# Research Interests

Accessible computing, Human-Computer Interaction (HCI), Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW), Participatory and community-driven design, Intersectionality and interdependence of marginalized communities, Digital and remote research methods

# Education

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| *2023* | **Ph.D. in Informatics** | University of California, IrvineDissertation Committee: Stacy Branham (chair), Anne Marie Piper, Katie Salen |
| *2020* | **M.S. in Informatics** | University of California, IrvineAdvancement Committee: Stacy Branham (chair), Gillian Hayes, Anne Marie Piper, Katie Salen, Tom Boellstorff (Anthropology Department) |
| *2017* | **B.S. in Informatics and B.A. in English** | University of Washington, SeattleGraduated MAGNA CUM LAUDE (Informatics) | CUM LAUDE WITH HONORS (English) |

# Research Positions

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| *May 2022 – Dec 2022*  | **Accessible Computing UX Research Intern**Intel, Client Computing Group, Research and Experience Definition (RED) Working under: Sue Faulkner, Darryl Adams, Richard BeckwithResearched: Hearing Aid-to-PC interaction and connectivity, sensor suites for hard of hearing and low vision users’ environmental awareness, gamers with disabilities.  |
| *Mar 2022 – May 2022* | **Research Intern**Microsoft Research, Ability GroupWorked under: Drs. Martez Mott, John Tang, and Ed CutrellResearched: Accessible virtual reality, representation of disabilities in VR avatars, visible and invisible disabilities, movement in VR |
| *Aug 2019 –*  | **Graduate Research Assistant**INsite (INclusive Studio for Innovative Technology and Education) LabWorking under: Dr. Stacy BranhamResearching: See Selected Research Projects |
| *Feb 2018 –Aug 2019* | **Graduate Researcher and Founding Lab Member**CATS (Critical Approaches to Technology and the Social) LabWorked under: Dr. Bonnie “Bo” RubergResearched: Social media, queer and trans communities, fan communities, Tumblr |
| *Jun 2015 – Jan 2017* | **Undergraduate Researcher**EmCOMP (Emerging Capacities of Mass Participation) & SoMe (Social Media) LabWorked under: Dr. Kate Starbird and Dr. Emma SpiroResearched: crisis communication, misinformation and rumoring, sensemaking behaviors on TwitterResearch Products: *[C1, C2]* |
| *May 2016 – Aug 2016* | **Undergraduate Researcher**CHIMPS (Computer Human Interaction: Mobility, Privacy, Security) LabWorked under: Dr. Jason HongResearched: machine learning and sentiment analysis, Twitter geotagging as affective dataset |

# Selected Research Projects

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| *Oct 2021 – Mar 2023* | **Alt Text Creation Processes In Industrial Practice**In Collaboration with Google’s Materials Design TeamTopic: Follow-up study after user evaluation and co-design of alt text, now looking at creation methods used by accessibility practitioners at Google.Research Products: *[J2]* |
| *Sep 2021 – Feb 2022* | **Motor-Mobility and Gaming Project Research Consultancy**Funded by Intel through UCI’s Steckler Center for Responsible, Ethical, and Accessible Technology (CREATE)Topic: Guided literature review and expert interviews to assess potential areas of accessibility innovation around industry standards and platform enablement for users with motor-mobilities (particularly as they relate to gaming). |
| *Aug 2021 – Mar 2023* | **Digital Ethnography of Community-Driven Image Accessibility Practices**Approved by UCI IRB and overseen by Informatics Department facultyTopic: Virtual participant observation and interviewing of members of Discord and Tumblr communities to understand the ethical and social implications of collaboratively creating and distributing image descriptions to advance social media accessibility. |
| *Feb 2020 – Feb 2022* | **User Assessment of Inclusive Representation in Google’s Avatar Project**In Collaboration with Google’s Materials Design TeamTopic: Remote focus groups and interviews with people with disabilities to gather feedback on visual elements and image descriptions of digital illustrations of diversity to be used in design systems.Research Products: *[M1, B1, C4]* |
| *Feb 2019 – Mar 2021* | **University Mobility Challenge: Designing Wayfinding Technologies that Blind and Older Individuals Can Trust**Funded by Toyota Motor North America in Collaboration with UMBCTopic: Interviews, design workshops, prototyping, and co-design sessions with people with disabilities and older adults to create a wearable voice assistant for airport travel. Culminated in survey of 80+ blind and sighted people to gauge viability of voice assistant prototype.Research Products: *[C3, P1]* |

# Publications

## Journal Articles

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| *[J2]* | **How the Alt Text Gets Made: What Roles and Processes of Alt Text Creation Can Teach Us About Inclusive Imagery**Emory James Edwards, Michael Gilbert, Emily Blank, Stacy M. Branham. Mar 2023 (Just Accepted). ACM Transactions of Accessible Computing (TACCESS).  |
| *[J1]* | **Migration, non-use, and the ’Tumblrpocalypse’: Towards a unified theory of digital exodus**Emory James Edwards and Tom Boellstorff. Apr 2021. Media, Culture & Society. |

## Conference Papers

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| *[C4]* | **"That's in the eye of the beholder": Layers of Interpretation in Image Descriptions for Fictional Representations of People with Disabilities**Emory James Edwards, Kyle Lewis Polster, Isabel Tuason, Michael Gilbert, Emily Blank, and Stacy M. Branham.Oct 2021. Proceedings of The 23nd International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility, ACM, Virtual Event. |
| *[C3]* | **Towards More Universal Wayfinding Technologies: Navigation Preferences Across Disabilities**Maya Gupta, Ali Abdolrahmani, Emory James Edwards, Mayra Cortez, Andrew Tumang, Yasmin Majali, Marc Lazaga, Samhitha Tarra, Prasad Patil, and Ravi Kuber.May 2020. Proceedings of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. |
| *[C2]* | **Centralized, parallel, and distributed information processing during collective sensemaking**Peter Krafft, Kaitlyn Zhou, Isabelle Edwards, Kate Starbird, and Emma S. Spiro.May 2017. Proceedings of the 2017 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. |
| *[C1]* | **Could this be true? I think so! Expressed uncertainty in online rumoring**Kate Starbird, Emma Spiro, Isabelle Edwards, Kaitlyn Zhou, Jim Maddock, and Sindhuja Narasimhan.May 2016. Proceedings of the 2016 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. |

## Poster Papers

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| *[P1]* | **Three Tensions Between Personas and Complex Disability Identities**Emory James Edwards, Cella Monet Sum, and Stacy M. Branham.May 2020. Extended Abstracts of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. |

## Magazine Articles

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| *[M1]* | **Putting the disability in DEI through inclusive imagery**Emory James Edwards.Jul 2022. XRDS: Crossroads, The ACM Magazine for Students. |

## Blog Posts

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| *[B1]* | **Adjusting the Focus: How inclusive imagery changes a product from being made for some, to being made for all**Emily Blank, Michael Gilbert, Stacy Branham, and Emory James Edwards.Sep 2021. Google’s Material Design Blog: <https://material.io/blog/inclusive-imagery-at-google>. |

# Research Presentations

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| *Mar 2023* | **Invited Co-Presenter**“Inclusive Imagery – Writing Alt-Text Depicting People with Disabilities and Other Marginalized Identities”Accessible Technology Webinar Series. Hosted by Great Lakes ADA Center |
| *Mar 2022* | **Research Final Report-Out**“Motor-Mobility Disabilities and Gaming: Research Topics and Areas for Innovation”Intel’s Accessibility UX/Architecture Weekly Meeting |
| *Oct 2021* | **Conference Paper Presenter**“’That's in the eye of the beholder’: Layers of Interpretation in Image Descriptions for Fictional Representations of People with Disabilities”ACM’s ASSETS 2021 |
| *May 2020* | **Invited Presenter**“Three Tensions Between Personas and Complex Disability Identities”FemPower.Tech #CHIversity 2020 |
| *Oct 2019* | **Accepted Presenter**“The Trans Fan from 1997 to 2019: Terminology and Tagging, Identity and Community”Fan Studies Network North America | DePaul University |
| *May 2019* | **Invited Panel Member**“Queer/Trans and A Fan”Queer Theory Reading Group Symposium | University of California, Irvine |
| *Apr 2019* | **Session Chair and Accepted Presenter**“Branding the Fandom Killjoy”Pop Culture Association / American Culture Association Conference | Washington D.C. |
| *Feb 2019* | **Accepted Roundtable Participants**“The Future of Slash – Trans Fic?”Fan Scholar Salon Sponsored by the Civic Imagination Project | University of Southern California |

# Teaching Experience

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| *Mar 2020 – Jun 2020* | **Virtual Teaching Assistant**“Critical Writing” for Information and Computer ScienceInstructor: Dr. Neil Young |
| *Oct 2019* | **Guest Lecturer**“Social Media + Changing Identities” in Internet Technologies and their Social Impact Instructor: Dan Lowell Gardner |
| *May 2019* | **Guest Lecturer**“Fandom + Social Media” in Internet Technologies and their Social ImpactInstructor: Dr. Bonnie “Bo” Ruberg |
| *Jan 2019 –Mar 2019* | **Organizer and Leader of Graduate Level Reading Group**“Trans-ness, Disability, and Marginalized Digital Embodiments” for InformaticsSupervisor: Dr. Stacy Branham |
| *Jan 2019 – Jun 2019* | **Teaching Assistant**“Critical Writing” for Information and Computer Science Instructors: Dr. Bonnie “Bo” Ruberg and Dr. Rebecca Black |
| *Oct 2018* | **Invited Community and Academic Representative**“TransGeek” Film, Screening and Q&AAt the Los Angeles Awareness Festival |
| *Sep 2018 – Dec 2018* | **Teaching Assistant**“Introduction to Human Computer Interaction” for Informatics DepartmentInstructor: Dr. Matthew Bietz |

# Service Work

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| *2022*  | **Leader of Documentation Committee**INsite Lab |
| *2021* | **Session Chair**Virtual CHI session “Meetings, Chats, and Speech – B” |
| *2020* | **Lead Drafter of Values Statement**INsite Lab |
| *2020 – 2022*  | **Founding Member**UCI Informatics Sexuality and Gender Alliance (iSAGA) Affinity Group |
| *2019 – 2022* | **Reviewer**CHI (*2022*), ICWSM (*2021)*, CSCW (*2020-2021)*, CHI LBW (*2020)*, iConference (*2019-2020)*, Transformative Works and Cultures (*2019)* |
| *2019* | **Member**SIGCHI Gender Inclusion team |

# Students Mentored

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| *2021*  | Nandana (Ana) Sathish (Undergraduate in Computer Science) |
| *2020 – 2021* | Kyle Lewis Polster (Masters in Human Computer Interaction and Design) |
| *2020 – 2022* | Isabel Tuason (Undergraduate in Informatics) |
| *2020 – 2021* | Abby Liu (Undergraduate in Computer Science) |
| *2019 – 2022* | Maya Gupta (Masters in Informatics) |
| *2019 – 2021* | Cella Monet Sum (Masters in Human Computer Interaction and Design) |

# Honors and Scholarships

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| *2022 – 2023*  | **Dissertation Completion Fellowship**Amount:$38,000 |
| *2021 – 2023* | **ARCS Foundation Scholarship**Amount: $10,000 |
| *2021* | **Public Impact Distinguished Fellowship**Amount: $12,000 |
| *2017* | **Information and Computer Science Chair’s Award**Amount: $2,500 |
| *2012 – 2017* | **Dean’s List**University of Washington |
| *2012 – 2017* | **College Bound Scholarship**Amount: $13,185 |
| *2013 – 2014* | **H. Watson Scholarship**Amount: $3,000 |
| *2014 – 2017* | **Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society Member** |
| *2012* | **National Merit Scholar**Amount: $2,500 |