

DISCO Network Newsletter

We're excited to officially launch our DISCO (Digital Inquiry, Speculation, Collaboration & Optimism Network) newsletter and share what we've been working on the last few months. With your help, we've been defining our mission and [reflecting](#) on the role of academia in conversations around digital equity.



"The world needs what the humanities has to offer: -nuance, deep thinking, and complexity- and it needs it from experts on race and digital culture, disability, sexuality, and technology history. It also needs this work soon, in a time frame that acknowledges the dire urgency of our times, times that demand productive engagement with our lifeworlds and what the digital has to do with it."

— *Lisa Nakamura*

[Read the Director's Letter](#)

Upcoming Events

Brought to you by [Digital AF Lab](#) @ University of Michigan



Crip Mentoring, Access Advocacy, & the Job Market

April 15 from 12:00-1:30pm EST



Sara M. Acevedo



Vyshali
Manivannan

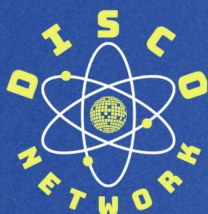


Crystal Lie



Rua M. Williams

Learn from emerging scholars about navigating interdisciplinary work as a new faculty member, how to think through disability disclosure and pandemic burnout, as well as advice about access advocacy and crip mentoring.



CART will be provided



ID: On a blue sky pink cloud background, there is a purple microphone icon with a heart on it in the upper left corner and the event title in white text to the right: Crip Mentoring, Access Advocacy, & the Job Market. Underneath are oval headshots of the panelists (left to right): Sara M. Acevedo, Vyshali Manivannan, Crystal Lie, Rua M. Williams. Under the headshots is the event description in black text. The bottom of the event flyer is lined with a row of colorful little houses and buildings. It also features the DISCO logo on the left, a rainbow infinity sign in the center, and the Digital Accessible Futures Lab logo on the right.

[Crip Mentoring, Access Advocacy, & the Job Market](#)

Rayvon Fouché, Remi Yergeau, André Brock, Stephanie Dinkins, and Catherine Knight Steele will come together in a panel discussion to address current trends and challenges relating to race, gender, disability, and technology, and to address the importance of building a network of scholars and technologists examining these intersections.

Friday, April 15 12pm – 1:30pm EST

This event is open to graduate students from any program at Georgia Tech, Purdue, Stony Brook, University of Maryland, and University of Michigan.

[Register](#)



ID: A blurred floral background with a large purple circle in the middle. The DISCO logo in the middle of the purple circle. Decorative floral designs surround the center logo and a purple rocket ship flies slightly above it. In a groovy bright yellow font at the bottom center of the image reads 'summer launch.'

[DISCO Graduate Scholar Lightning Talks](#)

Each DISCO Graduate Scholar will give a "lightning talk"

Monday, May 23, 2022 10am – 12 pm EST

[Register](#)

The image is a promotional graphic for a panel discussion. At the top, the word "DISCO" is written in large, blue, block letters, with each letter partially overlapping a pink and red glittery disco ball. In the center, a white rocket with purple fins and a yellow flame is positioned vertically, with a purple quantum computing symbol (a central dot with three intersecting orbits) on its side. Surrounding the rocket and disco ball are six circular headshots of diverse individuals. Below the rocket, the words "SUPER PANEL" are written in a stylized, purple, serif font, set against a white, cloud-like background. At the bottom, the text "Futures of Race, Gender, Disability, & Technology." is written in a purple, serif font, followed by the date and time "Monday, May 23, 2022" and "1:00 pm – 2:00 pm EST" in the same purple font.

ID: A pink glittery disco ball in front of a blurry blossoming tree background. Headshots of the DISCO PIs outline the disco ball, and in the middle of the disco ball is a rocket with a quantum computing symbol on it.

[DISCO Super Panel: Futures of Race, Gender, Disability, and Technology.](#)

DISCO Network Co-Principal Investigators Lisa Nakamura, Rayvon Fouché, Remi Yergeau, André Brock, Stephanie Dinkins, and Catherine Knight Steele will come together in

technology, and to address the importance of building a network of scholars and technologists examining these intersections.

Monday, May 23, 2022 1pm – 2pm EST

Submit a question for the panel [here](#) or [tweet](#) us your questions.

[Register](#)

Introducing our . . .

The DISCO Graduate Scholars Program is designed for graduate student researchers committed to developing interdisciplinary work in collaboration with our Co-Principal Investigators and Fellows.



ID: An orange background with deep purple semicircles on top. Five circular photos of DISCO graduate scholars with their names in white text curving around the bottom of their photo.



ID: A deep purple background with pale green squiggly lines forming stripes across. Six circular photos of DISCO graduate scholars with their names in white text curving around the bottom of their photo.



Read our graduate scholars' full bios and watch their introductory videos on our [website](#).

DISCO Advisory Board



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Oversight Project Advisory Board

Other Announcements



Check out our [labs](#)' websites and upcoming events.

Congratulations!



[Catherine Knight Steele](#) received the 2022 Helen Award for Emerging Feminist Scholarship from the [ICA Feminist Scholarship Division](#). Purchase *Digital Black Feminism* [here](#).

...

[André Brock](#) received the [2021 Nancy Baym Book Award](#) from

FROM PIG FOOT MARY TO PINKY COLE

By Ariel D. Smith

Check out DISCO Graduate Scholar, [Ariel Smith](#)'s piece in [Whetstone Magazine](#).



“ I think, fundamentally, a healthy relationship to technology is a critical one, one that lives in the space between what is possible with technology and how corporate interests prefer we use technology – as data farms. I think we have to learn to use technology outside of the strictures of the app store; a healthy relationship to technology crafts tool use and behaviors to our human needs, not the other way around. ”

Parker Miles
PhD. Candidate, University of Michigan



Download report at
HXreport.org

DISCO Graduate Scholar, [Parker Miles](#), was featured in All Tech is Human's [HX Report](#).

ID: A photo of Parker Miles next to his quote in the HX Report: I think, fundamentally, a healthy relationship to technology is a critical one, one that lives in the space between what is possible with technology and how corporate interests prefer we use technology - as data farms. I think we have to learn to use technology outside of the strictures of the app store; a healthy relationship to technology crafts tool use and behaviors to our human needs, not the other way around.



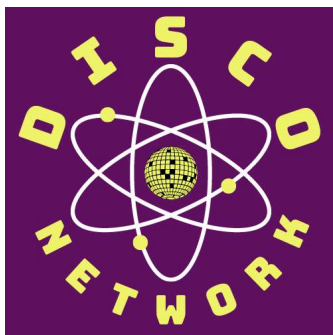
If you weren't able to make it to our first public event, *Discriminating Data: Wendy Chun in Conversation with Lisa Nakamura*, you can watch it on our YouTube.



Apply to become part of the DISCO Network as either a **Member** or **Research Affiliate**.

Both DISCO Network Members and Research Affiliates will have early access to registration to workshops, trainings, and other event series.

As Spring approaches, we're planning more collaborations



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