

BENJAMIN J. SHESTAKOVSKY
CURRICULUM VITAE
SEPTEMBER 2024

Department of Sociology
University of Pennsylvania
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Philadelphia, PA 19104-6299

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2019-Present Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania
Core Faculty, Center on Digital Culture and Society
Research Affiliate, AI at Wharton

2018-19 Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania

EDUCATION

2018 Ph.D., Sociology, University of California, Berkeley

2014 M.A., Sociology, University of California, Berkeley

2005 B.A., Sociology and American Studies, Wesleyan University
High Honors, Phi Beta Kappa

PUBLICATIONS

Book

B. Shestakovsky. 2024. *Behind the Startup: How Venture Capital Shapes Work, Innovation, and Inequality.* University of California Press.

- Reviewed in: *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Midwest Book Review*
- Excerpted in: *Fast Company*, *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, *IEEE Spectrum*, *Scroll (India)*, *Storizen (India)*, *Business Graduates Association (UK)*
- International edition: South Asia (Westland Books)
- Audiobook edition (Gildan Media)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

(* = equal authorship; *** = shared third authorship)

- B. Shestakofsky**. Forthcoming. "Cleaning Up Data Work: Negotiating Meaning, Morality, and Inequality in a Tech Startup." *Big Data & Society*.
- D. Narayan* and **B. Shestakofsky***. Forthcoming. "Relationships That Matter: Four Perspectives on AI, Work, and Organizations." *Journal of Applied Behavioral Science*.
- B. Shestakofsky**. 2024. "The Labor of Assetization: Producing 'Hypergrowth' Inside a Tech Startup." *Socio-Economic Review*. Online First.
- B. Shestakofsky** and C. Petre. 2024. "Structures of Capital and Sociotechnical Change: The Case of Tech Startups and VC." *International Journal of Communication* 18:800-807.
- S. Hoffman, K. Joyce, S. Alegria, S. Bell, T. Cruz, S. Noble, **B. Shestakofsky*****, and L. Smith-Doerr. 2022. "Five Big Ideas About AI." *Contexts* 21(3):8-15.
- K. Joyce, L. Smith-Doerr, S. Alegria, S. Bell, T. Cruz, S. Hoffman, S. Noble, and **B. Shestakofsky*****. 2021. "Toward a Sociology of Artificial Intelligence: A Call for Research on Inequalities and Structural Change." *Socius* 7:1-11.
- B. Shestakofsky*** and S. Kelkar*. 2020. "Making Platforms Work: Conceptualizing The Labor of Platforms and the Management of Publics." *Theory and Society* 49(5-6):863-896.
- ★ 2021 Star-Nelkin Article Award, American Sociological Association, Section on Science, Knowledge, and Technology
- B. Shestakofsky**. 2017. "Working Algorithms: Software Automation and the Future of Work." *Work and Occupations* 44(4): 376-423.
- ★ 2019 W. Richard Scott Award for Distinguished Scholarship, American Sociological Association, Section on Organizations, Occupations, and Work
- C. Herring*, M. Rosaldo*, J. Seim*, **B. Shestakofsky***. 2016. "Living Theory: Principles and Practices for Teaching Social Theory Ethnographically." *Teaching Sociology* 44(3): 188-199.
- C. Sarno, **B. Shestakofsky**, H. Shoemaker, R. Aponte. 2015. "Rationalizing Judgment Day: A Content Analysis of Harold Camping's Open Forum Program." *Sociology of Religion* 76(2): 199-221.

B. Shestakofsky. 2015. "More Machinery, Less Labor? Jobs and Technological Change in the 19th and 21st Centuries." *Berkeley Journal of Sociology* 59: 86-90.

*Previous version published on *Platypus*, the website of the American Anthropological Association's Committee for the Anthropology of Science, Technology & Computing

B. Shestakofsky. 2005. "Neither Rebellion nor Revolution: The Secession Crisis and the Partisan Press." *Historical Narratives: The Undergraduate History Journal of Wesleyan University* 3:85-94.

Conference Proceedings

A.Q. Zhang, R. Shaw, J. R. Anthis, A. Milton, E. Tseng, J. Suh, L. Ahmad, R. S. S. Kumar, J. Posada, **B. Shestakofsky**, S. T. Roberts, and M. L. Gray. Forthcoming. "The Human Factor in AI Red Teaming: Perspectives from Social and Collaborative Computing." *CSCW 2024*.

Article Manuscripts Under Review

"Managing in the Field: Doing Ethnography as a Boss" (Revise and resubmit, *Qualitative Sociology*)

Article Manuscripts in Development

"Conflicting Logics: Instacart as a Case of Organization-based Platform Work" (with Chelsea Wahl)

Invited Essay

B. Shestakofsky. 2020. "Stepping Back to Move Forward: Centering Capital in Discussions of Technology and the Future of Work." *Communication and the Public* 5(3-4):129-133.

Other Articles

B. Shestakofsky and S. Kelkar. 2021. "Governing Platforms by Managing Relationships." [*Work in Progress*](#).

B. Shestakofsky. 2018. "Ethnography and Theory." Invited Essay, [*Perspectives: Newsletter of the ASA Theory Section*](#) 40(1):21-24.

B. Shestakofsky. 2018. "Automation and the Future of Work: A View From Inside a Tech Startup." [*Work in Progress*](#).

Book Reviews

- B. Shestakofsky.** 2021. Review of *Lives on the Line: How the Philippines Became the World's Call Center Capital* by Jeffrey J. Sallaz. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2019). *American Journal of Sociology* 126(6): 1516-1518.
- B. Shestakofsky.** 2020. Review of *Uberland: How Algorithms Are Rewriting the Rules of Work* by Alex Rosenblat. (Oakland: University of California Press, 2018). *Contemporary Sociology* 49(3): 294-296.
- B. Shestakofsky.** 2019. Review of *Ghost Work: How to Stop Silicon Valley From Building a New Global Underclass* by Mary L. Gray and Siddharth Suri. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019). *Industrial and Labor Relations Review* 72(5): 1283-1285.
- B. Shestakofsky.** 2017. Review of *The Disrupted Workplace* by Benjamin H. Snyder (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016). *British Journal of Sociology* 68(4): 793-795.

Public Writing

- B. Shestakofsky.** 2024. "Are These Silicon Valley Power Players the Heroes or Villains of Tech?" [San Francisco Chronicle](#).
*Extended version published at [Zócalo Public Square](#).
- B. Shestakofsky.** 2017. "How Software Automation Changes Work—And Creates New Workforce Challenges—In The Digital Age." [Scholars Strategy Network](#).

AWARDS AND HONORS

2024	Early Career Research Award, W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research
	Mentor of the Year Award, Graduate Sociological Society, University of Pennsylvania
2022	Finalist, Mentor of the Year Award, Graduate Sociological Society, University of Pennsylvania
2021	Star-Nelkin Article Award, American Sociological Association, Section on Science, Knowledge, and Technology, for "Making Platforms Work"
	Finalist, Mentor of the Year Award, Graduate Sociological Society, University of Pennsylvania

- 2019 W. Richard Scott Award for Distinguished Scholarship, American Sociological Association, Section on Organizations, Occupations, and Work, for “Working Algorithms”
Finalist, Mentor of the Year Award, Graduate Sociological Society, University of Pennsylvania
- 2016 James D. Thompson Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Paper, American Sociological Association, Section on Organizations, Occupations, and Work
Early Career Workshop Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics
- 2005 Herbert H. Hyman Prize for Outstanding Senior Thesis in Sociology, Wesleyan University
- 2005 M.G. White Prize for Outstanding Senior Thesis in American Studies, Wesleyan University
- 2004 Phi Beta Kappa (Fall Election), Wesleyan University

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2023 Summer Institute on Organizations and their Effectiveness, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University
Political Economy and Sociology Summer Institute, Berkeley Economy and Society Initiative, University of California, Berkeley
Research Grant, University Research Foundation, University of Pennsylvania (\$72,932)
- 2020 Hershey Humanities Manuscript Development Workshop, Wolf Humanities Center, University of Pennsylvania
- 2018 University of Chicago Ethnography Incubator
- 2017-2018 Dissertation Fellowship, UC Berkeley Institute for Research on Labor and Employment
Graduate Fellow, Scholars Strategy Network
- 2017 Research Grant, Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy (\$7,500)
Lowenthal Fellowship, UC Berkeley Department of Sociology

Problem-solving Sociology Ideas Incubator: Responding to an Automated World, Buffett Institute and Northwestern University

Summer Research Grant, UC Berkeley Graduate Division

Conference Travel Grant, UC Berkeley Department of Sociology

Travel Award, UC Berkeley Graduate Assembly

2016-2017 Graduate Fellow, Scholars Strategy Network

Doctoral Completion Fellowship, UC Berkeley Graduate Division

2016 June Nash Travel Award, American Anthropological Association, Section for the Anthropology of Work

2015-2016 Berkeley Connect Fellowship, UC Berkeley

2014 Travel Award, UC Berkeley Graduate Assembly

2013 Research Grant, UC Berkeley Department of Sociology

2012 Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowships Program, National Science Foundation

Research Grant, UC Berkeley Department of Sociology

Conference Travel Grant, Work and Family Researchers' Network

2011-2012 Robert and Sue O'Donnell Fellowship, UC Berkeley Graduate Division

2010-2011 A. Richard Diebold, Jr. Fellowship, UC Berkeley Graduate Division

2004 Dana Foundation Summer Experience Grant

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“AI and the Future of Work”

- American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. August 8-12, 2025. (Scheduled)

“Behind the Startup: How Venture Capital Shapes Work, Innovation, and Inequality”

- University of Cambridge. Judge Business School. March 13, 2025. (Scheduled)
- London School of Economics. Department of Sociology. March 12, 2025. (Scheduled)

- University of Bristol. Digital Futures Institute. Bristol, England. March 10, 2025. (Scheduled)
- Princeton University. Department of Sociology. Princeton, NJ. February 24, 2025. (Scheduled)
- Temple University. Department of Sociology. Philadelphia, PA. January 22, 2025. (Scheduled)
- Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies. Cologne, Germany. September 29, 2024. (Scheduled)
- University of California, Los Angeles. Department of Sociology. Los Angeles, CA. May 15, 2024.

“The Labor of Innovation: Producing ‘Hypergrowth’ Inside a Tech Startup”

- Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics. Limerick, Ireland. June 27, 2024.

“Analog Trades in a Digital World: The Platformization of In-Person Service Work”

- University of Pennsylvania. The Future of Occupations: Problems, Practices, and Policies. Philadelphia, PA. June 4, 2024.

“Transparency and Visibility in Data Enrichment Work”

- Partnership on AI. Data Enrichment Workshop. New York, NY. May 1, 2024.

“Venture Capitalism and Beyond.”

- Princeton University. Sustainable Futures Conference, Fung Global Fellows Program. Princeton, NJ. April 19, 2024.
- Berggruen Institute. Democratizing Finance: Coordinating Investment for the 21st Century. Los Angeles, CA. March 10, 2023.

“Cleaning Up Data Work: Negotiating Meaning, Morality, and Inequality in a Tech Startup”

- Rutgers University. New Perspectives on Work: Unemployment, Remote Work, Platform Work, and Workplace Inequality. New Brunswick, NJ. March 1, 2024.

“Can Ghost Work Become Good Work? Digital Labor and Organizational Culture in a Tech Startup”

- University of California, Irvine. Department of Informatics. Irvine, CA. May 19, 2023.

“Venture Capitalism: Startups, Technology, and the Future of Work”

- University of Pennsylvania. Department of the History and Sociology of Science. Philadelphia, PA. November 1, 2021.
- EM Lyon Business School. Center for Work, Technology, and Organization. Lyon, France. May 18, 2021.
- Harvard University. History, Culture and Society Workshop. Cambridge, MA. October 16, 2020.
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Institute for Work and Employment Research. Cambridge, MA. September 29, 2020.

“Venture-backed Startups and the Business of Algorithms”

- Columbia University. Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy. New York, NY. April 6, 2021. (Canceled due to graduate student employee strike)

“Silicon Valley and Beyond: Capital and Cultures in a Globalized Tech Startup”

- American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA. August 9, 2020.

“The Future of Work in the Financialized Organization”

- University of Pennsylvania. Center on Digital Culture and Society, Launch Symposium. Philadelphia, PA. April 3, 2021.
- (Keynote Plenary Panel) Association of Computing Machinery, Collective Intelligence, Carnegie Mellon University. Pittsburgh, PA. June 13, 2019.

“AI and Society: Infrastructure, Surveillance, and Social Movements.”

- Drexel University. Sociology of AI. Philadelphia, PA. March 21, 2020.

“Making Markets Work: The Practical Realities of Designing and Operating a Digital Marketplace”

- Institute for New Economic Thinking, University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA. February 23.

“Working Algorithms: Software Automation and the Future of Work”

- New York University, Stern School of Business. New York, NY. January 10, 2019.
- (Keynote) KTH Royal Institute of Technology and Stockholm University. Humanising AI.. Stockholm, Sweden. May 31, 2018.
- Stanford University, Department of Management Science and Engineering. Stanford, CA. January 31, 2018.
- University of Massachusetts, Departments of Sociology and Public Policy. Amherst, MA. November 31, 2017.
- Boston University, Questrom School of Business, Department of Management & Organizations. Boston, MA. November 29, 2017.
- University of Pennsylvania, Department of Sociology. Philadelphia, PA. November 15, 2017.
- American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting. Minneapolis, MN. November 19, 2016.

“The Labor of Brokerage: Making Introductions in an Online Marketplace”

- Stanford University, Work, Technology, and Organization Colloquium. Stanford, CA. October 27, 2014.

“‘If Only President Bush Would Issue the Call’: American Political Culture and Cultural Politics After 9/11”

- Wesleyan University. Middletown, CT. May 21, 2005.

INVITED DISCUSSANT / PANELIST

- 2024 Panelist, “The Human Factor in AI Red Teaming: Perspectives from Social and Collaborative Computing.” San Jose, Costa Rica / Virtual. *CSCW 2024*. November 10. (Scheduled)
- Panelist, “Technological Effects on Work, Occupations, and Related Inequalities.” American Sociological Association, Section on Organizations, Occupations, and Work, Virtual. May 2.
- 2023 Panelist, “Researching Artificial Intelligence, Organizations, and Management.” Academy of Management, Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, August 5.
- 2022 Discussant, “Platform Work: Power, Risk, and Agency.” American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA. August 6.

CONFERENCE AND SYMPOSIUM PRESENTATIONS

- “The Labor of Assetization: Producing ‘Hypergrowth’ Inside a Tech Startup”
- American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada. August 10, 2024.
- “Beyond Digital Distancing: Computational Labor and Organizational Culture in a Tech Startup”
- Association of Internet Researchers, Annual Conference. Philadelphia, PA, October 21, 2023.
 - Academy of Management, Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, August 7, 2023.
- “Managing in the Field: Doing Ethnography as a Boss”
- American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, August 18, 2023.
- “Venture Capitalism and Beyond”
- University of California, Berkeley. Political Economy and Sociology Summer Institute, Berkeley Economy and Society Initiative. June 20, 2023.
- “Structures of Capital and Socio-Technical Change: The Case of Startups and VC” (with Caitlin Petre)
- University of Southern California. Media as Socio-Technical Systems. April 28, 2023.
- “Culture in the Cloud: Digital Labor and Meaning-Making in a Transnational Tech Startup”
- American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA. August 6, 2022.
 - Davis Conference on Qualitative Research. Davis, CA. March 19, 2022.
- “Making Platforms Work: Relationship Labor and the Management of Publics” (with Shreeharsh Kelkar)
- Labor Tech Research Network. June 4, 2021.

- Platform Governance Research Network, Inaugural Conference. March 24, 2021.
- American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. August 8, 2020.
- Society for the Social Studies of Science, New Orleans. September 5, 2019.
- Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics. New York, NY. June 28, 2019.

“Navigating Change: How Venture Capital Structures Experiences of Startup Work”

- Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics. New York, NY. June 28, 2019.
- American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting. San Jose, CA. November 15, 2018.

“Machine Lag and Computational Labor”

- Data & Society, Algorithms on the Shop Floor: Data-Driven Technologies in Organizational Context. New York, NY. June 14, 2019.

“Feeling Change: Inequality in the Permanently Beta Organization”

- American Sociological Association, Annual Conference. Philadelphia, PA. August 12, 2018.

“Working Algorithms: Software Automation and the Future of Work”

- American Association of Geographers, Annual Meeting. Boston, MA. April 8, 2017.

“Working Algorithms: The Global Dynamics of Labor Displacement”

- ASA Section on Economic Sociology Mini-conference on The New Economy. Seattle, WA. August 19, 2016.
- Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Annual Conference. Berkeley, CA. June 25, 2016.

“High-Tech and High-Touch: The Labor Behind the Screens of an Online Market”

- Marie Jahoda Summer School of Sociology: The Global Digital Workplace. University of Vienna, Austria. July 9, 2015.

“The Labor of Brokerage: Making Introductions in an Online Marketplace”

- Stanford-Berkeley Organizational Behavior Conference. Berkeley, CA. January 23, 2015.

“The Labor of Markets: Inventing, Reproducing, and Transforming an Online Marketplace”

- American Sociological Association, Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA. August 19, 2014.
- International Sociological Association, World Congress of Sociology. Yokohama, Japan. July 18, 2014.

“Innovations in Outsourcing: Labor Markets and Culture at a Transnational Internet Startup Firm”

- Social Science History Association, Annual Meeting. Vancouver, BC. November 3, 2012.

“‘You’ve Got to Find What You Love’: The Meaning of Work For America’s Young Elite in the 1950s and 2000s”

- American Sociological Association, Annual Conference. Denver, CO. August 19, 2012.

“The Startup Generation: Young Professionals, Work, and Social Life in an Internet Firm”

- Work and Family Researchers Network, Inaugural Conference. New York, NY. June 14, 2012.

CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 “Faculty Lunch Series.” Data Driven Discovery Initiative, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. April 2.
- 2023 Moderator, “Reimagining Work and Consumption in a Connected World.” Andrea Mitchell Center for the Study of Democracy, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. March 16.
- “Lesson Planning Strategies: A Faculty-Led Teaching Workshop for Graduate Students.” Center for Teaching & Learning, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. February 10.
- 2019 “Faculty Panel: Interviewing for Faculty Jobs – Humanities and Social Sciences.” Career Services, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. November 19.
- “The Future of Work.” Student-Faculty Lunch, Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. October 21.
- “Jobs of the Future and the Future of Jobs.” College House, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. January 30.
- 2015 “Digital Labor in an Online Marketplace.” Work and Politics in the Digital Era. UC Berkeley Social Science Matrix. Berkeley, CA. October 5.
- 2014 “Sociology Careers.” Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honors Society. Berkeley, CA. April 26.

GUEST LECTURES

- 2024 “*Behind the Startup* and Ethnography.” University of California, Los Angeles. 217C “Ethnographic Fieldwork.” Los Angeles, CA. May 14.

- 2023 “Digital Organizations and Machines.” University of Massachusetts, Amherst, COMM 690ED “Ethnography of the Digital.” Amherst, MA [via Zoom]. October 26.
- “Organizations and Organizing.” University of California, Santa Barbara, TMP 291ST. “Work in an Age of Intelligent Machines.” Santa Barbara, CA [via Zoom]. May 1.
- 2022 “Algorithms and Ethnography.” Rutgers University, “Politics of Algorithms and Digital Data.” New Brunswick, NJ [via Zoom]. November 10.
- 2019 “Algorithms and Automation.” University of Pennsylvania, COMM 432, “Digital Inequality.” Philadelphia, PA. April 8.
- 2018 “The Sociology Job Market.” University of Pennsylvania, SOCI 555, “Professionalization Seminar.” Philadelphia, PA. October 29.
- 2017 “Software Automation and the Future of Work.” UC Berkeley, ISF 100J, “The Social Life of Computing.” Berkeley, CA. October 26.
- 2013 “Conducting Participant-Observation Research.” Mills College, SOC 91, “Methods of Social Research.” Oakland, CA. April 18.
- 2006 “Public Culture, September 11th, and the War in Iraq.” Wesleyan University, SOC 272, “The War in Iraq.” Middletown, CT. December 7.

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, University of Pennsylvania

Undergraduate Courses

Introduction to Sociology (Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025)

The Future of Work

First-year Seminar (Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2024)

Benjamin Franklin Seminar (Spring 2021)

Graduate Course

Field Methods of Sociological Research (Spring 2021, Fall 2024)

Graduate Independent Studies

Work and Organizations (Fall 2023)

Economic Sociology (Spring 2021, Spring 2022)

Technology and Society (Spring 2022)

Undergraduate Independent Study
Global Outsourcing and the Tech Industry (Fall 2024)

Instructor, University of California, Berkeley

Work, Technology, and Society (Spring 2018)

Qualitative Research Methods (Summer 2016)

Graduate Student Instructor, University of California, Berkeley

Economy and Society (Spring 2015, Neil Fligstein)

Sociological Theory II (Spring 2014, Michael Burawoy)

Sociological Theory I (Fall 2013, Michael Burawoy)

Experiential Learning: Organizational Context, Self-Reflection, and Professional Development
(Summer 2011, Joel Clark)

Graduate Mentoring Fellow, University of California, Berkeley

2015-16 Berkeley Connect Fellow in Sociology

Honors Thesis Mentor, University of California, Berkeley

2017-18 Eric Li, Sociology, UC Berkeley. "Struggles Within: An Observation of
Chinese Nationalism in the Film Industry."

2014-15 Christina Knoll, Sociology, UC Berkeley. "The Self-Constitution of
Maker Culture."

Reader, University of California, Berkeley

Fall 2014 Organizations and Institutions

Teaching Apprentice, Wesleyan University

Spring 2005 Sociology of Religious Movements (Jonathan Cutler)

Fall 2004 Postcolonialism and Globalization (Jonathan Cutler)

Writing Tutor, Wesleyan University Writing Workshop (Spring 2002)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Fall 2014 **Graduate Student Researcher**, University of California, Berkeley

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Editorial Board

Work and Occupations, 2018-present
Berkeley Journal of Sociology, 2010-12

ASA Section on Organizations, Occupations and Work

Co-Organizer, ASA Pre-Conference Workshop on Platform Labor and Entrepreneurialism (2022-23)
W. Richard Scott Award Selection Committee (2020)
Student Representative (2017-18)
Publications Committee, Editorial Team
Editor, OOW Blog (2015)
Student Affairs Committee (2014-15)

ASA Section on Science, Knowledge, and Technology Section Council (2024-26)

Ad-hoc Reviewer

Journals

American Journal of Sociology, *American Sociological Review*, *Anthropology of Work Review*, *Big Data & Society*, *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*, *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing*, *Internet Histories*, *Jefferson Journal of Science and Culture*, *Journal of Cultural Economy*, *New Media & Society*, *Organization Science*, *Poetics*, *Qualitative Sociology*, *Socio-Economic Review*, *Sociological Theory*, *Sociology Compass*, *Socius*, *Work and Occupations*

Book Manuscripts, Chapters, and Proposals

University of California Press, Oxford University Press, MIT Press, Bristol University Press, Polity Books

Conference Proceedings

International Conference on Information Systems

Programming Committee

Association for Computing Machinery, Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT) Conference, 2021

European Commission MSCA Global Postdoctoral Fellowship Co-Supervisor Sébastien Antoine (2022-present)

University Service (University of Pennsylvania)

Planning Committee, Democracy and Emergent Technology Speaker Series, Andrea Mitchell Center for the Study of Democracy, 2021-2023

Penn Fulbright Faculty Committee, Fulbright Faculty Advisor, 2022
Nilesh Kavthekar, “Comparing Digital Labor Platform Protections Across the US and EU” (Received Fulbright Research Award, 2023-24)

Board Member, Phi Beta Kappa, 2019-2022

Departmental Service (Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania)

Dissertation Committees

Chelsea Wahl (Assistant Professor of Sociology, Nazareth College, 2020)
Doron Shiffer-Sebba (Postdoctoral Fellow and Assistant Professor of Sociology, Northwestern University, 2022)
Mengyang Zhao (Assistant Professor of Sociology, UC Santa Cruz, 2023)
Raka Sen (Assistant Professor of Sociology, Arizona State University, 2024)
Jack Thornton (Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology, Bryn Mawr, 2024)
Shaquilla Harrigan
Joyce Kim
Rachel Kim (Harvard University)
Devo Probol
Andres Villatoro

MA Committee

Andres Villatoro, 2021-22
Ran Wang, 2024-25

Comprehensive Examination Committees

Rehana Odendaal, Collective Behavior and Social Movements, 2024
Joyce Kim, Work and Organizations (Chair), 2023
Jack Thornton, Economic Sociology (Chair), 2022
Tessa Huttenlocher, Sociology of Organizations (Chair), 2020
Mengyang Zhao, Work and Technology, 2020
Doron Shiffer-Sebba, Economic Sociology (Chair), 2019

Faculty Mentor, Penn Undergraduate Research Mentorship Program

Alexa Addison (2021)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor

Eliza Thaler (2021-22), “The Future of Work: Implications of Robotic Process Automation”

First-Year Graduate Advisor

Jeremy Bernius (2024-25)

Undergraduate Major Advisor
Samantha Janower (2020-23)

Organizer
Culture, Ethnography, and Interaction Workshop, 2019-20, 2024-25

Departmental Committees
Faculty Search Committee, 2024-25
Executive Committee, 2018-20, 2021-22, 2024-25
Graduate Committee, 2020-21, 2024-25
Undergraduate Committee, 2019-20, 2022-23
Colloquium Committee, 2021-22
Computing Committee, 2018-19, 2022-24

MEDIA COVERAGE

- 2024 James B. Stewart. "In the Corporate World, Woke Is the Rage but Greed Is Still King." [*The New York Times*](#).
- Michael Eby. "We're a Team, Not a Family." [*Los Angeles Review of Books*](#).
- Vertesi, Janet. "Don't Be Fooled: Much 'AI' is Just Outsourcing, Redux." [*Tech Policy Press*](#).
- "Summer Reading: Wharton Faculty Picks." [*Knowledge at Wharton*](#).
- 2020 McCarthy, Dan. "Automation Is Coming, But That Won't Mean Unemployment For All." [*Morning Brew*](#).
- 2019 LeVine, Steve. "AI Unready." March 15. [*Axios*](#).
- Beane, Matt. "How Do We Learn to Work With Intelligent Machines?" [*TED*](#).
- Beane, Matt. "Learning to Work With Intelligent Machines." [*Harvard Business Review*](#).
- 2017 Miscovich, Peter. "The Future is Automated. Here's How We Can Prepare for It." January 12. [*World Economic Forum*](#).
- 2016 Tett, Gillian. "How Robots Are Making Humans Indispensable." December 22. [*Financial Times*](#).

MEDIA INTERVIEWS AND APPEARANCES

2024

- “How VCs Exploit Workers and Impoverish Innovation with Benjamin Shestakofsky.” [The Majority Report](#) (Podcast). September 9.
- “The World that Tech Startups Delivered to Us is Not What We Were Promised: Benjamin Shestakofsky.” [Forbes India](#). September 6.
- “Never Again: Inside the Chaotic World of the People Making AI Seem Human.” [Fast Company](#). September 3.
- “In a New Book, Alumnus Examines Venture Capital’s Impact on Startups.” [The Wesleyan Connection](#). August 7.
- “The ACT’s New Ties to a Private Equity Firm Are Raising Eyebrows.” [USA Today](#). June 24.
- “Q&A with Benjamin Shestakofsky, author of *Behind the Startup*.” [SKATOLOGY: Newsletter of the ASA Section on Science, Knowledge, and Technology](#). Summer.
- “How VC Shapes Startups with Benjamin Shestakofsky.” [Strategy Skills Podcast](#).
- “Can Software Startups That Need \$\$\$ Avoid Venture Capital?” [Stack Overflow Podcast](#). May 31.
- “Gray Dot SEO Tory Gray and VC Analysis Benjamin Shestakofsky.” [School for Startups Radio](#). May 15.
- “Is Amazon’s ‘Just Walk Out’ Technology Powered by AI or by Hundreds of Underpaid Workers in India?” [Seattle Public Radio \(KUOW\)](#) and [Soundside Podcast](#).
- “Behind the Startup: A Conversation with Benjamin Shestakofsky.” [Contexts Blog](#). March 26.
- “‘Behind the Startup’ Looks at Venture Capital and Inequality.” [Penn Today](#). March 21.
- “Q&A with Benjamin Shestakofsky, author of *Behind the Startup*.” [UC Press Blog](#). March 21.
- “Behind the Startup: How Venture Capital Shapes Work, Innovation, and Inequality.” [The Chris Voss Show](#) (podcast). March 20.
- “Benjamin Shestakofsky Reveals the Inegalitarianism at the Heart of the Startup Economy.” [Keen On](#) (podcast). March 12.

- 2022 “Hear Me Out: Artificial Intelligence.” Philadelphia Free Library. Philadelphia, PA. March 2.
- 2021 “Experts Doubt Ethical AI Design Will Be Broadly Adopted as the Norm Within the Next Decade.” [Pew Research Center](#).
- “Platforms and Venture Capital Investors.” [Accounts: Newsletter of the ASA Section on Economic Sociology 20:8-12](#).
- “Humans in the Loop.” [OMNIA](#). Spring/Summer 2021:10.
- 2020 “Many Tech Experts Say Digital Disruption Will Hurt Democracy.” [Pew Research Center](#).
- 2018 “Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Humans.” [Pew Research Center](#).
- “Benjamin Shestakofsky on Human Work in an Automated Future.” [The Annex](#).
- 2017 “Meet Your Council.” [ASA Section on Organizations, Occupations, and Work](#).

CAMPUS AFFILIATIONS

- Center on Digital Culture and Society (Core Faculty), University of Pennsylvania (2019-present)
- AI at Wharton (Research Affiliate), University of Pennsylvania (2023-present)
- Wharton Impact of Technology Initiative (Research Affiliate), University of Pennsylvania (2023)
- Culture, Ethnography, and Interaction Workshop, University of Pennsylvania (2018-present)
- Algorithmic Opacity and Fairness Working Group, UC Berkeley / Google (2017-18)
- Center for Culture, Organizations, and Politics, UC Berkeley (2014-18)
- Graduate Affiliate, Center for Ethnographic Research, UC Berkeley (2013-18)
Coordinator, Graduate Student Writing Group
- Work and Politics in the Digital Era, UC Berkeley Social Science Matrix (2015-16)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association

Association of Internet Researchers

Association for Computing Machinery

Labor Tech Research Network

Work in the Age of Intelligent Machines Research Coordination Network

Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics

Academy of Management

Scholars Strategy Network

Young Scholars Initiative, Institute for New Economic Thinking