

## Education

### University of Colorado Boulder

*PhD Student, Information Science, 2019 - 2024*

Researching under the supervision of Professor Casey Fiesler and Professor Robin Burke, with a particular focus on fairness, transparency, and explanations in recommendation and other machine learning applications, systems of power and oppression enacted in AI, and incorporating ethics into the Computer Science classroom.

### California Polytechnic State University

*Bachelor of Science, Software Engineering, December 2018*

## Research Experience

- **Research Intern: Fairness, Accountability, Transparency and Ethics in AI (FATE) Team** at Microsoft Research (MSR) Summer 2021
- **Research Assistant on Human-Centered Explainable AI**, University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) Jan 2021 – June 2021
- **Researcher**, [The Internet Rules Lab](#), CU Boulder Aug 2019 - Present
- **Researcher**, [That Recommender Systems Lab](#), CU Boulder Aug 2019 - Present
- **Machine Learning Ethics Researcher**, Cal Poly Data Science Jan 2018 - Aug 2019
- **Research Assistant for the Ethics + Emerging Sciences Group**, Cal Poly Philosophy Department Oct 2018 – Mar 2019

## Industry and Professional Experience

- **Research Intern: Fairness, Accountability, Transparency and Ethics in AI (FATE) Team** at Microsoft Research (MSR) Summer 2021
- **Podcaster and Researcher for AI Ethics**, IEEE Standards Association 2020 - Present
- **AI Ethics Expert and Consultant**, Ethical Intelligence Co 2020 - Present
- **Co-Founder and Co-Host**, The Radical AI Podcast 2020 - Present
- **Data Science Intern**, Datapico Colombia Summer 2019
- **Software Engineering Intern (backend)**, GoDaddy Summer 2018
- **Software Engineering Intern (frontend)**, GoDaddy Summer 2017

## Honors and Awards

- **Grad Student Outreach Award**, CU Boulder Information Science May 2021
- **Finalist for Tech Ethics Competition**, Wolf Law School Feb 2020
- **SIGAI Activities Fund Research Grant**, Awarded by ACM Oct 2020

## Peer-Reviewed Publications and Accepted Content

Nasim Sonboli and **Jessie J. Smith**, Florencia Cabral Berenfus, Robin Burke, and Casey Fiesler. 2021. Fairness and Transparency in Recommendation: The Users' Perspective. *In Proceedings of the 29th ACM Conference on User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization (UMAP '21), June 21–25, 2021, Utrecht, Netherlands*. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 6 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3450613.3456835>

Casey Fiesler, Solon Barocas, Augustin Chaintreau, **Jessie J. Smith**, Michael Zimmer. 2021. A Crash Course in Motivating, Supporting and Expanding Ethical Thinking in the Tech Classroom. *Tutorial at the Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (ACM FAccT), March 3-10, 2021, Virtual Conference*.

Dylan Doyle-Burke and **Jessie J. Smith**. “What is Radical AI? Towards a Common Definition and our Collective Liberation.” Nov. 2020. *Resistance AI Workshop at the Proceedings of NeurIPS 2020*.

Casey Fiesler, Mikhaila Friske, Natalie Garrett, Felix Muzny, **Jessie J. Smith**, and Jason Zietz. 2021. Integrating Ethics into Introductory Programming Classes. *In Proceedings of the 52nd ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE '21), March 13–20, 2021, Virtual Event, USA*. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 7 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3408877.3432510>

**Smith, Jessie**, et al. “Exploring User Opinions of Fairness in Recommender Systems.” ArXiv:2003.06461 [Cs], Mar. 2020. arXiv.org, <http://arxiv.org/abs/2003.06461> *Fair and Responsible AI Workshop at CHI 2020*.

Mansoury, M., Abdollahpouri H., **Smith J.**, Dehpanah A., Pechenizkiy M., Mobasher, B. “Investigating Potential Factors Associated with Gender Discrimination in Collaborative Recommender Systems.” *Proceedings of the Thirty-Third International Florida Artificial Intelligence Research Society Conference*. ArXiv:2002.07786 [Cs], Feb. 2020. arXiv.org, <http://arxiv.org/abs/2002.07786>.

Pinter, A. T., Paul, J. M., **Smith, J.**, & Brubaker, J. R. (2020). P4KxSpotify: A Dataset of Pitchfork Music Reviews and Spotify Musical Features. *Proceedings of the International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media, 14(1)*, 895-902. Retrieved from <https://www.aaai.org/ojs/index.php/ICWSM/article/view/7355>

Vito Walter Anelli, Amra Delić, Gabriele Sottocornola, **Jessie Smith**, Nazareno Andrade, Luca Belli, Michael Bronstein, Akshay Gupta, Sofia Ira Ktena, Alexandre Lung-Yut-Fong, Frank Portman, Alykhan Tejani, Yuanpu Xie, Xiao Zhu, and Wenzhe Shi. 2020. RecSys 2020 Challenge Workshop: Engagement Prediction on Twitter's Home Timeline. *In Fourteenth ACM Conference on Recommender Systems (RecSys '20). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, 623–627*. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3383313.3411532>

Luca Belli, Sofia Ira Ktena, Alykhan Tjani, Alexandre Lun-Yut-Fon, Frank Portman, Xiao Zhu, Yuanpu Xie, Akshay Gupta, Michael Bronstein, Amra Delic, Gabriele Scottocornola, Walter Anelli Nazareno Andrade, **Jessie Smith**, Wenzhe Shi “Privacy-Preserving Recommender Systems Challenge on Twitter’s Home Timeline”. arXiv:2004.13715 [Cs], April. 2020. arXiv.org, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2004.13715>

## Teaching Experience

- **(Grader)** INFO 4601/5601: Information Ethics & Policy Fall 2021
- **(TA)** INFO 1111: Introduction to Information Science: Fall 2020  
Understanding the World Through Data
- **(Graduate Instructor)** INFO 1201: Computational Reasoning 1: Summer 2020  
Expression and Media Transformation
- **(TA)** INFO 2201: Computational Reasoning 2: Representations of Spring 2020  
Data
- **(TA)** INFO 1201: Computational Reasoning 1: Expression and Fall 2019  
Media Transformation

## Academic / Service Positions

- **Student Volunteer**, CSCW 2021 Sep 2021 – Sep 2021
- **Graduate Student Association (GSA) President**, Information Aug 2020 – Aug 2021  
Science Department at CU Boulder
- **Academic Chair**, RecSys 2020 Challenge Sep 2019 – Sep 2020
- **Student Volunteer**, FAccT (FAT\*) 2020 Jan 2020 – Feb 2020
- **Student Volunteer**, RecSys 2019 Aug 2019 – Sep 2019

## Reviewing

- CSCW, CHI, IDC, RecSys (*PC Member*) 2021
- CSCW 2020

## Invited Talks / Panels

- **NCWIT (Invited Webinar Speaker):** My Journey into CS Ethics and July 2021  
Why this Field is so Important
- **IEEE Standards Association (Invited Panelist):** Measurementality February 2021  
and How We Define Success in the Algorithmic Age

- **RecSys 2021 Challenge (Invited Moderator):** Privacy Preserving Recommendation on Twitter's Timeline

November 2020

## Public Scholarship on Technology Ethics

**Jessie J. Smith** and Dylan Doyle-Burke (April 2020 – Present). “The Radical AI Podcast.” [radicalai.org](http://radicalai.org), co-founders and co-hosts, *iTunes*, *Spotify*, *Google Play*, *iHeartRadio*.

**Jessie J. Smith** (September 2018 – Present). Medium. <https://medium.com/@jessiejessie01>. Publications in *Towards Data Science*, *The Startup*, *HackerNoon*, and others.

**Jessie J. Smith** and Shamika Goddard (December 2019 – Present). SciFi in Real Life. YouTube. [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwKt0KzYmRV\\_sZDysJsOVKg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwKt0KzYmRV_sZDysJsOVKg).

## Other

**Research expertise:** qualitative methods, thematic analysis, community-based design, interviews, survey design, participatory design workshops, quantitative methods, statistical inference, research ethics, machine learning algorithmic design

**Programming expertise:** Python, Java, JavaScript, C, R, HTML/CSS, React, GitHub

**Skills:** Public speaking, podcasting, interviewing, coding (AI and Machine Learning), writing, researching, public scholarship, teaching, managing teams and projects

**Languages:** English (Fluent), Spanish (Working Proficiency)