

Devin Gaffney

EDUCATION

Northeastern University, Boston, MA, PhD. In Network Science, expected 2019

Thesis: “Examining the Structural Constraints of User Movement in Online Forums”

Oxford Internet Institute, Oxford University, Oxford, UK, MSc. In Social Science of the Internet, 2012

Thesis: “Determining the Importance of Geography on Twitter”

Bennington College, Bennington, VT, B.A., In Computer Science/Political Science, 2010

Thesis: “#iranelection: Are the dynamics and structure of Web 2.0 shifting global policy in 140 characters or less?”

EMPLOYMENT

(2016) – *Data Science Intern* Betaworks, New York, NY. Designed strategies for user retention in computer games, and developed a platform for predicting and maximizing user interactions with chat bots.

(2014-2017) – *Consultant* For a variety of companies including digital agencies, a professional social network startup, Twitter enterprise advertising platforms, and the like.

(2014-2017) – *Research Assistant* Northeastern University, Boston, MA. Responsible for assisting Brooke Foucault-Welles, Moya Bailey, and several other members of the Northeastern community with data collection, aggregation, transformation, and analysis, primarily with a focus on social media and network analysis.

(2012-2014) – *Senior Developer* Little Bird, Portland, OR. Responsible for the re-architecture of rapid expert discovery software leveraging social network data.

(2011-2012) – *Research Assistant* Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK. Research into the relationship between social media data and geographic and linguistic distance between actors online.

(2011) – *Consultant* SocialFlow, New York City, NY. Research into leveraging network graph data from Twitter for optimization of content posting on Twitter for clients.

(2011) – *Developer* 140Proof, San Francisco, CA. Creation of A/B testing framework for inline social media-based targeted advertising.

(2007-2010) – *Interactive Developer* Instrument Marketing, Portland, OR. Wide range of work on client projects ranging from development of internal APIs to CSS design, as well as development on internal CMS product.

(2010) – *Intern* Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA. Data aggregation, storage methods, and analysis of Russian Twitter users for use in Berkman Center Report on social media in Russia (<http://bit.ly/R9CP3e>).

(2010) – *Visiting Researcher* Tetherless World Constellation, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY. Research into data visualization and social media/open government data mashups.

(2009) – *Intern* Rocketboom, Inc, New York City, NY. Rails development on early version of KnowYourMeme.com.

FELLOWSHIPS

(2014) Digital Ecologies Research Partnership (DERP)

PUBLICATIONS

- (2014) “The multiple facets of influence: identifying political influentials and opinion leaders on Twitter”, *American Behavioural Scientist*, with Elizabeth Dubois
- (2014) “Data Collection on Twitter”, In: *Twitter and Society*, with Cornelius Puschmann, Peter Lang Publishing, New York City
- (2013) “Identifying the opinion leader: Influence, Twitter, and Canadian politics”, Presentation at Social Media and Society Conference, September 15th, 2013, Dalhousie University, School of Information Management, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
- (2012) “Game or measurement? Algorithmic transparency and the Klout score”, Forthcoming Presentation at #Influence12 Symposium & Workshop on Measuring Influence on Social Media, September 28th, 2012, Dalhousie University, School of Information Management, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
- (2012) “Statistical Probability That Mitt Romney’s New Twitter Followers Are Just Normal Users: 0%”, with Alexander Furnas, *The Atlantic*, July 31st, 2012
- (2012) “Where in the world are you? Geolocation and language identification in Twitter” Hale, Scott, Devin Gaffney, and Mark Graham. Forthcoming.
- (2011) “The Revolutions Were Tweeted: Information Flows during the 2011 Tunisian and Egyptian Revolutions”, with Gilad Lotan, Ian Pearce and danah boyd. *International Journal of Communication*. September 8th, 2011.
- (2010) “#iranElection: quantifying online activism”. In: *Proceedings of the WebSci10: Extending the Frontiers of Society On-Line*, April 26-27th, 2010, Raleigh, NC: US.

TALKS

- (2016) “Modeling misclassifications in multilayer networks”. Presented at Social Media and Society, July 13th, 2016, Goldsmiths University of London, London, UK.
- (2016) “Beyond the Listicle: The Science of Virality”, with Abigail Posner, Jessica Novak, and Sean Wojcik. Presented at South by Southwest, March 14th, 2016, Hilton Hotel, Austin, Texas.
- (2015) “Trace Interviews”, Presented at Social Media and Society 2015 (SMS15), July 27th, 2015, Ryerson University, Toronto, ON, Canada.
- (2015) “Exploring the Role of Geographic Diffusion in Informational Cascades”, Presented at Computational Social Science Summit 2015 (CSSS15), May 17th, 2015, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.
- (2013) “Location! The Importance of Geo-data”, with Mark Graham, Monica Stephens, and Catherine D’Ignazio. Presented at South by Southwest, March 12th, 2013, Sheraton Hotel, Austin, Texas.
- (2012) “Ditching the dowsing rod Why prescribed analytics fail to deliver”, Presented at the Eduserv Symposium 2012, May 10th, 2012, Royal College of Physicians, London

POSTERS

- (2016) “Modeling misclassifications in multilayer networks”. Presented at Sunbelt XXXVI, April 8th, 2016, Newport Beach Marriott Hotel & Spa Newport Beach, California.
- (2015) “Lobbying Strategy Diffusion in Canadian Politics: a latent network approach”, with Alexander Furnas. Presented at Political Networks 2015, June 18th, 2015, University Place Hotel, Portland,

Oregon.

AWARDS

(2012) Startup Weekend Competition, First Place, Turin, Italy

(2012) JANET Brokerage Cloud Service Scholarship, London, UK

PRESS

(2015) Here and Now, WBUR. “The Anatomy Of Viral Content And Internet Outrage”, May 15th

(2015) Jackson-Glidden, Brooke. “When something goes viral he gets going”, April 1st

(2014) Finley, Klint. “Twitter Opens Its Enormous Archives to Data-Hungry Academics”, Wired, February 6

(2013) Finley, Klint. “Facebook Says It Knows Where people Are Migrating – But Can You Trust Its Data?”, Wired, December 26.

(2012) Ehrenberg, Rachel. “Social Media sway”, October 20th, 2012

(2012) Condliffe, Jamie. “Evidence That Klout Doesnt Make Sense, Visualized”, Gizmodo.com, July 18th

(2012) Tortello, Letizia. “A Start up weekend vince Burst invenzione che cambier le news”, La Stampa, June 11th

(2011) Watters, Audrey. “How Recent Changes to Twitters Terms of Service Might Hurt Academic Research.”, Read Write Web March 3rd

(2011) Kolowich, Steve. “Twitter Fortifies Nest”, Inside Higher Ed. March 8th (Re-syndicated at New York Times, American Public Media, UMBC Ebiquity)

(2011) Taylor, Chris. “How Bin Laden News Exploded on Twitter: A Visualization”, Mashable May 6th

(2010) “New Scientist: Exploring the Network without the Guesswork”, May 10th, Issue 2759

PRACTICAL SKILLS

Fluent In English, Ruby, Python, R, JavaScript, Clojure, HTML/CSS, MySQL, MongoDB, Redis, Shell/Bash, Amazon Web Services full stack

Conversational In Scala, C++, C, Perl

Can Kind of Sort of Fly Planes