

Call for
Contributions
Deadline for
Submission
October 15, 2020

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**New
Materialist
Informatics**
23 – 25
March
2021

University of Kassel, DE

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New Materialist Informatics: Computing and Worldmaking

In recent decades new materialist thought has emerged as a transversal field of inquiry that successfully brings together and constructs hybrid spaces between the social sciences & the humanities and the natural & technical sciences & engineering. Within those spaces, engagement with the concerns around "the digital" has figured prominently. Increasing computing power and technological advancements that power the 4th industrial revolution as well as contribute to the 6th extinction highlight further need to account for the material basis as well as material consequences of informatics and to ask how techno-politics and techno-epistemologies can be reconfigured for these complex times. In this context, it is also particularly salient to further build hybrid research spaces spanning information sciences and the (post)humanities. "Materialist informatics" (Haraway, Hayles, Colman) thus can be seen as precisely such a field that highlights the inter- and intra-connectedness of computing and worldmaking, and the material stakes of such intra-connectedness.

Preliminarily Confirmed Keynotes

Shaowen Bardzell

Professor of Informatics in the School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering, Indiana University, USA.

Maaïke Bleeker

Professor of Theatre Studies in the Department of Media & Culture Studies, Utrecht University, Netherlands.

Felicity Colman

Professor of Media Arts and Associate Dean of Research for the London College of Fashion, University of the Arts, London, UK.

Aimi Hamraie

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Health, and Society and American Studies at the Department of Medicine, Health, and Society, Vanderbilt University, USA.

About the Conference

This 11th new materialist conference invites participants to investigate the possible intersections between new materialism and informatics. How can new materialism and informatics be brought together in ways that help build liveable and sustainable techno-lifeworlds? What new perspectives with regard to contemporary crises might emerge at such intersection and beyond? What kind of conceptual and methodological tools are needed for new materialist informatics design and research? This conference wishes to include and go beyond the new materialist readings of computing and computational artefacts and generate innovative perspectives on how techno-worldings can be performed from a new materialist perspective.

**11th International
New Materialisms Conference**

Call for Contributions Deadline for Submission October 15, 2020



New Materialist Informatics 23 – 25 March 2021



Conference Themes

The conveners of New Materialist Informatics invite to approach these questions from a multiplicity of disciplinary perspectives, including humanities and social sciences, design, engineering and computer science. Suggested topics for abstracts for papers, panels as well as workshops and demonstrations include (but are not limited to):

- Theoretical and conceptual frameworks for new materialist informatics
- Material conditions and effects of informatics
- Informational matters, matter as informational
- Artistic research and material(ist) informatics
- Environmental and medical informatics from a new materialist perspective
- Methodologies for new materialist informatics research
- New materialist design of computational artefacts: propositions, case studies, approaches, methodologies
- HCI and new materialism
- Transdisciplinary translations and their vocabularies: computer science - engineering - design - new materialism
- Material intersections of informatics and race, dis/ability, gender, class and sexuality
- Informatics beyond the global North: indigenous and post/decolonial computing
- Contemporary concerns for new materialist informatics: pandemic reconfiguring of matter and technology, technologies of protest, matters of high-tech borders, viral technopolitics

Organizers and Contact

The conference is organized by Gender/ Diversity in Informatics Systems Research Group (GeDIS) and Research Center for Information System Design (ITeG), University of Kassel, Germany. If you have any questions, please email us at NMI2021@uni-kassel.de.

Contribution Forms and Specifications

For papers and panels, please submit an up to 300-word abstract as well as name(s), biographical note(s) (150 words) and affiliations of author(s). For workshops, please submit an up to 300-word abstract including suggested workshop plan; name(s), biographical note(s) (150 words) and affiliations of author(s); specifications for technical and material needs; maximum expected number of participants. For demonstrations, please submit an up to 300-word abstract and visualisation(s) or detailed description of proposed work; name(s), biographical note(s) (150 words) and affiliations of author(s); specifications for technical and material needs. Please submit your contributions through the conference system, available via www.uni-kassel.de/go/NMI2021 after July 10, 2020.

Conference Timeline

- July 10, 2020
Abstract submission system opens
- October 15, 2020
Deadline for submission
- December 1, 2020
Notifications of acceptance
- December 15, 2020
Registration open
- March 23-25, 2021
Conference

We expect that the conference will take place in Kassel. We are aware that the situation might change, depending on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic. The organizers therefore will remain open to digital participation options for keynotes as well as paper presenters.