

EMILY SULLIVAN

Delft University of Technology

Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

Web Information Systems group

Delft Data Science

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RESEARCH AREAS

(AOS) Philosophy of Science (general, data and computer sciences); Epistemology (formal, social);
Philosophy of Technology; Ethics

(AOC) Philosophy of Mind; History of Philosophy

EMPLOYMENT

Delft University of Technology

Postdoctoral Researcher

April 2019 – current

Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science

Web Information Systems; Delft Data Science

Postdoctoral Researcher

September 2017– March 2019

Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management

Philosophy and Ethics of Technology

Fordham University

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow

September 2016– May 2017

Department of Philosophy

EDUCATION

Fordham University, Bronx, New York

Ph.D., Philosophy, May 2016

M.A., Philosophy, 2011

Dissertation: “Expert Knowing: A Propositional Account of (Scientific) Understanding”

Committee: Stephen Grimm (Fordham); Michael Strevens (NYU); Nathan Ballantyne (Fordham)

Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, New York

B.A., Liberal Arts: concentration in Philosophy, Politics, Economics, 2008

Oxford University, Wadham College, Oxford, UK

One-year visiting student, Philosophy and Economics, 2008

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

PHILOSOPHY

forthcoming “Universality Caused,” *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*

forthcoming “Can Real Social Epistemic Networks Deliver the Wisdom of Crowds?” *Oxford Studies in Experimental Philosophy*. Volume 3. Eds. T. Lombrozo, J. Knobe, & S. Nichols, Oxford University Press. **First author**, with Sondag, M., Rutter, I., Meulemans, W., Cunningham, S., Speckmann, B., & Alfano M.

 PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED

- 2019 “Idealizations and Understanding: Much Ado About Nothing?” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*. DOI:10.1080/00048402.2018.1564337 **First author**, with Kareem Khalifa
- 2018 “Understanding: Not Know-How,” *Philosophical Studies*. 175:221–240
- 2018 “Social Network-Epistemology” *IEEE 14th International Conference on eScience*, pp. 320-321 with (listed alphabetically) M. Alfano, S. Cunningham, W. Meulemans, I. Rutter, M. Sondag, & B. Speckmann

COMPUTER SCIENCE

- 2019 “Reading News with a Purpose: Explaining User Profiles for Self-Actualization” *Proceedings of 27th Conference on User Modeling, Adaption & Personalization Adjunct*. **First author**, with D. Bountouridis, J. Harambam, S. Najafian, F. Loecherbach, M. Makhortykh, D. Kelen, D. Wilkinson, D. Graus, & N. Tintarev.
- 2018 “Same, Same, but Different: Algorithmic Diversification of Viewpoints in News,” *Proceedings of 26th Conference on User Modeling, Adaption & Personalization Adjunct*. 7-13. **Second author**, with N. Tintarev, D. Guldin, S. Qiu, & D. Odjik.

 INVITED BOOK CHAPTERS

- forthcoming* “Negative Epistemic Exemplars” with Mark Alfano in *Overcoming Epistemic Injustice: Social and Psychological Perspectives*. Eds. Ben Sherman and Stacey Goguen, Rowman and Littlefield International.
- forthcoming* “Vectors of Epistemic Insecurity ” with Mark Alfano in *Vice Epistemology Theory and Practice*. Eds. Ian Kidd, Quassim Cassam, and Heather Battaly, Routledge.
- forthcoming* “Humility in Social Networks” with Mark Alfano in *Handbook on Humility*. Eds. Mark Alfano, Michael Lynch, and Alessandra Tanesini, Routledge.
- under contract* “Epistemic Responsibility for Online Information Sharing” with Mark Alfano in *Oxford Handbook of Digital Ethics*. Edited by Carissa Veliz, Oxford University Press.
- under contract* “Ethical Guidelines for Natural Language Processing” with Mark Alfano and Amir Ebrahimi Fard in *The Atlas of Language Analysis in Psychology*. Eds. Morteza Dehghani and Ryan L. Boyd, Guilford Press.
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 PEER REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 “Reading News with a Purpose: Explaining User Profiles for Self-Actualization” with D. Bountouridis, J. Harambam, S. Najafian, F. Loecherbach, M. Makhortykh, D. Kelen, D. Wilkinson, D. Graus, & N. Tintarev. – *27th Conferece on User Modeling, Adaption & Personalization*; Cyprus
- 2019 “Network-first epistemology” with M. Sondag, I. Rutter, W. Meulemans, S. Cunningham, B. Speckmann, and M. Alfano – *Autonomy, Epistemic Authority, and Epistemic Paternalism Workshop*; The Autonomous University of Madrid
- 2018 “Social Network-Epistemology” with M. Sondag, I. Rutter, W. Meulemans, S. Cunningham, B. Speckmann, and M. Alfano – *IEEE eScience 2018*; Amsterdam
- 2018 “Same, Same, but Different: Algorithmic Diversification of Viewpoints in News” with N. Tintarev, D., Guldin, S. Qiu, and D. Odjik. – *FairUMAP 2018*, Singapore
- 2018 “Understanding from Machine Learning Models” – *11th MuST Conference in the Philosophy of Science*, Turin; Italy
- 2018 “Understanding from Machine Learning Models” – *Explanation and Understanding Workshop*, Ghent; Belgium
- 2018 “Not All Falsehoods” – *Fake Knowledge Conference*, University of Cologne; Germany
- 2018 “Idealizations and Understanding: Much Ado about Nothing?” – *Models and Simulations 8*; North Carolina
- 2017 “Grasping Why” – *OZSW Conference*, Utrecht University; Netherlands
- 2017 “The Epistemic (De)merits of Misleading Information” – *37th Annual Dutch Flemish Day of Philosophy*, VU Amsterdam; Netherlands
- 2016 “The Social Function of Understanding” – *PRP Social Epistemology Workshop*, Rutgers University; New Brunswick, NJ
- 2016 “Valuable Understanding without Achievement” – *Varieties of Understanding Capstone Conference—seminar*, Fordham University; NY, NY
- 2015 “Inter-System Causal Explanations: Rethinking Renormalization” – *SWIP-Analytic Graduate Talks*, CUNY Graduate Center; NY, NY
- 2015 “Valuable Understanding without Achievement” – *Virtue Epistemology Conference*, KU Leuven; Belgium
- 2015 “Transforming Knowledge into Understanding” – *Long Island Philosophical Society Conference*, St. Johns University; Queens, NY
- 2015 “Idealizations, Truth, and Understanding” – *Symposium Paper*, *Central APA*, St. Louis, MI
- 2014 “Understanding from Testimony” – *Central States Philosophical Association*, Northwestern University; Evanston, IL
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 PEER REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

- 2014 “Understanding from Testimony” – *Pittsburgh Area Philosophy Colloquium*, Washington & Jefferson College; Washington, PA
- 2014 “Understanding without Epistemic Credit” – *Collective Intentionality IX*, University of Indiana; Bloomington, IN
- 2012 “Do Scientific Idealizations Threaten a Factive View of Understanding?” – *Aim of Inquiry and Cognition*, University of Edinburgh; Edinburgh, Scotland

 INVITED TALKS

- 2019 “Explainability Methods for Algorithms” – Cambridge University; UK
- 2019 “Black-Boxes, Understanding, and Machine Learning” – Tübingen University; Germany
- 2019 “Model Explanation” with Insa Lawler – Lund University; Sweden
- 2019 “Social Network-Epistemology: A Case Study on Vaccine Safety” with M. Sondag, I. Rutter, W. Meulemans, S. Cunningham, B. Speckmann, and M. Alfano – Lund University; Sweden
- 2019 “Doing Interdisciplinary work as a Philosopher” – Fordham University; New York
- 2019 “Vectors of Epistemic Insecurity” with Mark Alfano – University of Connecticut; USA
- 2019 “Black-Boxes, Understanding, and Machine Learning” – Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- 2019 “Systems of distributed knowledge through blockchain” – Delft University of Technology
- 2018 “Digital Democracy” – Central Innovation District Conference, Den Haag
- 2018 “Not all Falsehoods” – University of Melbourne; Australia
- 2018 “Not all Falsehoods” – Monish University; Australia
- 2018 “Epistemic Responsibility on Social Media” – University of Melbourne; Australia
- 2018 “Understanding from Machine Learning AI” – University of Copenhagen; Denmark
- 2018 “Digital Humanities and Social Epistemology in a Post-Truth Society” – Tilburg University; Netherlands
- 2017 “Scraping social data” – *Digital Humanities, Social Epistemology, & Virtue Theory in a Post-Truth Society*; Amsterdam
- 2017 “Enabling Constructive Public Discourse on Social Media: A Case Study on Vaccine Safety,” – *Digital Humanities, Social Epistemology, & Virtue Theory in a Post-Truth Society*; Amsterdam
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 INVITED COMMENTARIES

- 2018 "Diversity-Aware Recommender Systems" by Nava Tintarev
Explanation and Understanding in the Age of Algorithms; ZiF Bielefeld Germany
- 2018 "Propaganda, Disinformation and the Epistemic value of Democracy" by Étienne Brown.
Political Epistemology Conference, University of London
- 2014 "Evaluating Moral Truth" by David Atenasio;
Central States Philosophical Association, Northwestern University; IL

 RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 2017 – 2019 Scaffolding the Media for Intellectually Public Discourse
with the DHEPCAT research collective at TU Delft and TU/e
(funded by the John Templeton Foundation)
- 2018 Micro targetting & Local elections
with H. Hazenberg, J. van den Hoven, S. Cunningham, M. Alfano, H. Ashari,
A. Ebrahimi Fard, E. Turcios Rodriguez
(funded by the Dutch Ministry of Interior)
- 2017 – 2018 Designing Artificial Advice Givers that Consider Perspective and Affect in Reasoning
with Nava Tintarev and Mark Alfano,
(funded by Delft Design for Values Institute)

 TEACHING

- Delft University of Technology** 2017-present
Web Information Systems Group
Project Supervisor: responsible for designing student term projects, student consultations, and grading
 Crowd Computing CS4145: 2 project groups
- Ethics and Philosophy of Technology Group**
Tutor: responsible for leading discussion sections and grading group presentations
 Information Technologies and Values: 2 sections
Essay Supervisor: responsible for grading student essays and student consultations
 The Engineer in Society, WB3073: 1 section
 Ethics for Aerospace Engineering, WM0324: 1 section
- MOOCs discussion moderator:** responsible for facilitating discussions for online courses
 Design for Values: Sharpen your Business Proposal: 1 section
 Dealing with Ethical Dilemma's in Professional Engineering: 1 section
- Fordham University** 2012–2017
Department of Philosophy
Instructor of Record: responsible for course design, lectures, grading, and student consultations
 Philosophy of Science, PHIL 3266: 2 sections
 Philosophy of Human Nature, PHIL 1000: 9 sections
 Philosophical Ethics, PHIL 3000: 5 sections
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WORKSHOPS

- 2019 **ICT with Industry** Lorentz Center; Leiden
FDmediagroep: Opening the black box of user profiles in content-based recommender systems
- 2018 **Explanation and Understanding in the Age of Algorithms**; ZiF, Germany
- 2017 **ICT with Industry**; Lorentz Center, Leiden
Blendle: “Did I miss something?”: A complete and personal news selection

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2011 – 2016 Fordham University: Tuition Scholarship (\$89,000)
- 2011 – 2016 Fordham University: Graduate Fellowship (\$122,000)
- 2016 John Templeton Foundation: Varieties of Understanding Seminar Grant (\$600)
- 2015 Fordham University: Summer Teaching Grant (\$5,000)
- 2015 American Philosophical Association: Travel Grant (\$300)
- 2015 Fordham University: Professional Development Grant (\$1,200)
- 2015 Fordham University: Graduate Research or Writing Workshop (\$300)
- 2014 Fordham University: Summer Teaching Grant (\$5,000)
- 2014 Fordham University: GSA Travel Grant (\$300)
- 2012 Fordham University: GSAS Research Support Grant (\$1,000)

SERVICE

DEPARTMENT**Fordham University**

- 2014-2017 Women & Minorities in Philosophy Reading Group: Co-founder
- 2015-2016 Fordham Philosophical Society (Graduate Student Government):
Elected Vice President,
- 2014-16 Graduate Research and Writing Workshop: Co-founder and organizer,
- 2014-2015 Fordham Philosophical Society (Graduate Student Government):
Elected Treasurer,
- 2013-2015 Dissertation Colloquium: Organizer and moderator,

PROFESSION

Referee: *Acta Analytica* (x1), *American Philosophical Quarterly* (x1), *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* (x2), *Ethics and Information Technology* (x1), *Erkenntnis* (x1), *Journal of Philosophical Research* (x2), *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* (x1), *Philosophy and Technology* (x1), *Philosophy of Science* (x2), *Synthese* (x2)
