Dear SIGCIS 2017 participants,

In 2009, the Special Interest Group for Computing, Information and Society (SIGCIS) had its first Sunday gathering at the end of the annual meeting of the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT). We continue that tradition today, but with one significant change: for the first time we’ve declared our SIGCIS gathering a “conference” rather than a “workshop.” This change reflects the remarkable growth of the SIGCIS meeting as the historical study of computing grows increasingly relevant to disciplines beyond the history of technology. It was the committee’s aim to signal to SIGCIS non-members that our annual event is open to all and functions as a traditional academic conference.

With growth comes change. Given the outstanding success of SIGCIS’s recent Command Lines conference, organized in collaboration with the Computer History Museum, the Philadelphia organizing committee endeavored to carry forward as many lessons as possible from the Command Lines experience. To set obtainable goals for the Philadelphia meeting, we focused on three priorities: (1) leveraging our increased visibility to sustain the disciplinary breadth amongst conference participants; (2) refining communications with presenters, so as to deliver a more professionally organized conference experience; and (3) overhauling our “Works-in-Progress” sessions to provide more focused and rigorous feedback to our participants. While we believe we have succeeded in these areas, we are aware much remains to be done. Outreach, mentorship, diversity and inclusion remain continued priorities for future conferences, and we hope this can be an ongoing conversation with the SIGCIS membership.

We owe a debt of gratitude to our longstanding membership, for the time, devotion and service that have nurtured SIGCIS into its current form. And to those among you who are new, we hope you feel welcome today, and will consider participating in future events. If you need anything or have questions, please feel free to ask or tweet to one of the organizers!

Cordially,

The SIGCIS 2017 Organizing Committee
INFO

[organizers]

co-organizers
laine nooney, vice-chair of meetings
con diáz
stephanie dick
joy rankin
andrew l. russell, chair of sigcis

conference assistants
kera allen
nabeel siddiqui

and special thanks to SHOT staff...
The organizers of SIGCIS 2017 would like to thank SHOT staff members
Jan Korsten and Sonja Beekers for making our annual SIGCIS meeting
possible. Additionally, we would extend our warm thanks to Eileen Clancy
for her invaluable assistance in proofreading the program.

[inclusivity and anti-harassment policy]

SIGCIS welcomes everyone, inclusive of gender identity and expression,
sexual orientation, ability, age, appearance, race, nationality or religion. We
are committed to fostering a positive, productive space for all participants,
and are committed to listening more than speaking. The event organizers
will not tolerate harassment of conference participants in any form, in
person or over social media. Conference participants violating these rules
may be sanctioned or expelled from the conference without a refund at the
discretion of the conference organizers. For more resources on conference
inclusivity policies, please visit the Ada Initiative's page at

[social media]

We encourage participation on Twitter throughout the conference via our
conference hashtag #SIGCIS17. The SIGCIS Twitter handle is
@SIGCIS. A list of participant Twitter handles is available on page 19.

[gender-neutral restroom]

A single occupancy restroom is located on the third floor by the ice
machine.
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<th>Time</th>
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<th>Reynolds</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:00AM - 10:15AM</td>
<td>Keynote: Joanna Radin ‘Digital Natives’: Why Indigenous and Medical Histories Matter for the History of Computing Ballroom B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session A</td>
<td>Remodeling Democracy: Codes and Software as Sites of Political Reimagining</td>
<td>Digital/Analog Dilemmas</td>
<td>Works-in-Progress (closed session)</td>
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<td>Lunch Break (Hamilton Room)</td>
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<td>Computational Inequalities</td>
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<td>3:45PM - 4:00PM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>Session C</td>
<td>Tabula Plena: Tabular Thinking and Computational Reasoning for Life, Death, Finance, and Bureaucracy</td>
<td>Simulation, Automation, Communication</td>
<td>Computing as Conceptual and Material Practice</td>
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<td>4:00PM - 5:45PM</td>
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SCHEDULE

REGISTRATION // 8:15 - 8:45AM // Lobby Level

WELCOME + AWARDS // 8:45 - 9:00AM // Ballroom B

Laine Nooney
Vice-Chair of Meetings // Assistant Professor // New York University

Andrew L. Russell
SIGCIS Chair // Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences // SUNY Polytechnic Institute

2017 SIGCIS AWARDS + PRIZES

MIT Press Travel Award
Kera Allen, Nabeel Siddiqui

Michael S. Mahoney Travel Award
Jillian Foley, Evangelos Kotsioris, Andrew Lea, William Lockett, Kate Sim, Gili Vidan

Computer History Museum Travel Award
Elizabeth Petrick, Quinn DuPont

Mahoney Prize
Erica Robles-Anderson and Patrik Svensson
“‘One Damn Slide After Another’: PowerPoint at Every Occasion for Speech.” Computational Culture (January 15, 2016).

Computer History Museum Prize
Elizabeth Petrick
SCHEDULE

KEYNOTE // 9:00 - 10:15AM // Ballroom B

‘DIGITAL NATIVES’
Why Indigenous and Medical Histories Matter for the History of Computing

Joanna Radin
Assistant Professor, Department of History // Yale University

Introduced by Stephanie Dick
Assistant Professor, History and Sociology of Science // University of Pennsylvania

EDITH/WITH Lightning Sessions // 11AM - 1PM

Fellow SHOT Special Interest Groups EDITH [Exploring Diversity in Technology’s History] and WITH [Women in Technological History] will be hosting Lightning Sessions in Ballroom A1 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

SIGCIS participants are welcome to join EDITH and WITH for informal, practical, helpful and fast discussions of in-the-works research projects that integrate the study of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, and disability—and the intersectionality of such categories—into the scholarship of the history of technology.
A1 // Ballroom B
Remodeling Democracy: Codes and Software as Sites of Political Reimagining

The Politics of Spreadsheets: Bringing VisiCalc to Tunisia
Kera Allen // Doctoral Candidate // Georgia Institute of Technology

Engineering a Platform: Constructing Interfaces, Users, Organizational Roles, and the Division of Labor
Shreeharsh Kelkar // Lecturer // University of California, Berkeley

Embedded Dangers: The History of the Year 2000 Problem
Dylan Mulvin // Postdoctoral Researcher // Microsoft Research New England

Gili Vidan // Doctoral Candidate // Harvard University

Chaired by Janet Abbate
Associate Professor of Science and Technology in Society // Virginia Tech
A2 // Shippen
Digital/Analog Dilemmas

**Edges: Thinking Through the Digital from Inside Your Laser Printer**
Matthew Kirschenbaum // Professor of English // University of Maryland

**Thinking Carbon Through Silicon: The Digital Revolution as a Conceptual Model for Bright Green Futures**
Anne Pasek // Doctoral Candidate // New York University

**Instruments as Computer: A Dialogue with Handmade Algorithmic Sound**
Ezra Teboul // Doctoral Candidate // Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

**Algorithms in the Age of the Color Laser Printer**
Mingyi Yu // Doctoral Student // Harvard University

*Chaired by Nathan Ensmenger
Associate Professor, School of Informatics and Computing // Indiana University*
A3 // Reynolds
Works-in-Progress

Works-in-Progress is a closed session for SIGCIS participants receiving feedback on pre-circulated written work from conference organizers and SIGCIS volunteers.

Participants

**Race in the Cybernetic Fold**
William Lockett // Doctoral Candidate // New York University

**Touching Safety: Anti-Rape Technologies and the Politics of Safety in US Higher Education**
Kate Sim // Doctoral Candidate // Oxford Internet Institute

**Technologies of Creativity: Psychology of Thinking and Computer-Based Education in the US and Soviet Union**
Ekaterina Babintseva // Doctoral Candidate // University of Pennsylvania

**Honey Trapped: Gender, Virtual Agents, and Information Gathering**
Miriam Sweeney // Assistant Professor // University of Alabama

**From Conveyor Lines to Robotic Systems: Flows, Linesickness, and Disruption in Laptop Production**
Ling-Fei Lin // Postdoctoral Fellow // Nanyang Technological University

**Jack and the Machine**
David Schmüdde // Adjunct Professor // Stevens Institute of Technology

**From Electronic Throats to Automatic Mouths: The Development of Software for Speech Synthesis**
Sarah Bell // Assistant Professor // Michigan Tech University

*Works-in-Progress is facilitated by:*

**Con Díaz**
Assistant Professor, Department of Science and Technology Studies // University of California, Davis

**Joy Marie Lisi Rankin**
Assistant Professor, History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science, and Social Relations and Policy // Michigan State University
LUNCH BREAK // 12:30 - 2:00PM

Lunch will be provided for SIGCIS participants in the Hamilton Room.

For those interested, the IEEE History Committee invites members of SIGCIS to join them for a free buffet lunch at 12:30 PM. This lunch meeting will be a discussion of what historians of technology and engineers can do together to make history of technology/engineering relevant amidst curricular changes in engineering.

SESSION B // 2:00 - 3:45PM

B1 // Ballroom B
The Body Computational

Z: Depth, Distance, and the Limits of Perception in Graphical Simulation
Jacob Gaboury // Assistant Professor // University of California, Berkeley

“The Total Patient”: Keeve Brodman and the Medical Data Screen
Andrew Lea // Doctoral Candidate // University of Oxford

Curb Cuts and Computers: Arguing for Accessibility in the 1980s
Elizabeth Petrick // Assistant Professor // New Jersey Institute of Technology

Theorizing the Body Model for Histories of Computer Graphics
Alana Staiti // Doctoral Candidate // Cornell University

Chaired by Patrick McCray
Professor, Department of History // University of California, Santa Barbara
B2 // Shippen

Evidence, Archives, Equipment

Punch Cards and Communities: Evidence from Surviving Objects

Exploring Software on Time-Sharing Vintage Computers at Living Computers: Museum and Labs
Cynde Moya // Collections Manager // Living Computers: Museum + Labs

Appraisal Talk in Web Archives
Ed Summers // Lead Developer and Doctoral Student // University of Maryland

Kevin Walsh // Systems Integration Engineer // University of California, San Diego

Chaired by Janet Toland
Senior Lecturer, School of Information Management // Victoria University of Wellington
B3 // Reynolds
Computational Inequalities

The Problem with Bias: Allocative Versus Representational Harms in Machine Learning
Solon Barocas (presenting author) // Assistant Professor // Cornell University
Co-authors: Kate Crawford (Microsoft Research), Aaron Shapiro (University of Pennsylvania), and Hanna Wallach (Microsoft Research)

Pokéquality and Public Space
Daisy Charles // MA Candidate // School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Encryption for Everyone?
Jillian Foley // Doctoral Student // University of Chicago

Digital Surveillance in the Hypermasculine Workplace
Karen Levy // Assistant Professor // Cornell University

Chaired by Sharon Lee Irish
Project Coordinator at the School of Information Sciences // University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign

BREAK // 3:45 - 4:00PM
SESSION C // 4:00 - 5:45PM

C1 // Ballroom B

Tabula Plena: Tabular Thinking and Computational Reasoning for Life, Death, Finance, and Bureaucracy

We Don’t Do Body Counts, But We Use Tables to Count Our Dead
Jacqueline Wernimont // Assistant Professor // Arizona State University

Ranks and Files: Secretarial Labor, Tabular Thinking, and the Bureaucratic Production of an International Mathematical Elite
Michael Barany // Postdoctoral Fellow // Dartmouth College

Probability Tables and Bombsight Optics in Building the Destruction Data Economy, 1942-1945
Theodora J. Dryer // CHSTM Dissertation Fellow // University of California, San Diego

Michael Milken’s Spreadsheets: Finance, Computing, and Supra-Rationality in the Go-Go ‘80s
William Deringer // Assistant Professor // Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Moderated by David Brock
Director of the Center for Software History // Computer History Museum
C2 // Shippen
Simulation, Automation, Communication

Creative Inequality: Seymour Papert and the Thinking Machine
Morgan Ames // Research Fellow // University of California, Berkeley
Nabeel Siddiqui // Doctoral Candidate // College of William and Mary

“The Computer that Printed Our W*O*L*F”?: Representations of Computer Simulation and Modeling in the 1970s
Kevin T. Baker // Doctoral Candidate // Northwestern University

Computerized Delphi: From Rationality to Anonymity
Patrick Davison // Doctoral Candidate // New York University

Moderated by Bradley Fidler
Assistant Professor, Science and Technology Studies // Stevens Institute of Technology
C3 // Reynolds

Computing as Conceptual and Material Practice

Alice and Bob: A History of Cryptography’s Most Famous Couple
Quinn DuPont (presenting author) // Assistant Professor // University of Washington
Co-author: Alana Cattapan (University of Saskatchewan)

“Only the Initiates Will Have the Secrets Revealed”: Computational Chemists and the Openness of Scientific Software
Alexandre Hocquet // Professor // Université de Lorraine
Frederic Wieber // Assistant Professor // Université de Lorraine

Computerizing the Garage Workshop: CNC Machines as Consumer Goods
Katherine McFadden // Doctoral Candidate // University of South Carolina

Automating Soviet Design: The Case of ASPOS
Evangelos Kotsioris // Doctoral Candidate // Princeton University

Moderated by Jeffrey Yost
Associate Director, Charles Babbage Institute // University of Minnesota

Conference Afterparty // 6:00 - 9:00PM
818 S. 3rd Street, #3

Conference presenter Theodora J. Dryer (Panel C.1) generously invites local and visiting historians for autumnal hors d’oeuvres and drinks from 6:00 - 9:00PM just south of the conference venue. After 9:00PM there is a bar downstairs where guests can continue to convene. RSVPs appreciated: tdryer@ucsd.edu.
TWITTER roll call

Janet Abbate  @JanetAbbateVT  Patrick McCray  @LeapingRobot
Kera Allen  @kejojo  Cnyde Moya  @cyndemoya
Morgan Ames  @morganames  Laine Nooney  @sierra_offline
Kevin Baker  @kevinbaker  Anne Pasek  @aepasek
Michael Barany  @mbarany  Elizabeth Petrick  @liz_petrick
David Brock  @dcbrock  Joanna Radin  @JoannaRadin
Alana Cattapan  @arcattapan  Joy Rankin  @JoyMLRankin
Patrick Davison  @patrickdavison  Erica Robles-Anderson  @fstflosscholars
Stephanie Dick  @mysdick  Theodora Dryer  @jewell657  Andrew Russell  @RussellProf
Quinn DuPont  @quinndupont  David Schmudde  @dschmudde
Nathan Ensmenger @NEnsmenger  Nabeel Siddiqui  @nabsiddiqui
Bradley Fidler  @brfidler  Kate Sim  @katejsim
Jillian Foley  @j3foley  Ed Summers  @edsu
Jacob Gaboury  @jacobgaboury  Patrik Svensson  @patriksv
Alexandre Hocquet @osvaldopiazzoll  Miriam Sweeney  @Miriam_Sweeney
Sharon Irish  @zumpang  Ezra Teboul  @redthunderaudio
Matthew Kirschenbaum  @mkirschenbaum  Gili Vidan  @gvidan
Karen Levy  @karen_ec_levy  Jacqueline Wernimont  @profwernimont
SIGCIS is the leading international group for historians with an interest in the history of information technology and its applications. Our primary activities include meetings held in connection with our parent society, the Society for the History of Technology, and a range of online resources hosted from our website.