

Vera Khovanskaya

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Last Updated: November 2022

Education

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

Ph.D. in Information Science (2014-2021)

Dissertation: *The Tools of Management: Data Practices for Worker Advocacy*

Committee: Phoebe Sengers, Karen Levy, Adam Seth Litwin, Lynn Dombrowski (IUPUI)

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

Bachelor of Arts in Information Science, *summa cum laude* (2009-2013)

Academic Positions

University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA

Computing Innovations Postdoctoral Fellow, advised by Lilly Irani (Jan 2021-present)

University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA

Visiting Researcher, advised by Melissa Mazmanian (Jan 2014-May 2014)

Publications

Peer Reviewed

Tandon, U., Khovanskaya, V., Arcilla, E., Hussein, M. H., Zschiesche, P., & Irani, L. (2022).

Hostile Ecologies: Navigating the Barriers to Community-Led Innovation. ***honorable mention top 5% of all submissions***

Sengers, P., Williams, K., & Khovanskaya, V. (2021). Speculation and the Design of Development. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, 5 (CSCW1), 1-27. ***honorable mention top 5% of all submissions***

Khovanskaya, V., Sengers, P., Dombrowski, L. (2020) Bottom-Up Organizing with Tools from On High: Understanding the Data Practices of Labor Organizers. *In Proceedings of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*

Wong, R. Y., Khovanskaya, V., Fox, S. E., Merrill, N., & Sengers, P. (2020). Infrastructural Speculations: Tactics for Designing and Interrogating Lifeworlds. *In Proceedings of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*

Khovanskaya, V., Dombrowski, L., Rzeszotarski, J., & Sengers, P. (2019). The Tools of Management: Adapting Historical Union Tactics to Platform-Mediated Labor. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, 3(CSCW), 1-22. ***honorable mention top 5% of all submissions***

Khovanskaya, V., & Sengers, P. (2019). Data Rhetoric and Uneasy Alliances: Data Advocacy in US Labor History. *In Proceedings of the 2019 on Designing Interactive Systems Conference* (pp. 1391-1403) ***honorable mention top 5% of all submissions***

Khovanskaya, V., Sengers, P., Mazmanian, M., & Darrach, C. (2017). Reworking the gaps between design and ethnography. *In Proceedings of the 2017 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (pp. 5373-5385). ACM.

Khovanskaya, V., Bezaitis, M., & Sengers, P. (2016) The Case of the Strangerationist: Re-interpreting Critical Technical Practice. *In Proceedings of the 2016 conference on Designing Interactive Systems* (pp. 134-145) ***honorable mention top 5% of all submissions***

- Vertesi, J., Kaye, J., Jarosewski, S. N., Khovanskaya, V. D., & Song, J. (2016). Data Narratives: uncovering tensions in personal data management. In *Proceedings of the 19th ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing* (pp. 478-490). ACM.
- Khovanskaya, V., Baumer, E. P., & Sengers, P. (2015). Double Binds and Double Blinds: Evaluation Tactics in Critically Oriented HCI. *Aarhus Series on Human Centered Computing*, 1(1), 12.
- Baumer, E.P.S., Baumer, E. P., Khovanskaya, V., Matthews, M., Reynolds, L., Schwanda Sosik, V., & Gay, G. (2014, June). Reviewing reflection: on the use of reflection in interactive system design. In *Proceedings of the 2014 conference on Designing Interactive Systems* (pp. 93-102). ACM.
- Baumer, E. P., Khovanskaya, V., Adams, P., Pollak, J. P., Volda, S., & Gay, G. (2013). Designing for engaging experiences in mobile social-health support systems. *IEEE Pervasive Computing*, (3), 32-39.
- Khovanskaya, V., Baumer, E. P., Cosley, D., Volda, S., & Gay, G. (2013, April). Everybody knows what you're doing: a critical design approach to personal informatics. In *Proceedings of the SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (pp. 3403-3412). ACM.
- Baumer, E. P., Adams, P., Khovanskaya, V. D., Liao, T. C., Smith, M. E., Schwanda Sosik, V., & Williams, K. (2013, April). Limiting, leaving, and (re) lapsing: an exploration of facebook non-use practices and experiences. In *Proceedings of the SIGCHI conference on human factors in computing systems* (pp. 3257-3266). ACM.

Lightly Peer Reviewed

- Khovanskaya, V., (2022). Revisiting the Cyberunion 20 Years Later. (Forthcoming in *Interactions*)
- Fox, S. E., Greene, D. M., Gregory, K., Jarrahi, M. H., & Khovanskaya, V. (2022, November). Reconsidering Accountability in the Present and Future of Work. In *Companion Publication of the 2022 Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing* (pp. 209-209).
- Khovanskaya, V., Dombrowski, L., Harmon, E., Korn, M., Light, A., Stewart, M., & Volda, A. (2018). Designing against the status quo. *Interactions*, 25(2), 64-67.
- Wong, R., Khovanskaya, V. "Speculative Design in HCI: From Corporate Imaginations to Critical Orientations" in *New Directions in Third Wave HCI*, forthcoming (book chapter)
- Khovanskaya, V. "The Personal Relationship Manager: Lost Labors of Critical Technical Research" Aarhus 2015 Workshop on Shifting Borderlands of Technoscience.
- Baumer, E.P.S., Halpern, M., Khovanskaya, V., Gay, G. Probing the Market: Using Cultural Probes to Study Sustainable Food Practices at a Farmers' Market in Eat, Cook, Grow: Mixing Human-Computer Interactions with Human-Food Interactions, Choi, J.H., Foth, M. (eds.), MIT-Press 2014 (book chapter).
- Khovanskaya, V., Adams, P., Baumer, E.P.S., Volda, S., Gay, G. "The value of a critical approach to personal health informatics." CHI Workshop, 2013.
- Baumer, E.P.S., Halpern, M., Khovanskaya, V., Gay, G. "The Practice of Everyday Sustainability: The View from a Farmers' Market." CHI Workshop, 2010.

Workshops Organized

- Khovanskaya, V., Fox, S., Irani, L., Choi, E., Fan, B. 2022. Prefiguring and Resisting Tech: Towards Just Transitions. Workshop hosted by the Just Transitions Initiative at UCSD

- Iantorno, M., Doggett, O., Chandra, P., Chen, J., Steup, R., Raval, N., Khovanskaya, V. 2022. "Outsourcing Artificial Intelligence: Responding to the Reassertion of the Human Element into Automation." Workshop at CHI 2022
- Fox, S., Khovanskaya, V., Crivellaro, C., Salehi, N., Dombrowski, L., Kulkarni, Interest Group, and C., Irani, L., Forlizzi, J. 2019. Worker-Centered Design: Expanding HCI Panel Proposals Methods for Supporting Labor. Workshop at CHI 2020.
- Soden, R., Ribes, D., Jack, M., Sutherland, W., Khovanskaya, V., Avle, S., Sengers, P. and Bødker, S., (2019). Fostering Historical Research in CSCW & HCI. Workshop at CSCW 2019.

Teaching and Course Design

- Co-instructor for Designing Technologies for Social Impact (Fall 2019)*
- Instructor for Designing Technologies for Social Impact (Summer 2019)*
- Co-organizer for Cornell Summer School on Designing Technology for Social Impact (Spring 2018-Summer 2018)*
- Teaching instructor for Introduction to Media Programming (Summer 2017)*
- Teaching assistant for Designing Technologies for Social Impact (Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018)*
- Teaching assistant for Ethics, Law, and Policy of Technology (Spring 2017, Spring 2019)*
- Teaching assistant for Human Computer Interaction Design (Fall 2012)*
- Teaching assistant for Introduction to Rapid Prototyping and Physical Computing (Spring 2012)*
- Teaching assistant for Introduction to Media Programming (Fall 2011)*

Grants and Awards

- Computing Innovations Fellow, Computing Research Association (CRA) and the Computing Community Consortium (CCC), 2020
- Outstanding Teaching Award, Information Science, Cornell University, 2016
- NSF-GRFP Honorable Mention, 2016
- Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher, Computing Research Association (CRA), 2013
- Hunter R. Rawlings III Presidential Research Scholar, Cornell University, 2011-2013
- US-UK Fulbright Grant, Recommended Candidate, 2013

Work Experience

Intern Scientist at Yahoo! Labs, Yahoo! Inc.

Researched users' narratives, maps, and conceptualizations of personal data (May-September 2014)

Graduate Technical Intern in Social Science at Intel Labs, Intel Corporation

Content-based social matching recommender system with Maria Bezaitis (June-September 2013.)

User Experience Design Intern, Google Inc.

Designed personal data analytics features for an Android product with Owen Otto (June-Aug 2011.)

GP-11850-00-US Patent Displaying Auto-Generated Facts About a Music Library, 2013

GP-11850-00-US-CON1 Patent Displaying Auto-Generated Facts About a Music Library, 2013

Talks and Panels

Guest Lecture in HCI 220 Ethics and Activism in Technology and Design, at the University of California, Santa Cruz (January 2023)

“Reconsidering Accountability in the Present and Future of Work” Panel at ACM CSCW (Nov 11, 2022)

“The Tools of Management” guest Lecture in graduate seminar, INST 728Y: Futures of Work, at the University of Maryland (September 28, 2022)

“Barriers to Community-Led Real Utopias: A Case Study of Taxis in San Diego” presented at the 34th annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socioeconomics (SASE) (July 7, 2022)

“Automated Fields and Rides: The Future of Technical Systems Designed for Worker Well-Being and Agency” panel hosted by “We Can Rebuild You,” a McLuhan Centre for Culture and Technology working group at the University of Toronto. (April 8, 2022)

“Reorganizing Organizing: How Data Collection Centralizes Knowledge and Decision-Making in Worker Advocacy Organization” UCSD Science Studies Colloquium Series (October 4, 2021)

“From Industrial Health to Corporate Wellness: Histories of Body Measurement at Work” closed panel at 4S (October 9-11, 2021)

“Data science in support of the trade union movement” presentation at the workshop organized by the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI) in cooperation with the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) (October 10-11, 2019)

“Theory and Its Obligations” Panel at ACM Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) (June 27, 2019)

“Academic Diversity and Academic Labor” panel sponsored by the Diversifying Academia, Recruiting Excellence (DARE) fellowship at Stanford University (May 8, 2018)

“Research Artifacts” exhibit in Ethnography and the Arts: Reports from the mediated field, Ethnography and Design: Mutual Provocations (October 27, 2016)

“The long legacy of the ‘Common Task’” conference talk at the Technosciences of Post/Socialism, European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (September 3, 2015)

“Open Source in a Closed World”, seminar in the ECE/Bovay Program in History and Ethics of Engineering, Cornell University (March 16, 2016)

Information Science Breakfast Series speaker, Cornell University (April 17, 2013)

Service

Associate Chair: ACM-DIS 2018-2021, ACM-CHI 2022

Peer Reviewer: ACM-CHI 2014-2022, ACM-DIS 2014-2022

Student Volunteer: ACM-DIS 2014, ACM-CHI 2013

Media Coverage

Hwang, Sohyeon. “From scientific management to data-driven labor organizing” *Technically Social* blog for the Technology & Social Behavior Ph.D. Program at Northwestern University, Aug. 2022

Morozov, Evgeny. “Machines of Laughter and Forgetting.” *New York Times* 31 Mar. 2013,