

APSA PRE-CONFERENCE IN POLITICAL COMMUNICATION

THE AGE OF MISINFORMATION | 30TH AUGUST 2023, UCLA

PROGRAM



Welcome to the APSA Pre-Conference in Political Communication, held at the University of California, Los Angeles and co-organized by scholars at the Communication and Politics Group at UCLA and the Center for Information, Technology, and Public Life (CITAP) at UNC Chapel Hill. The conference is funded by the Political Communication Division of the American Political Science Association (APSA), CITAP, UNC Chapel Hill, and the Department of Communication at UCLA, with additional reception funding from the Journalism and Political Communication Unbound book series from Oxford University Press.



As the 2023 APSA Annual Meeting Theme Statement notes, “Mis- and disinformation are not new, but these phenomena are becoming increasingly prevalent and problematic across the world.” Political communication scholars are at the forefront of work on mis- and dis-information. Indeed, the subfield has since its inception been concerned with these themes, alongside biases and/or failures in media coverage more generally. A combination of technological development and political change has thrust the problems of mis- and dis-information to the forefront of current debates about media and politics, however – not just within the academy, but in public debate as well. The APSA Pre-Conference in Political Communication accordingly includes a series of panels – running throughout the day – focused on the creation, identification, dissemination, causes, and consequences of mis-information and dis-information.

The schedule for the day is as follows:

8:30-9:30	Coffee & Welcome
9:30-10:50	Session 1
11:00-12:20	Session 2
12:30-1:50	Lunch & Keynote
2:00-3:20	Session 3
3:30-4:50	Session 4
4:50-5:30	Mentoring & Walking to Reception
5:30	Reception

Daytime events will be held in Royce Hall at UCLA. Coffee be available in the morning, and lunch will be available for all conference attendees at 12:30, in Royce 314. The keynote lecture, **Rising to the Moment: Political Communication and the Strength of Interdisciplinarity**, will be given by Dannagal Goldthwaite Young (University of Delaware) at 1pm.

The evening reception, held in conjunction with the Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS) pre-conference, is a short walk from the conference, at the UCLA Mildred E. Matthias Botanical Garden.

For those arriving at the conference by rideshare, the best place to be dropped off is at Dickson Court. For those driving, there is information on parking at UCLA at this link. There is public transportation to UCLA as well - see LA Transit’s trip planner here (or, of course, Google Maps).

If you are staying in DTLA (downtown Los Angeles, where the main conference is), then please anticipate a commute to UCLA (which is in Westwood). In the morning, the trip will likely take 40 minutes by car, and at least an hour by public transit. The evening reception is outdoors, weather permitting; so please also note that Westwood can be as much as 20 degrees cooler than downtown.

A detailed schedule of panels is on the pages that follow. ‘A’ panels are focused on mis- and dis-information. ‘B’ panels address a range of other issues in political communication.

Session 1 9:30am-10:50am

1A. Misinformation I

Room: Royce 362

The Effect of Online Misinformation Exposure on False Election Beliefs. Ross Dahlke, Jeff Hancock
Accurate information + confident belief = Greater polarization? Evidence from counterfactual estimations of public attitudes toward the Affordable Care Act. Gabriel Miao Li, Josh Pasek
Inaccuracy, invisibility, and misrepresentation in news from the perspective of marginalized and underserved audiences in the Global North and South . Benjamin Toff, Amy Ross Arguedas, Camila Mont'Alverne

“Racist Equity and Unjust Policies:” A Case for Anti-Black Disinformation . Marisa A. Smith

Discussants: Cristian Vaccari & Kevin Munger

1B. Media Coverage

Room: Royce 306

The Crooked Pictures in our Heads: Partisan Cable Coverage of Congress. Adam Schiffer
How does the News Cover Elections?. Jessica Maki, Kathleen Searles, Christopher Mann
Paying the Piper: Government Advertising and Media Bias . Alejandro Beltran, Daniele Guariso, Omar A. Guerrero

Discussants: Emily Van Duyn & Joshua Darr

Session 2 11:00am-12:20pm

2. Partisanship & Polarization

Room: Royce 362

Dancing to the beat of climate change: Visual frames on TikTok through the left-right divide among U.S. politicians. Natalia Umansky, Christian Pipal

Does Partisan Identity Condition Responses to Polarization? Gavin Ploger

Podcast Politics: How ideological media constructs issue-party relationships. Sean Pauley, Jessica Maki

The Democratizing and Polarizing Impact of Fundraising on Twitter: Easy Money, Viral Incentives, and the Catalyzing Role of Mainstream Media. Maggie Macdonald, Joshua A. Tucker, Jonathan Nagler

Discussants: Johanna Dunaway & Erik Peterson

Lunch 12:30-

Keynote 1:00-1:50pm

Room: Royce 362

Rising to the Moment: Political Communication and the Strength of Interdisciplinarity

Dannagal Goldthwaite Young

Session 3 2:00pm-3:20pm

3A. Misinformation & Influencers

Room: Royce 362

Trust in Social Media Influencers for Political Information in the U.S. Ariel Hasell, Sedona Chinn

The Army of Anti-Asian Hate: The Effect of Celebrity Endorsement on Pro-Asian Attitudes. Chloe Ahn, Yingdan Lu

Beyond Fact-Checking: Exploring The Reach of Efforts to Counter Political Misinformation in the Global South. Morgan Wack

Misinformation During 2020 U.S. Presidential Election: A Cross-Platform Comparison. Jack Lipei Tang

Discussants: Patricia Rossini & Ashley Muddiman

3B. Media Effects(?)

Room: Royce 306

Up in Arms: How Local News Coverage of Protests Shapes Gun Purchasing Behavior. Masha Krupenkin, Elad Yom Tov, David Rothschild

The Effect of News Coverage Celebrating Inclusion in Congress. Lauren Palladino, Nicole Huffman, Romeo Gray

Race, Immigration, and Representation: The Case of Black Immigrant Candidates. Leann McLaren

Discussants: Amber Boydston & Emily Sydnor

Session 4 3:30pm-4:50pm

4A. Misinformation & Corrections

Room: Royce 362

Reducing Knowledge Overconfidence as a Strategy to Increase Fact-Checking Effects. Dustin Carnahan, Dan Bergan, Dan Hiaeshutter-Rice, Junwen Hu, Lu Teinowitz, Suhwoo Ahn

The Impact of Trump Rhetoric on Attitudes Toward COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccination Intention: A Randomized Controlled Trial. Catherine Chen

The Effects of Deactivating Users from WhatsApp: An Experiment in Brazil. Tiago Ventura, Rajeshwari Majumdar, Jonathan Nagler, Joshua A. Tucker

Beyond Labels: Does the popularity of Fact-checkers matter?. Kiran Arabaghatta Basavaraj

Discussants: Leticia Bode & Brian Weeks

4B. Alternate Realities

Room: Royce 306

The Speculative Turn in Political Communication: Theoretical and Empirical Departures for Hyperreality. Nikki Usher

Ship in a Bottle: Mastodon as a Portal to Counterfactual Twitterverses. William Small Schulz

The Politics of Anti Technology. Jan Zilinsky

The Blackbox of Social Media Content Moderation: A first look into a novel Twitter dataset. Maël Kubli, Emma Hoes, Natalia Umansky

Discussants: Daniel Kreiss & Dan Lane