It: According to the United States, France, and the Soviet Union."
- 2017 Society for the Social Studies of Science, Boston, MA, "Constitutions of the Human in the Digital Age, Then and Now."
- 2017 Invited presentation, Centre de Sociologie de l'Innovation (CSI) 50th Anniversary, École des Mines ParisTech, "On the Edge of Boston: Innovation as Social Infrastructure."
- 2016 Invited presentation, Munich Center for Technology in Society, TUM School of Management, Technische Universität München, "A New Literacy for the Information Age: Children, Computers, and Citizenship."
- 2015 Society for the History of Technology, Panel titled, "Computer Users, Experts, and Citizens," presenting paper titled, "Players, Not Users: The role of computer play in the education of citizens of the information age."
- 2015 Commentator, "Earthworks Unlimited: Problems and Prospects of Geoengineering," School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Program on Science, Technology and Society joint workshop.
- 2015 STS Circle, Harvard University, "A New Literacy for the Information Age: Children, Computers, and Citizenship."
- 2014 "On the Scale of Worlds: Technoscience and Global Governance" workshop organized by the Program on Science, Technology and Society, presented paper titled, "Citizen Computer."
- 2014 "Chimeric Imaginaries: Refiguring the Human in Science, Law, and Life," a Program on Science, Technology and Society workshop, presented paper titled, "Chip in the heart: The imaginary of being human in the information age."
- 2014 Society for the History of Technology, Special Interest Group for Computers in Society, presented paper titled, "Entrepreneurs of the Mind."
- 2014 "Technological Visions and Revisions," Program on Science, Technology and Society workshop, presented paper titled, "Jump, Grab, Twist, and Bend: Imaginary of Disruption at Singularity University."

- 2013 Society for the Social Study of Science Conference, San Diego, CA. Presented paper titled, "Making a New Literacy for the 'Information Age.'"
- 2013 Science and Democracy Network Conference, Harvard Kennedy School. Presented paper titled, "Computer Literacy, a Prerequisite for Citizenship in the 21st Century."
- 2012 Colloquium on Violence and Religion (COV&R) conference, Tokyo, Japan. Presented paper titled, "Delivering Reason: Lessons about reason and subjectivity post-catastrophe from three films."
- 2012 "Sciences Sociales Émbarques" conference, Paris, France. Presented paper titled, "Janus, or being an STS Student at Singularity University."
- 2011 Governing Techno-scientific Futures Conference, University of Vienna, Austria. Presented paper titled, "140 Character Ethics."
- 2011 Invited to participate in *Imitatio* workshop dedicated to "Consolidating Foundations of Mimetic Theory," convened by Jean-Pierre Dupuy on the topic of "Jalousie et la théorie mimétique," Bibliothèque d'Arсенal, Paris, France.
- 2010 Graduate Workshop on "Pre-Colonial and Colonial Perspectives on Science and Technology in South Asia," Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany. Presented paper titled, "The Machine in Gandhi's Thought and Non-Violence Movement."
- 2009 and 2010 Young Scholars in Mimetic Theory Conference, Stanford, CA. Invited by director of *Imitatio* to discuss Rene Girard's mimetic theory in the work of young academics.
- 2008 Invited to share my research on the relationship between technology and art with 800 Stanford alumni at the first Stanford "Leading Matters" event in Seattle.
- 2007 Invited to participate in France-Stanford round-table discussion titled, "What is different, ethically, about nanotechnology?"
- 2007 Hawaii International Conference on Social Sciences: Received a Stanford grant to present ethics of nanotechnology research at a professional international conference as an undergraduate.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE & CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

- 2020 - 2021 Co-designer and co-instructor of DATA 4AC: "Data and Justice," offered Spring 2021
- 2019 - 2021 Development of Human Contexts and Ethics curriculum and guest lectures in COMP SCI 194: "EECS For All: Social Justice in DATA 100: "Techniques and Principles of Data Science," DATA 102: "Data, Inference, and Decisions," and SkyDeck, UC Berkeley's start-up incubator, "Ethical Innovation at Scale"
- 2018 - 2020 Co-designer and co-instructor DATA 104 (formerly Hist c184d/STS c104) "Human Contexts and Ethics of Data," UC Berkeley.
- 2016 Independent Study Adviser, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Designed and supervised through weekly meetings the reading and research of a Harvard College junior studying the sociotechnical imaginary of innovation in Boston.
- 2012 Teaching Fellow, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. History of Science 190 "Science Fact and Science Fiction." Lead two weekly student discussion sections, help students develop deep understanding of course material, provide feedback on students' written assignments, and grade student performance.
- 2011 Teaching Fellow, Singularity University, NASA, Moffett Field, CA. Develop policy, law, and ethics of technology curriculum for 80 graduate students studying contemporary technologies. Deliver lectures, lead student discussions, organize workshops with outside speakers, and consult with student teams on political, legal, and ethical components of their projects.
- 2008 – 2009 English Language Assistant, Crèteil, France. Assist French primary school teachers (grades 2-5) to teach English according to European Union framework. Design innovative language-learning activities and teach in ten classrooms/week. Contribute multi-media content to French Ministry of Education's website for French teachers of English.

2007 Teacher Assistant, Stanford Alpine Archeology Project, Stanford, CA (09/07). Helped to lead students on an Alpine Hannibal expedition. Managed project budget and created a map using GPS to track excavation progress.

## ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

2021 Author of sections "Discussing Justice and Equity," "Structured Ways of Thinking about Computing and Society," and "Student Team Dynamics," in Kathy Pham and Atri Rudra, Eds, "[Teaching Responsible Computing Playbook](#)"

2020 -- present Lead contributor, Data Science Ethos Lifecycle project, Academic Data Science Alliance

2019 -- 2021 Program Director, Responsible Computer Science Challenge Grant.

2018 -- present Junior Council Member, Science and Democracy Network

2016 Co-organizer of an STS working group "Constitutionalism and Information Technology."

2013 -- 2016 Editor, STS Vignettes, STSNext20 website.

2011 -- 2015 Participant, Program on Science, Technology and Society, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

2011 École Normale Supérieure / Harvard History of Science Winter School, École Normale Supérieure, Paris.

2010 Mimetic Theory Summer School, Leusden, Netherlands.

2008 -- 2009 Art/Science Exhibit Assistant, Le Laboratoire, Paris, France. Design a multi-media, bilingual (French-English) information room at the entrance to an exhibit titled, "Is fear genetic?" a collaboration by Harvard social ethics professor Mahzarin R. Banaji and Indian visual artist Shilpa Gupta. Provide background about Banaji and Gupta's work, explain the theoretical and historical context of fear, and apply the results of the exhibit to anxiety-related health issues in developing countries.

2005 -- 2006 Section Editor, Stanford Journal of International Relations, Stanford University, CA.

2004 -- 2005 Varsity Fencing, Stanford University, CA.

## LANGUAGES

Fluent in Russian with extensive experience in written and oral translation; very strong reading and listening and strong writing and speaking abilities in French and Spanish with in-country language training.