



**6<sup>th</sup> Annual Social Media Technology  
Conference & Workshop**

***“Social Media and Voices in the Margins”***

**Howard University  
Interdisciplinary Research Building  
2201 Georgia Ave, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20059**

**October 6-7, 2016**

***Hosted by*  
Howard University**

**Sponsored by  
AT&T**





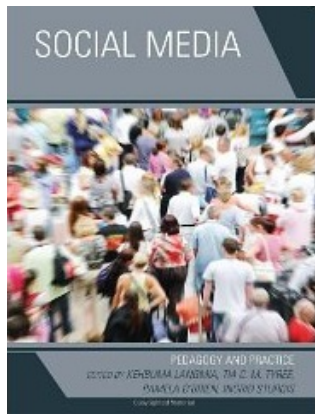
## **About the Social Media Technology Conference and Workshop**

Co-founded by Howard University and Bowie State University in 2009, the Social Media Technology Conference & Workshop brings together scholars and professionals who are experts in the area of social media to share their perspectives on the shifting paradigm in the academia, governmental and non-governmental organizations orchestrated by digital and social media in this era of technological determinism. As social media continue to influence all areas of our lives, it is important to examine and debate not only the use of various social media tools in different contexts, but how they change the manner in which individuals, academics, business owners and the government make use of this media. This two-day intensive conference combines panel discussions, posters sessions, roundtables and hands-on workshops designed to enlighten scholars and practitioners about social media and provide them with the knowledge to create and effectively utilize social media in different contexts.

Working with past presenters and other researchers, the conference co-founders edited two social media books. The first was published in 2014 entitled *Social Media: Pedagogy and Practice*. It is available on [Amazon](#) and the [University Press of America's website](#). The second book is set to be published in December 2016 through Lexington Books. It is titled *Social Media: Culture and Identity*.



## About the Social Media: Pedagogy and Practice



The book examines how interactive technologies can be applied to teaching, research and the practice of communication. It demonstrates how social media can be utilized in the classroom to build the skillsets of students going into journalism, public relations, integrated marketing and other fields.

**By:** Kehbuma Langmia, Tia Tyree, Pamela O'Brien & Ingrid Sturgis

**978-0-7618-6195-9 • Paperback** February 2014 • \$34.99

### Table of Contents Highlights

#### Section I: Pedagogy

- Using Social Media and Creating Social Media Courses, Tia C. M. Tyree
- Twitter, Facebook, Blogs, and Media-Sharing Sites in the Classroom, Jennifer Cox
- Teaching Computational Literacy Through Game Design, Ingrid Sturgis & Todd Shurn
- Social Media and Critical Pedagogy, Kehbuma Langmia & Stella-Monica Mpande
- How to Do Communication Research Using Social Media Data, William Hart & Erica Taylor
- Conducting Research Utilizing Social Media: Best Practices, Jamie Cohen & Paul Mihailidis

#### Section II: Social Media Practices in the United States

- African Americans and Social Media, Jayne Cubbage
- The Seven Sisters and Their Siblings Go Digital: An Analysis of Women's Magazine Content on Websites, iPads, and Cell Phones, Yanick Rice Lamb & Kendra Desrosiers
- Social Branding of College Students to Seek Employment, Jamila Cupid & S. Lenise Wallace
- Social Media, Law, and Practice, Angela D. Minor Esq.

#### Section III: International Social Media Practices

- Participatory Media Impact on the Arab Spring, Adam Klein
- Social Media and Participatory Communication: The UNDP and the Diffusion of Empowerment, Nickesia S. Gordon
- Cock Crow in the "Electronic Republic:" Social Media and Kenya's 2013 Presidential Election, Kehbuma Langmia



## About the Social Media: Culture and Identity



It examines social media's global impact especially as they affect culture, industry and identity. New media scholars have posited thought-provoking as well as analyzed existing socio-cultural issues about human communication that are being impacted negatively and positively by the omnipresence of social media.  
**By:** Kehbuma Langmia & Tia Tyree

**Release Date** December 2016

### Table of Contents Highlights

Introduction: Social Media as the Hydra, by Kehbuma Langmia

Part I: Social Media: Identity and Social Behaviors

- #THOTsBeLike: The Construction of the THOT Female Sexual Stereotype in Social Media, by Tia C. M. Tyree and Morgan D. Kirby
- "I Don't Belong in Here!": A Social Media Analysis of Digital Protest, Transgender Rights, and International Restroom Legislation, by Melvin L. Williams
- When Minors Become Sex Offenders: The Identity Crisis of Teenage Sexting, by Angela D. Minor
- The Dark Side of Social Media: A Content Analysis of Cyberbullying, by Jean-Louis P. Ntang-Beb and Leticia D. Williams
- How Minorities Use Social Media During Weather Related Crises: Results of a U.S. National Weather Survey, by Brandale N. Mills, Michelle A. Dovel, Leticia D. Williams and Tia C. M. Tyree

Part II: Social Media: Culture and the International Community

- The Coins for Justice Movement: The Rise of New Media Activism in Indonesia, by Maria N. D. Maer
- ICTs and Power Relations in Traditional Settings in Cameroon, by Agbome Salome Nangah and Julius Che Tita
- Towards a Framework for Communicating Women's Health via Social Media in Jamaica, by Nickesia S. Gordon
- ICT use in Teaching, Research and Outreach in the University of Buea, Cameroon, by Kingsley L. Ngange and Melanie Tchewo





## About the Title Sponsor



### AT&T

In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone. It was the foundation of the company that would become AT&T – a brand that is now synonymous with innovation in communications. In 1984, the former AT&T agreed to divest its local telephone operations but retain its long distance, R&D and manufacturing arms. From this, SBC Communications Inc. (first known as Southwestern Bell Corp.) was born.

Twelve years later, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 drove major changes in the competitive landscape. SBC expanded its U.S. presence through a series of acquisitions, including Pacific Telesis Group (1997) and Ameritech Corp. (1999). In 2005, SBC acquired AT&T Corp., creating the new AT&T, a leader in global communications for businesses.

The acquisition of BellSouth in 2006 consolidated ownership of Cingular Wireless, and AT&T led one of the most significant transformations in communications since the invention of the telephone ... the birth of the mobile Internet. We haven't stopped. In 2013, we bought Cricket to give customers in the growing prepaid market more access to mobile Internet services. In 2015, we completed our purchase of two Mexican wireless companies, Iusacell and Nextel Mexico. Today, we're spurring smartphone adoption and on our way to becoming a leading wireless provider in that country, too. And, our 2015 acquisition of DIRECTV makes us the world's largest pay TV provider.

This rich history supports our ongoing mission: Connect people with their world, everywhere they live, work and play ... and do it better than anyone else. Today, we're mobilizing video the way we mobilized the Internet ... securing business communications from the smartphone to the cloud ... and making cars, homes, machines, even cities smarter. And we're looking forward with anticipation to the future.

*Courtesy of AT&T.*



## About the University Host



### Howard University

Howard University, a culturally diverse, comprehensive, research intensive and historically Black private university, provides an educational experience of exceptional quality at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels to students of high academic standing and potential, with particular emphasis upon educational opportunities for Black students. Moreover, the University is dedicated to attracting and sustaining a cadre of faculty who are, through their teaching, research and service, committed to the development of distinguished, historically aware, and compassionate graduates and to the discovery of solutions to human problems in the United States and throughout the world. With an abiding interest in both domestic and international affairs, the University is committed to continuing to produce leaders for America and the global community.

It is one of only 48 U.S. private, Doctoral/Research-Extensive universities, comprising 12 schools and colleges with 10,500 students enjoying academic pursuits in more than 120 areas of study leading to undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees. The University continues to attract the nation's top students and produces more on-campus African-American Ph.D.s than any other university in the world. Since 1998, the University has produced a Rhodes Scholar, A Truman Scholar, six Fulbright Scholars and nine Pickering Fellows.



## **About the School of Communications' Departmental Hosts**

### **Department of Media, Journalism and Film**

The Department of Media, Journalism and Film (MJFC) prepares students for the media world of today and the future through core and cluster courses. The MJFC department draws from the fields of digital audio/radio, digital video/television, and film production, scriptwriting and reporting, and broadcast (i.e. radio and television), print, mobile and online news. The MJFC Department addresses current industry standards, technological trends of convergence and community needs, while meeting the university's historical mission. The Department unifies several intellectual and creative strands within the School that share the common concerns of communicating in effective ways at the local, regional, national and global levels.

### **Department of Strategic, Legal and Management Communications**

The Department of Strategic, Legal and Management Communication (SLMC) aims to prepare students for careers and advanced study in communication used for strategic purposes such as public relations and special event planning, advertising and sales, non-profit and for-profit management, law and policy, organizational training and development, corporate communications, government relations, entrepreneurship, human resources, marketing communications, and media management. SLMC majors will develop strong critical reasoning, writing and case development, verbal and nonverbal communication, problem solving, research design and implementation. Students will be equipped with persuasive and informative methodologies to enhance the creation and development of messages in a variety of communication contexts including digital media. The mission of the new Strategic, Legal and Management Communication (SLMC) Department is to promote the study and practice of communicating effectively within institutional, corporate, organizational, legal, social, intercultural and interpersonal contexts.



## About the Keynote Speaker

### L. Michelle Smith



L. Michelle Smith is a consumer insights expert who is helping one of the world's most respected Fortune 10 companies prepare for our nation's new reality— an unwired, digitally-driven, multicultural and global society.

Michelle leads Diversity and Citizenship & Sustainability corporate communications for AT&T Global Marketing Organization. She owns nine segments which makeup the fabric of our country: women, veterans, LGBT, disability, 50+, Millennials as well as the three multicultural segments—African American, Hispanic and Asian.

Her insights-driven campaigns take on heavy issues and light-hearted topics that endear consumers to the AT&T brand. Her teams bring home the most impressive awards and results—billions of impressions by the year. Each major initiative begins with a core insight, establishes an authoritative voice then seeps into the hearts and minds of consumers. With campaigns like Inspired Mobility, Live Proud and It Can Wait, her teams have taken segment programs total market and general market programs to the segments. She built a non-existent diversity comms practice in only a few years and continues to refine her approach to culturally-nuanced communications.

Her vision is to break down more silos while building a unique practice within AT&T's Global Marketing Organization. She has more than 20 years' experience as an integrated marketer and communicator at global agencies and her own boutique agency. She is also a speaker, writer and proud mom.





## Highlighted Hands-on Workshop Presenters

### Sree Sreenivasan



Sree Sreenivasan is the Chief Digital Officer for the City of New York, where he works to promote access to City government through technology and support the city's tech ecosystem.

Prior to his work at City Hall, Sreenivasan served for three years as the first Chief Digital Officer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where he led a 70-person team to increase the museum's digital presence. In October 2015, he was appointed by Mayor de Blasio to the Commission on Public Information and Communication (COPIC), where he worked to increase access to, and education about, City information online.

Before his work at the Met, he spent 20 years as a member of faculty of the Columbia Journalism School and a year as Columbia University's first Chief Digital Officer. He was a founding member and contributing editor at neighborhood news site DNAinfo, and throughout his career, he has written for various publications, including the New York Times, and was a popular technology reporter on WABC-TV, WNBC-TV and WCBS-TV.

An immigrant from India, Sreenivasan was born in Japan and lived in Bhutan, the former Soviet Union, New York City, Myanmar, India and Fiji before receiving a Bachelor's degree in History from St. Stephen's College in Delhi and receiving a Master's degree in Journalism from Columbia University in 1993. He is a proud graduate of P.S. 6 in Manhattan and also attended St. Joseph's of Yorkville.

## Michelle Johnson



Michelle Johnson is an Associate Professor of the Practice, Multimedia/Online Journalism, at Boston University, where she has taught full time since 2009. In addition to teaching, Johnson oversees the award-winning Boston University News Service, a showcase for work produced BU Journalism students. In 2014 BU News Service was named top online student news site by both the Associated Press, Massachusetts/Rhode Island, and the Society of Professional Journalists, Region I. BU News Service coverage of the Boston Marathon bombing was nationally recognized by the Online News Association with awards in both student and professional categories in 2013.

In 2015, Johnson was chosen to be among the first cohort of professional journalists and journalism educators who have been certified to train journalists in how to use Google tools. The program is a collaboration between the Poynter Institute, Google and the Society of Professional Journalists. Johnson was named 2013 Educator of the Year by the National Association of Black Journalists. In 2012 she was the recipient of the Barry Bingham Fellowship, presented by the Association of Opinion Journalists for her work encouraging students of color to pursue journalism as a career.

Prior to teaching multimedia journalism at BU, she lectured in the journalism department at Emerson College as a Journalist in Residence and also spent several years there as technology manager, assisting in the renovation of the department into a multi-million dollar, cross-platform facility.

A former Boston Globe editor, Johnson was part of the team that launched the Globe's regional web site, boston.com. Prior to moving into new media, she was an editor for the print edition of the Globe. She has extensive experience writing and editing for both print and online.



## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Social Media Technology Conference & Workshop Schedule

**Thursday, October 6, 2016**

**8:30 a.m.-9 a.m.**

**Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**9 a.m.-9:15 a.m.**

**Welcome**

Dr. Gracie Lawson-Borders

Dean, School of Communications, Howard University

**9:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m.**

**Paper Session: Social Media, Diversity and Identity**

Marisa Smith

-#BlackTwitter: An Analysis of African Americans' Sociocultural Construction of Twitter as a Black Public Sphere

Aya Yadlin Segal

-“Smiling for those who can’t” – Selfies as a Tool of Visibility for Marginalized Groups

Corey Miles

-Twitter Suburbia: How Racialized Identities Manifested into White Flight

Frances Adomako

-The Dialectic of Social Engagement in a Digital Era: Empowerment, Resistance and the Development of Black Identity

Kehbuma Langmia

-Social Media tele-copresence Theory of Identity

**10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.**

**Paper Session: Social Media and Entertainment**

Sherese R. Taylor

-“They transcended race”: The politic of ascribing cliché narratives to black entertainers in the media

Mari Toshiko Galiher and Wayne Buente

-Do you dare to share? Self-disclosure practices and effects among micro-celebrities with mental illness and their followers

**-Continued-**

Michael Austin

-Rural Native American youth and Their Use of hip hop videos on YouTube

**12 p.m.-1:30 p.m.**

**Keynote Speaker and Luncheon**

L. Michelle Smith (Director of Public Relations, U.S. Diversity, Citizenship and Sustainability)

**1:30 p.m.-1:45 p.m.**

**Break**

**1:45 p.m.-3 p.m.**

**Panel: Social Media: Journalism and Education**

Mark Luckie (Moderator and Presenter, Head of Journalism and Media at Reddit)

Tutaleni Asino and Sarah Stager

-What I learned on Social Media: accounting for new knowledge and skills acquired on emerging spaces

Kimberly Harper

-Social Media and Education: Mitigating the Digital Divide with Google

Fredric Kendrick and Ingrid Sturgis

-Howard University's Student Fact-checking Project

**3 p.m.-3:15 p.m.**

**Break**

**3:15 p.m.-4:15 p.m.  
and Journalists**

**Workshop: Best Practices on Using Google for Educators**

Michelle Johnson (Google Educator, Associate Professor of the Practice, Multimedia/Online Journalism, Boston University)

**4:15 p.m.-5:30 p.m.**

**Workshop: Simplified Social Media Marketing as a means to helping Entrepreneurs Become More Effective**

Sherron Washington

**5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**Special Professor-Student Panel Session: Social Media, Ethics and Social Change**

Britany Gatewood (Moderator)

Panelists: Assya Pascalev, Walda Katz-Fishman, Kayla Calloway, Judah Lewis and Randi Cecilia Diana Gray

**- Continued-**

**Friday, October 7, 2016**

**8:30 a.m.-9 a.m.**

**Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**9 a.m.-10:15 a.m.**

**Workshop: K.I.S.S. –Keeping It Simply Social: A Step-By-Step Guide to an Effective Social Media Strategy**

Talisha Dunn-Square (Public Relations Professional and Visiting Lecturer, Bowie State University)

**10:15 a.m.-12 p.m.**

**Paper Session: Feminism and Activism**

Jinsook Kim

-#iamafeminist: Feminist Hashtag Activism Against Misogyny on Twitter

Melissa Brown

-Trapped in the Matrix: Intersectionality in Social Media Activism

Tia C. M. Tyree and Michelle Jones

-How Michelle Obama Uses Her Social Media Presence to Support the Black Community: An Analysis of the FLOTUS Presidential Initiatives Through the Lens of Black Feminism

Angela Minor

-Social Media and #BlackLivesMatter: The Constitutionality of Recorded Police Activity

**12 p.m.-12:30 p.m.**

**Lunch on Your Own**

**12:30 p.m.-1:15 p.m.**

**Panel Session: International Issues - Special Focus on China**

Yungeng Xie, Rui Qiao and Hong Chen

-Research on Chinese Social Media Users' Communication Behaviors during Public Emergency Events

Sun Guirong

-Time-travel Fiction, Popular Feminism, and New Lifestyle in 21st Century of China

Bumgi Min

-Do social media facilitate North Korean refugees' political participation? An Analysis of North Koreans' Social media use and political participation

Cheng Fang and Duoduo Xu

-The Digital Generation: Patterns of Social Media Use in College Classroom among Chinese Young

**- Continued-**



**1:15 p.m.-2:30 p.m.**

**Paper Session: Health, Privacy and Safety**

Robin Stevens, Amy Bleakley and Desmond Patton

-Sex, Alcohol, Drugs and Violence in the Digital Hood: Adolescent Risk Behavior on Social Media

Marie Plaisime, Candace Robertson-James, Ana Núñez, Judith Wolf, Lidyvez Mejia and Serita Reels

-Social Media and Teens: A Needs Assessment Exploring the Potential Role of Social Media in Promoting Health

Sean Upshaw

-It is more than a purveyor of information; it is a call to action: A strategic communication analysis of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's HIV communication intervention "Start Talking. Stop HIV."

Mario Pascalev

-Restoring Consent in Dealing with Social Media Companies

**2:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m.**

**Workshop: Social Media Master Class**

Sree Sreenivasan (Chief Digital Officer of The Met and Technology Journalist)

**3:45 p.m.**

**Closing Remarks**

Kehbuma Langmia

Co-Founder

Chair, Department of Strategic, Legal & Management Communications, Howard University



## Presenter Biographies

### **Tutaleni I. Asino**

*Oklahoma State University*

Tutaleni I. Asino is an assistant professor of Educational Technology in the college of education at Oklahoma State University. His areas of research, writing and presentation have included: Diffusion of Innovations, Social Media and Professional Development, Mobile Learning, Comparative International Education, indigenous knowledge, contextually appropriate learning technologies, and the role of culture in the development and evaluation of learning technologies. He is an active member of the Comparative International Education Society (CIES), Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT).

### **Michael Austin (Conference Organizer)**

*Howard University*

Michael Austin is Assistant Professor of Media, Journalism, and Film at Howard University in Washington, D.C. where he teaches courses in audio and music production and also serves as coordinator for the School of Communication's Interdisciplinary Studies Program. His research focuses on sound and music in interactive and emerging media; he is currently working on two book projects: an edited collection titled *Music Video Games: Performance, Politics and Play* and a monograph on representations of subalterity in music videos (Oxford University Press). Twitter: @mlatx81

### **Amy Bleakley**

*Columbia University*

Amy Bleakley, PhD, MPH is a senior research scientist at the Annenberg School for Communication. Amy Bleakley's research focuses on investigating media effects on health risk behaviors and using theory to create evidence-based health interventions. Specific content areas of interest within mostly adolescent populations include sexual behavior, tobacco use, STD/HIV prevention, and obesity-related behaviors, as well as media use and exposure. Dr. Bleakley has methodological and statistical expertise in survey research, structural equation modeling, and theory testing. She received her M.P.H. and Ph.D. in Sociomedical Sciences from Columbia University.

### **Kayla Calloway**

*Howard University*

Kayla Calloway, Sophomore Philosophy major and Administrative Justice minor, Hoard University, who enjoys debating and reading African American literature. She plans on achieving a consistent 4.0 to pursue her dream of becoming a lawyer.

**Talisha Dunn-Square**

*Bowie State University*

Talisha Dunn-Square is an award - winning professional and professor who teaches Public Relations in the Department of Communications at Bowie State University.

She served as the chief publicist for the historical Huey P. Long Bridge Widening Project in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

Dunn-Square has worked with corporate businesses building public relations and strategic communication plans. She is a member of several professional organizations including the National Association of Black Journalists and the Public Relations Society of America.

She has a B.A. in Mass Communications from Southern University and an M.A. in Organizational Communications from Bowie State University.

**Britany Gatewood**

*Howard University*

Britany Gatewood (panel moderator) is a second year doctoral student in sociology. She is the president of the Organization of Graduate Sociologists, a scholar activist, and has presented at several sociology conferences.

**Mari Toshiko Galiher**

*University of Hawai'i*

Mari Toshiko Galiher currently works for the University of Hawai'i Foundation as Donor Relations Coordinator. Mari is on the Board of Directors for Hawai'i Children's Cancer Foundation, serving as the only cancer survivor on the board. She holds an M.A. in Communications and a certificate in Spanish from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Mari is interested in social media, mental health, self-disclosure practices, and communication technologies. More specifically, her work examines self-disclosure practices of individuals with mental illness on Twitter and YouTube and the influence of micro-celebrities on self-disclosure of mental illness of their followers.

**Randi Cecilia Diana Gray**

*Howard University*

Randi Cecilia Diana Gray, Rising Sophomore, Howard University - COAS, History Major, Philosophy Minor. She has Interests in the applications of academic knowledge to real-life social problems and plans to attend law school. She is a recipient of the National Association of Collegiate Scholars Award of Sigma Tau Delta (National English Honor Society).

**Sun Guirong**

*Shandong Normal University*

Sun Guirong is an associate professor and director of teaching and research section on Chinese contemporary literature in Shandong Normal University, China. Simultaneously she has several social positions: non-residential researcher in Bingxin Literature Hall; executive director of Association on Contemporary Literature of Shandong Province; committee member of Association on Chinese Women's Literature and Chinese Contemporary Literature; committee member of Associate Asian Women's Studies (AAWS membership); participants of Gender workshop in Fudan University joined with University of Michigan. Her doctoral dissertation "*Women's Novels in the Era of Consumerism and 'Post-feminism'*" had won Excellent Doctorial Dissertation Award of Shandong Province. Her work "*Popular*

*representation and Cultural Identification*” had won Outstanding Cultural and Artistic Award of Shandong Province and the 12th Outstanding Achievement Award by Chinese Contemporary Literature Seminar. And she has also taken charge of National Social Science Fund and Social Science Fund of Ministry of Education, PRC. And again, she has published several novels and prose, such as *I Love, so What? The Man I Share My Worldly Life with*, *Choosing Gracefulness*, *Don’t Refuse to Grow up*, *The World and Times Treat Me as Usual*, and *Let Me Tell You Some Secrecy*.

**Kimberly A. Harper**

*Howard University*

Her Ph.D. work is cybersecurity, the digital footprint and technology policy. In 1993, she was one of the few students to arrive on Howard’s campus with a full color laptop computer. Her major at the time was political science. She had no idea that she would end up in the area of technology. She is of the generation in which girls were not directed in the area of STEM. In spite of the fact that she took apart anything that she could get her hands on as a child, she was directed into a cosmetology program. At the end of the day, she knew exactly where she wanted to be. She plans to have a long career guiding young African-American women in the direction of STEM.

**Walda Katz-Fishman**

*Howard University*

Walda Katz-Fishman, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Howard University. Dr. Katz-Fishman's research focuses on issues of race, ethnicity, class, and gender; political economy; and high technology global integration. Dr. Katz Fishman has presented over 100 papers at various professional sociological meetings, including the American Sociological Association, Society for the Study of Social Problems, Southern Sociological Society, Eastern Sociological Society, D.C. Sociological Society, Association for Humanist Sociology, Midwest Sociological Society, North Central Sociological Society, Association of Black Sociologists, and Sociologists for Women in Society.

**Dr. Kehbuma Langmia (Conference Founder and Organizer)**

*Howard University*

Kehbuma Langmia, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor at Howard University within the Department of Strategic, Legal, and Management Communications. He teaches research and other media-related courses in the department, as well as oversees the faculty and students in the graduate program. His research interests are in new media (ICT) and their implications on culture and identity. He has authored textbooks, research articles, book chapters, and non-fiction books. His books and articles have been cited by many scholars in the field of information communication technologies (ICT).

Twitter: @klangmia

**Judah Lewis**

*Howard University*

Judah Lewis, Rising Junior, Howard University - COAS, Political Science Major from Connecticut, who plans to study law and has interests in contemporary ethical issues.

**Lidyvez Mejia**

*Syracuse University*

Lidyvez Mejia, is a research assistant for the Dept. of Urban Health Equity, Research and Education, earned her Bachelors of Science from Syracuse University. Upon graduation, she has worked extensively in the field of public health, actively participating in research and implementing health education for community based organizations. Lidyvez has managed women's health programs in New York City, in affiliation with the American Cancer Society, to increase breast and ovarian cancer screening for women of lower economic status and has participated in research initiatives at the Mount School of Medicine for men and women of Color who were high risk for colon cancer.

**Corey Miles**

*Morgan State University*

Corey Miles, a graduate of Morgan State University, is a second year graduate student at Virginia Tech pursuing a PhD in Sociology with a concentration in Africana Studies. Corey's research interest broadly centers on the African diaspora and popular culture. Specifically he focuses on the ways in which Hip-Hop culture challenges notions of modernity. Corey's most recent publication is Critical Race Film Review: The Hunger Games alluding to his interest in black representations and participation in popular culture. Miles endorses and loves his role as a scholar-activist.

**Bumgi Min**

*Pennsylvania State University*

Bumgi Min is a Ph.D. student at Pennsylvania State University. He earned a master's degree at the University of Texas at Austin. His research interests include digital divide, digital literacy and telecommunication policy. In particular, he focuses on how Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) influences the people's social networks and political participation. Moreover, he is working on research related to net neutrality issues.

**Angela Minor**

*Howard University*

Professor Minor holds a J.D. from the University of the District of Columbia, David A. Clarke School of Law. She has M.A. degree in Library Science with a concentration in Law Librarianship from North Carolina Central University and a Masters of Divinity from the Howard University School of Divinity. She is currently the Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Forensics Program at Howard University, which comprises of the award winning Mock Trial and Speech & Debate teams. Professor Minor has previously taught law at the University of the District of Columbia School of Law and Georgetown University. She is also a Certified Mediator in Civil Litigation in the state of Maryland. She is a member of the American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, and the Maryland Bar Association. When she is not teaching and mentoring she enjoys practicing law. Attorney Minor is the co-founder of the Law Offices of MINOR & WILLCOX, LLC, which has offices in the District of Columbia and Maryland.



**Assya Pascalev***Howard University*

Assya Pascalev, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, Howard University. Dr. Pascalev's areas of research include applied and professional ethics, the ethics of technology, bioethics and research ethics. She has over 30 publications in international peer-reviewed journals and is currently a member of the Georgetown-Howard Universities Center for Clinical and Translational Science.

**Mario Pascalev***Green State University*

Mario Pascalev is an IT professional. He holds a Ph.D. in applied philosophy and MBA in management of information systems from Bowling Green State University. He is a research fellow at the Bulgarian Center for Bioethics.

**Desmond Upton Patton***University of Chicago*

Desmond Upton Patton, PhD is an assistant professor at the Columbia School of Social Work and a Faculty Affiliate of the Social Intervention Group (SIG) and the Data Science Institute. His research utilizes qualitative and computational data collection methods to examine how and why youth and gang violence, trauma, grief and identity are expressed on social media and the real world impact they have on well-being for low-income youth of color. He received his PhD from the University of Chicago.

**Marisa A. Smith***University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Marisa A. Smith, M.A. is a doctoral student in the Department of Communication at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

**Robin Stevens***University of Pennsylvania*

Robin Stevens, PhD, MPH is an Assistant Professor in Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing and the Director of the Health Equity & Media Lab. Dr. Stevens is a health communication scholar focused on achieving health equity in African American and Latino communities. Her area of expertise is in examining the relationship between new and traditional media and adolescent health behaviors. She received her AB from Harvard College, MPH from University of Michigan, and PhD from the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania. She is also a Visiting Professor at the Center for AIDS Prevention Research at UC-San Francisco and a Senior Fellow at the Penn Center for Public Health Initiatives.

**Ingrid Sturgis (Conference Organizer)***Howard University*

Ingrid Sturgis is an Assistant Professor/New Media in the Department of Media, Journalism, and Film at Howard University. She teaches multimedia storytelling, copy editing, and other new media-related courses. She has earned coveted fellowships from the Fulbright-Hays Program and the Society for New Communications Research. She has worked online as editor

for Essence.com and for AOL's Black Voices; consequently, social media has become the focus of her research. Her other research interests include mobile money, black media entrepreneurship, the digital divide, digital literacy, and analytics. Her most recent book is *Are Traditional Media Dead: Can Journalism Survive in the Digital World*.

Twitter: @isturgis

### **Sherese Taylor**

*University of Minnesota*

Sherese Taylor received her B.A. in Global Studies with a concentration in culture, power, and place, and a focus in Latin American Studies at the University of Minnesota. She not only completed her degree but also completed her certificate in International Development. With her degree, she was able to establish a program at the University of Minnesota that promoted and gave tools on cross-cultural communication. Since then, she has been involved with many international communities, most notably Ecuador where she was able to investigate the lack of African-Ecuadorian teachers within predominately African regions. Sherese Taylor is currently a second-year student working on her Master's degree in the Department of Sociology at Howard University where she researches transnationalism, social movements, collective memory, and the sociology of technology.

### **Tia C. M. Tyree (Conference Founder and Organizer)**

*Howard University*

Dr. Tia C. M. Tyree is an Professor at Howard University within the Department of Strategic, Legal and Management Communications. Her research interests include African-American and female representations in the mass media, hip hop, rap, reality television, film and social media. She published articles and chapters in several journals and books, including *Women and Language*; *Howard Journal of Communications*; *Journalism: Theory, Practice & Criticism* and *Journal of Black Studies*; *Spectrum: A Journal on Black Men*; and *Feminist Theory and Pop Culture*. She is the author of *The Interesting and Incredibly Long History of American Public Relations* and co-author of *HBCU Experience – The Book* and *Social Media: Pedagogy and Practice*. She earned her Ph.D. from Howard University, MA from University of Baltimore and BS from Morgan State University.

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### **Sean Upshaw**

*Howard University*

Originally from Memphis, Tennessee, Sean Upshaw is currently a third-year doctoral student at Howard University's Department of Communication, Culture and Media Studies. Mr. Upshaw holds both Bachelor and Master Degrees from the University of Memphis. Mr. Upshaw's research interest consists of health and cancer communication.

### **Aya Yadlin-Segal**

*Texas A&M University*

Aya Yadlin-Segal is PhD candidate in the Department of Communication at Texas A&M University. Her research interests include online culture, identity construction, the flow of culture across globalized mediascapes, and Israel-Iran relations.



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