

ABOUT THE DISCO NETWORK

THE DISCO NETWORK (Digital Inquiry Speculation Collaboration Optimism Network) is an intergenerational collective of researchers, artists, technologists, policymakers, and practitioners working together to challenge digital social and racial inequalities.

AUTHORS

DAVID ADELMAN (he/him/his) is a postdoctoral research fellow in the Digital Accessible Futures lab at the University of Michigan. His scholarship focuses on disability media studies, sexuality, and desire, and is forthcoming in multiple interdisciplinary journals and edited collections.

ANDRÉ BROCK is Associate Professor of Black Digital Studies at the Georgia Institute of Technology. His scholarship includes published articles on racial representations in videogames, Black women and weblogs, whiteness, Blackness, and digital technoculture, as well as groundbreaking research on Black Twitter. He is the author of *Distributed Blackness: African American Cybercultures* (2020).

A. JOSEPH DIAL is Assistant Professor of Film & Media Studies and of Africana & Latin Studies at Colgate University. His forthcoming monograph, *Deadstock, Sneakers in the Afterlife of Black Bodies*, articulates the intimate and undiscussed connections between sneakers as material objects and Black bodies and argues that sneakers exist—first and foremost—as literal extensions of Black bodies, both sporting and cultural. This work excavates sneakers from the strict confines of culture and fashion, asserting their existence as an object wherein bodies act and that acts upon bodies and spaces.

STEPHANIE DINKINS is a transmedia artist whose research centers on emerging technologies, documentary practices, and social collaboration to create more equitable social and technological ecosystems. She is also the Kusama Endowed Professor in Art at Stony Brook University, a Schmidt Futures AI2050 Senior Fellow, and the inaugural recipient of the LG Guggenheim Award for artists working at the intersection of art and technology.

RAYVON FOUCHÉ holds a joint appointment as Professor of Communication Studies in the School of Communication and Professor of Journalism in the Medill School of Journalism, Media, and Integrative Marketing Communications at Northwestern University. He is the author of *Black Inventors in the Age of Segregation* (2003) and *Game Changer: The Technoscientific Revolution in Sports* (2017).

HUAN HE is Assistant Professor of English at Vanderbilt University. His research appears in *Configurations*, *College Literature*, *Media-N*, *Just Tech*, and the edited collection *Made in Asia/America: Why Video Games Were Never (Really) About Us*.

JEFF NAGY is Assistant Professor of AI and Critical Data Studies at York University. He is a historian of computing, focused on the intersections between the history of AI and the history of disability.

LISA NAKAMURA is the Gwendolyn Calvert Baker Collegiate Professor in the Department of American Culture at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She is the founding director of the University of Michigan's Digital Studies Institute. Her books and articles have focused on digital bodies, race, and gender in online environments, on toxicity in video game culture, and on the many reasons that internet research needs ethnic and gender studies.

CATHERINE KNIGHT STEELE is Associate Professor of Communication and Director of the Black Communication and Technology Lab at the University of Maryland, College Park. She is the author of *Digital Black Feminism* and co-author of *Doing Black Digital Humanities with Radical Intentionality*.

RIANNA WALCOTT is Assistant Professor of Communication at the University of Maryland, researching how digital culture mediates Black (and British) communication. She founded and directs Project Myopia, a digital humanities project that promotes inclusive pedagogies and decolonized curricula, and is co-editor of *The Colour of Madness*, an anthology about mental health inequities faced by people of color in Britain.

JOSIE WILLIAMS is a Connecticut-born creative technologist focused primarily on experimenting with emerging technology and human-computer interaction and expression. After receiving her bachelor's degree in computer science from New York University, she completed her master's degree in studio art at Stony Brook University. She also worked as a graduate research assistant for Stephaine Dinkins at the Future Histories Studio. She founded the platforms Algorithm Equity and Ancestral Archives, the latter of which exhibited at SXSW 2023.

KEVIN C. WINSTEAD is Assistant Professor of Critical Media and AI Studies in the African American Studies Program and the Sociology Department at the University of Florida. His work focuses on Black social movements and digital disinformation. He has published in *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Sociology Compass*, and *Critical Intersections in Contemporary Curriculum and Pedagogy*.

M. REMI YERGEAU is an Arthur F. Thurnau associate professor, Director of the Digital Accessible Futures Lab, and Associate Director of the Digital Studies Institute at the University of Michigan. They are the author of *Authoring Autism: On Rhetoric and Neurological Queerness*.

LIDA ZEITLIN-WU is Assistant Professor of Race and Media in the Department of Communication and Theatre Arts and the Institute for the Humanities at Old Dominion University. Her interdisciplinary research on the rationalization of sensory experience bridges media history and theory; science, technology, and society studies; critical race studies; and cultural studies, and she is currently completing a book manuscript titled *How Color Became a Technology: The Making of Chromatic Capitalism*. With Carolyn L. Kane, she is co-editor of *Color Protocols: Technologies of Racial Encoding in Chromatic Media* (MIT Press, 2025).