

Nalini Panchita Kotamraju

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Department of Sociology, Barrows Hall Fourth Floor, Berkeley, California, 94720, USA

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Department of Sociology, University of California, Berkeley
[Fall 2006] Thesis: "*Information & Communication Technology: Lifestyle versus Social Class*"
Dissertation Chair: Claude S. Fischer
- M.A. Department of Sociology, University of California, Berkeley
(2001) Thesis: "*A Skill is Born: The Emergence of Web Design Skill*"
- B.A. cum laude Social Studies, 1992, Harvard-Radcliffe Colleges
(1992) Women's Studies, 1992, Harvard-Radcliffe Colleges
Senior Honors Essay: "*Negotiating Identity: Multiracial People Challenge Discourse*"

AWARDS & HONORS

- Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, University of California, Berkeley (2004-5)
National Science Foundation Minority Fellowship Recipient (1997-2000)
University of California Graduate Degree Fellowship (1996-7)
Harvard College Scholarship (1989-1992)

RESEARCH

Research & Teaching Interests

Technology and society, sociology of culture, sociology of work, social stratification, sociological research methods

Dissertation Project: Living Like Me: Lifestyle, Social Stratification, and Technology

Lifestyles—people's consumption and leisure activities—is an increasingly relevant way to understand people's behavior and identities, according to some sociologists. Using factor and regression analyses on a large data set of North American households, I show that people's lifestyles, even when controlled for their social background, shape how they use information and communication technologies.

Dissertation Committee: Professor Claude S. Fischer (Chair), Professor Neil Fligstein, Professor Peter Lyman (School of Information Systems & Management, University of California, Berkeley), and Professor Christena Nippert-Eng (Social Sciences, Illinois Institute of Technology).

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2002 "Keeping Up: Web Design Skill and the Reinvented Worker." *Information Communication and Society* 5(1): 1-26.
- 1999 "The Birth of Web Site Design Skills - Making the Present History." *American Behavioral Scientist* 43(3): 464-474.

Book Chapters

- 2003 "Art versus Code: The Gendered Evolution of Web Design Skills" in Society Online: The Internet in Context, eds. Howard, P. and S. Jones. Sage.

Book Reviews & Short Essays

- (2005) Book review of Smart Mobs: The Next Social Revolution by Howard Rheingold. *Social Forces* 83 (4): 1765-1767.
- 2004 "Gender and Feelings." *Contexts*. 3(4):8.
- 2004 "Price Check on Condoms!" *Contexts*. 3(4): 10.
- 2004 "The Values of Kids These Days." *Contexts*. 3(1): 8-9.
- 2004 "Be All That You Can Be." *Contexts*. 3(1): 11.
- 2004 "You Buy What You Think You Are." *Contexts*. 3(1): 12.
- 2003 Book review of Work in the New Economy by Chris Benner. *Acta Sociologica* 46(4).
- 2002 "Reach Out and Write Someone." *Contexts*. 1(4): 10-11.

Papers-in-progress

Pushers, Plumbers & Pediatricians: Symbolism of the Pager in the United States - 1975 to 1995.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZER ROLE

- 2002 Mobile Devices and the Cultural Worlds of Young People. Annenberg Center for Communication, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, USA, 10 October.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Living the Digital Lifestyle

- (2005) Association of Internet Researchers, Chicago, Illinois, USA, 5-9 October.
- 2004 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California, USA, 14-17 August. Roundtable Presentation.

A Question of Class: Mobile Phones and Pagers

- 2005 Stanford Mobile HCI Workshop. Stanford University, Stanford, California, USA, 17 May. Invited Speaker.

Pushers, Plumbers & Pediatricians: Symbolism of the Pager in the United States - 1975 to 1995

- 2003 Center for Work, Technology, and Organization, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California, USA, 10 November, Invited Speaker.
- 2003 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Atlanta, Georgia, USA, 15-19 August.
- 2002 Society for the Social Study of Science, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA, 6-10 November.
- 2002 Association of Internet Researchers Conference, Maastricht, Netherlands, 13-16 October.
- 2002 Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference, Tampere, Finland, 29 June-2 July.
- 2002 Center for Information Society Studies, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA, 19 March. Invited Speaker.

'It's Just Easier To Text. Really.': Young People and New Communication in the United Kingdom & the United States (Co-authored with Dr. Nina Wakeford, INCITE, University of Surrey, United Kingdom)

- 2002 Society for the Social Study of Science, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA, 6-10 November.
- 2002 Association of Internet Researchers Conference 2002, Maastricht, Netherlands, 13-16 October.

Keeping Up: Web Design Skill and the Reinvented Worker

- 2003 Third Annual Graduate Student WebShop, Berkeley, California, USA, 16 June. Invited Speaker.
- 2001 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Anaheim, California, USA 19-21 August.

- 2000 Association of Internet Researchers: Internet Research 1.0: The State of the Interdiscipline, Lawrence, Kansas, USA, 14-17 September.

A Skill is Born; Web Site Design 1994-1998

- 2001 Group for User Interface Research Colloquium, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, California, USA, 19 July. Invited Speaker.
2001 Berkeley Journal of Sociology Conference on Work, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, California, USA, 16 March. Invited Speaker.

ATTENDANCE AT INVITATION-ONLY WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

- 2005 Re: activism, A Conference on 21st Century Activism and Technology. Budapest, Hungary, 14-16 October. Invited Panelist.
2005 Microsoft Research Social Computing Symposium. Redmond, Washington, USA, 24-26 April. Invited Participant.
2004 Wireless Communication Workshop: Inspirations from Unusual Sources. Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA, 27-29 August. Invited Speaker.
2004 Street Talk: An Urban Computing Happening. Intel Research, Berkeley, California, USA, 16 July. Invited Participant.
2004 Microsoft Research Social Computing Symposium. Redmond, Washington, USA, 29-30 March. Invited Participant.
2004 Urban Mobilities Workshop. INCITE, University of Surrey, Guildford, United Kingdom, 14-15 January. Invited Participant.
2002 Illinois Institute of Design. ON/OFF. Managing Personal Accessibility in a Wired World Workshop. Chicago, Illinois, USA, 11 December. Invited Participant.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Instructor, "Sociology of the Family," Department of Sociology, University of California, Berkeley, Professor Arlie Hochschild (Spring 2004).

Graduate Student Instructor, "Introduction to Sociology," Department of Sociology, University of California, Berkeley, Professor Raka Ray (Spring 2001).

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Professional Service

- Ad hoc referee, *American Journal of Sociology*
- Ad hoc referee, *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication*
- Ad hoc referee, *MIT Press*
- Ad hoc referee, *New Media and Society*
- Ad hoc referee, *The Information Society*
- Newsletter Editor, Communication and Information Technologies Section, American Sociological Association (2003-present)
- Graduate Student Editor, *Contexts Magazine*, American Sociological Association (2002-2004)
- Webmaster, Consumers and Consumption Section-in-Formation, American Sociological Association (1998-2004)
- Member, International Programme Committee of 2004 International Symposium on Electronic Arts

Memberships

- American Sociological Association

- Section Memberships
 - Communication and Information Technology
 - Sociology of Culture
 - Science, Knowledge and Technology
- Association of Black Sociologists (ABS)
- Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR)
- ACM's Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction (SIG-CHI)
- Society for the Social Study of Science (4S)

MEDIA ACTIVITIES

- *TheFeature Online*. Cellular Cruising for Casual Sex, 21 April 2004.
- *Time Magazine for Kids*. Messaging Mania, 2 May 2003.
- *American Demographics*. America Untethered, March 2003.
- *Florida Times-Union*. Those cell phones are no longer part of the round at The Players, 27 March 2003.
- *The New York Times*. Youth Will Be Served Wirelessly, 30 May 2002.

NON-ACADEMIC WORK

User Experience Researcher

2001-present Sun Microsystems, Inc., San Francisco, California, USA

Conducted software usability studies, in-depth interviews, and analysis of software/Web usage patterns.

Research Assistant

1997-1998 Institute for the Study of Social Change, Berkeley, California, USA

Through in-depth interviews and observation, evaluated implementation of the Gender Academy, a single gender classroom program in San Francisco's Marina Middle School.

Conference Organizer

1994-1996 NGO Forum on Women-Beijing '95, Beijing, China/New York, New York, USA

Coordinated registration and logistics for a 1500-person conference at United Nations Headquarters (NY) and a women's conference of 38,000 in Beijing, China.

1996-1998 Stand For Children, Washington DC, USA; San Francisco, California, USA

1994-1995 Amnesty International USA, Chicago, Illinois, USA and Boston, Massachusetts, USA

OTHER INFORMATION

Languages

Proficient in French. Familiar with Dutch.

Citizenship

Citizen of Netherlands, U.S. Permanent Resident.