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CALL FOR PAPERS

New Data in Social and Behavioral Research

Public Opinion Quarterly Special Issue, Deadline: February 1, 2020

Guest Editors
Frederick G. Conrad, University of Michigan, Editor
Florian Keusch, University of Mannheim, Associate Editor
Michael F. Schober, The New School, Associate Editor

Public Opinion Quarterly seeks submissions for a special issue of the journal devoted to new types of data that might be used to conduct social or behavioral research either in conjunction with surveys, in place of surveys, or to address questions that cannot be addressed by surveys.

Examples of these new data include social media posts, search strings, online prices, and sensor data such as location, activity, and sound. As such examples illustrate, these new data potentially can be used in social or behavioral research after having been repurposed, e.g., when researchers analyze search strings as a window onto public opinion even though the users who created these strings did so for entirely different reasons. Other times, these data are collected directly for their intended purpose (Taylor 2013), e.g., when smartphone owners are recruited into a study so that researchers may capture their mobility using the sensors built into their devices.

Regardless of the origin of these new data, they are markedly different from survey data. In stark contrast to survey responses that are produced by asking carefully crafted questions, these new data are not elicited by the researchers who later analyze them. In contrast to designed survey data, the structure of these new data is often not known ahead of time. Instead, these data are “organic” (Groves 2011), i.e., continuously generated byproducts of everyday processes. And, compared to survey data sets, these new data are massive and generally far less expensive to create.
Much has been written and spoken about the promise of these new data for conducting social and behavioral research (e.g., the AAPOR Big Data task-force report; Japec et al. 2015). The contributions published in the special issue will help assess how well this promise has been realized so far and will help sharpen predictions of future success using these alternative data. Potential topics for submissions include, but are certainly not limited to:

- The integration of social media content with survey data
- The use of call records and other mobile network operating data to study behavior
- Analysis of administrative records to reduce survey costs and burden on respondents
- Issues of ethics and privacy when using these new data
- Measurement error in new data sources
- The feasibility of tracking public opinion via Internet search terms and browsing behavior
- Comparison of estimates from self-reports and data collected passively with sensors

Submissions can be methodological in orientation or can be substantive applications that demonstrate the usefulness and assess the validity of these new data sources. The issue is scheduled for publication in early 2021. Submissions of relevant research articles, research syntheses, and research notes are welcome and will be considered through February 1, 2020.

Manuscripts should be uploaded at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/poq, following the manuscript preparation instructions provided on the journal’s website. To ensure consideration in the special issue, authors must include a cover letter that clearly states that the manuscript has been submitted for consideration for the 2021 “New Data special issue.” Submissions will be peer-reviewed in accord with standard journal practice. Queries about this special issue should be directed to Frederick Conrad (fconrad@umich.edu) using the subject line “2021 New Data Special Issue.”

References

Taylor, Sean J. 2013. “Real Scientists Make Their Own Data.”
CALL FOR CHAPTERS

MEDIATED SILENCING

We seek contributors for a collected volume, intended for academics and journalists, to address the mediated production and circulation of silences; to identify the systems and forces that produce these silences; and to establish paths for academics and journalists to identify, study, and report about them.

We are living in an era often marketed as offering unparalleled access to information. Archival digitization efforts have made it possible for anyone with an internet connection to access archives across space and time. The volume of online publications continues to proliferate (even as traditional journalistic institutions fire staff, slash pay, and shutter offices). Users of Facebook, Twitter, reddit, Instagram, and other social media sites produce and circulate a seemingly endless supply of news, photographs, and news-related memes. But the deluge of media that we produce and consume obscures the images and stories that the news media do not show, because they are — due to legal, cultural, military, commercial, and other forces — intentionally obfuscated and rendered invisible.

This volume calls attention to these silences; explicates the processes by which issues and peoples are made silent or invisible; and offers reporters and scholars methodologically sound and achievable paths to bring such silences to light.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, areas such as climate change, forgotten histories, immigration, and sexual assault/harassment in the context of:

- The legal, corporate or governmental production of silences
- News routines
- Media ownership structures and the distribution of information
- The impact of silences on media audiences, the journalism profession, and/or society more generally.
- Approaches to studying or reporting on silences.

All theoretical and methodological approaches are welcome. Chapters must be original work, not previously published or currently under review. Completed chapter length will be approximately 5500 words.

Proposals should include name, affiliation, brief bio, a working chapter title and a 500-word abstract that clearly explains your proposed topic. Email proposals by October 21 to Carol Liebler cmlieble@syr.edu AND Rachel Somerstein somerstr@newpaltz.edu.
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The 2020 Kentucky Conference on Health Communication (KCHC) will be held April 2-4, 2020 in Lexington, Kentucky at the Hyatt Regency hotel. The overall aim of KCHC is to promote health communication research and practice. The conference is an internationally-recognized venue for researchers, practitioners, and students to come together to share research on a variety of health-related topics, discuss current health communication issues, and develop working relationships to promote the health communication research and practice agenda.

The theme of the 2020 conference is Intersectionality and Interdisciplinarity in Health Communication Research, and the preconference will focus on Cutting Edge Communication and Information Technology in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. We seek original contributions in all areas related to health communication, although special consideration will be given to abstracts that address issues related to the conference theme. We hope you will consider submitting your work to the conference. The 2020 Call for Abstracts and submission instructions are available here: https://comm.uky.edu/kchc/call.

Our online abstract submission system will open on Friday, October 4, 2019. Submission deadline is Friday, December 6, 2019 by 8:00 PM EST. We accept abstracts for competitive papers and posters, as well as competitive panels. We'll notify authors of programming decisions by January 13, 2020.

We hope you will consider submitting your work and attending KCHC 2020. For more information about the conference overall, visit http://comm.uky.edu/kchc.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Communication, Journalism and Media Department is conducting searches for the following positions: a tenure track Assistant Professor position in Journalism and Media; and a three-year Practitioner in Residence position in Documentary Production.

The Communication, Journalism and Media Department at Suffolk University contains three majors: Global and Cultural Communication; Journalism; and Media and Film. With 325 majors and steady growth in the number of majors over time, the department is one of the largest in Suffolk's College of Arts and Sciences. Its faculty has a sustained record of scholarly and professional contributions to the communication discipline and field. The department has an active internship program that takes advantage of Suffolk's location on Beacon Hill in downtown Boston.

Suffolk University is a private, comprehensive, urban university located in downtown Boston, and is an equal opportunity employer committed to a diverse community. Candidates from underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply. To learn more about Suffolk University visit our website at www.suffolk.edu.
Assistant Professor of Journalism and Media, Tenure Track

The Communication, Journalism and Media Department at Suffolk University invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position in Journalism and Media at the rank of Assistant Professor beginning July 1, 2020 (pending final budgetary approval).

This position has a specific focus on the current status, character, and influence of news/journalism in a rapidly changing media environment. The ideal candidate will help further integrate the media and journalism majors in the department. Candidates should be able to teach and do research in one or more of the following areas: the news media and politics; journalism in an age of disinformation campaigns and fake news; the news media and digital activism. Successful candidates will be expected to direct a productive research program and publish their research in peer-reviewed journals.

Candidates should provide evidence of commitment to excellent teaching and scholarly potential. Faculty responsibilities include a total teaching load of five courses per academic year. Service to the Department and the University through committee membership and student advising also is required. A Ph.D. in Communication and Journalism or in a related discipline must be in hand by July 1, 2020.

Application should be made through the Suffolk HR website and should include the following elements: 1) letter of application; 2) CV; 3) graduate transcripts; 4) statement of teaching philosophy; 5) statement of research interest and published work and/or recent sample of professional work; 6) sampling of course syllabi and recent student evaluations of teaching; and 7) three letters of reference (sent electronically to Maureen Dooley at mdooley2@suffolk.edu). **Deadline for applications is November 22, 2019.**

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Practitioner in Residence of Documentary Production, Three-year appointment

The Communication, Journalism and Media Department at Suffolk University invites applications for a position in Documentary Production at the rank of Practitioner in Residence beginning July 1, 2020 (pending final budgetary approval). We seek a faculty member with significant professional experience in documentary production, allowing the department to focus its video production primarily on news/documentary and contribute to further integrating the journalism and the media/film programs.

We invite candidates with undergraduate teaching experience and extensive professional experience in non-fiction video production and long form journalism/documenary production. The preferred candidate will be well versed in the skills, principles, and ethics of documentary production; preference will be given to candidates who are interested in social justice issues and/or issues with political significance. Candidates must be able to teach a variety of courses in production and visual storytelling in the Journalism and Media Majors.
Courses include, but are not limited to, the following: introductory and advanced level production classes, visual aesthetics, editing (using AVID and Premiere) and post-production, as well as our capstone course in long form journalism/documentary production.

Candidates should provide evidence of commitment to excellent teaching and professional experience with non-fiction/documentary production. Faculty responsibilities include a total teaching load of six courses per academic year. Service to the Department and the University through committee membership and student advising also is required. An advanced degree (MA, MFA or Ph.D.) in Communication, Journalism, Documentary or other relevant degree must be in hand by July 1, 2020.

Application should be made through the Suffolk HR website and should include the following elements: 1) letter of application; 2) CV; 3) graduate transcripts; 4) statement of teaching philosophy; 5) statement regarding past documentary experience and recent sample of documentary productions; 6) sampling of course syllabi and recent student evaluations of teaching; and 7) three letters of reference (sent electronically to Maureen Dooley at mdooley2@suffolk.edu). Deadline for applications is November 22, 2019.

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**School of Journalism and Mass Communications, University of South Carolina**

**Assistant Professor of Mass Communications**

The School of Journalism and Mass Communications invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position at the rank of assistant professor in the area of mass communications to begin August 16, 2020. For this position, we seek candidates with a research focus in computational social science and expertise in big data. Work in big data includes analyzing and drawing rigorous inferences from large complex data sets which involve social and digital media sources and other electronic data bases. Applicants must hold a doctoral degree in mass communications or a related field by the start date of employment (ABDs considered). The School continues a trajectory toward preeminence in teaching and research addressing “data, media and society.” Over the next two years, we plan to hire up to six new faculty, primarily in the areas of big data, media analytics, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence (AI) and data storytelling.

Candidates will be expected to make significant contributions to mass communications scholarship in their area of expertise, mentor graduate students, and teach graduate- and undergraduate-level courses in mass communications. The ideal candidate should have evidence of, or promise of, research emphasizing the theories and methods of big data, as well as the ability to guide students across the School’s curricula in the relevant competencies of data mining and big data initiatives.

Our diverse, engaged faculty and staff enjoy a dynamic and intellectually stimulating work environment within the school. In addition, a rich potential for collaborative and interdisciplinary
connections in big data and artificial intelligence exists across the university. The university’s new Institute for Artificial Intelligence lists more than 45 faculty members already engaged in some form of AI research; these researchers hail from journalism and mass communications, library and information science, education, social work, public health, engineering and computing.

The College of Information and Communications
The College of Information and Communications is home to two nationally recognized schools, the School of Journalism and Mass Communications and the School of Library and Information Science. The college provides outstanding teaching, research and community outreach. As such, it is one of only a few universities to combine its communications and information science programs, two rapidly evolving — and converging — fields united by a shared belief that information accessibility is the cornerstone of self-governance. The College has approximately 1,700 undergraduates, 400 graduates, and more than 100 faculty and staff members. New assets available to faculty and students in both schools include the Social Media Insights Lab and the Biometric and User Experience Lab. Both are designed to facilitate the study of issues related to data, media and their impact on society.

The University of South Carolina
The University of South Carolina in Columbia is the major research institution of the University of South Carolina system and its largest campus, enrolling approximately 35,000 students. The university offers over 320 degrees at the bachelor's, master's, doctoral and professional program levels. Founded in 1801, it is among America’s oldest and most comprehensive public universities and is one of only 32 public universities to earn the Carnegie Foundation’s top-tier designations in both research activity and community engagement. South Carolina’s capital city is currently undergoing a number of urban revitalization projects and offers residents a growing range of artistic, cultural and recreational opportunities.

The University of South Carolina is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities on the basis of race, sex, gender, age, color, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, genetics, protected veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions.

All applicants must fill out an online application at USC Jobs:
uscjobs.sc.edu/hr/postings/68023.

Candidates should be prepared to upload a CV, letter of application, personal statement, names, phone numbers, and email addresses of letter writers, and any additional materials that demonstrate educational and academic experience. Letter writers should provide signed letters on letterhead addressed to the Mass Communications Assistant Professor Search. All application materials must be received no later than December 1, 2019. For more information about this position, please contact Search Committee Chair Mary Anne Fitzpatrick (fitzpatm@mailbox.sc.edu).