



# MSU C4I Weekly Newsletter

## March 28th, 2022

### C4I News & Events

We're continuing to program virtual events and opportunities here at C4I through Spring 2022. If you are interested in giving a virtual webinar or presentation, please email Dr. Michael O'Rourke (Director of C4I) at [orourke51@msu.edu](mailto:orourke51@msu.edu).

#### University Interdisciplinary Colloquium — Spring 2022



2022 University Interdisciplinary Colloquium with Abhishek Narula

#### "It's a Feature, Not a Bug: An Artistic Perspective on Failure"

April 1st, 2022  
12PM-1PM EDT via Zoom

Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/95048790349>  
Passcode: msuc4i

My artist practice is rooted in the exploring, highlighting, complicating and disrupting various issues at the intersection of technology, culture and society. In this talk, I will present some of my creative works and provide critical commentary on digital ecosystem we find ourselves in today. While I employ a range hardware and software technologies in my practice, I am most fascinated when these technologies fail, break down and malfunction. Rather than approaching these moments of failure as something that needs mitigation, I embrace these as opportunities for potentials for aesthetic engagement and critical reflection.

#### Upcoming University Interdisciplinary Colloquia

4/15/22. Michael O'Rourke. Professor, Department of Philosophy; Director, Center for Interdisciplinarity. "*Skepticism about Interdisciplinarity*"

**The C4I Affiliate Faculty List is Here!**

The C4I Affiliate Faculty web page directory has now been launched. Be sure to check out the excellent affiliate scholars [here](#).

#### C4I Seed Grant Feature:

This week we are featuring *An interdisciplinary approach to infant growth and development in Mexico: the role of structural, sociocultural, and biological factors*, which is led by Professor Megan Dean (Philosophy).



Pictured: Wall in downtown Xalapa with art done by women protesting femicide and sexual violence.

#### An interdisciplinary approach to infant growth and development in Mexico: the role of structural, sociocultural, and biological factors

Our project examines infant growth and development in relation to infant feeding practices, immune response, and human milk. Our interdisciplinary team is composed by Megan Dean and Elena Ruiz from Michigan State University's (MSU) Department of Philosophy, Alejandra Núñez de la Mora from Universidad Veracruzana's Instituto de Investigaciones Psicológicas, and by Masako Fujita and Nerli Paredes Ruvalcaba from MSU's Department of Anthropology. Funding from C4I will provide the opportunity to further examine these associations within the context of economic inequalities, racism, and gender-based violence. The goal of this project is to construct an interdisciplinary framework that links the structural, sociocultural context of infant-feeding practices to infant growth and development.

Additionally, funding from the C4I will facilitate the establishment of a collective of mothers and caretakers to build community with each other and to enable future, long-term collaborations to conduct community-based participatory research. This research comes at a critical time and place as the COVID-19 pandemic has constrained medical and community resources contributing to a rise in maternal mortality and the stop of some health services previously provided to pregnant people. Moreover, Mexico has high rates of maternal mortality and gender-based violence, with an average of 10 women being killed per day, giving rise to widescale protests demanding an end to gender-based violence. We've captured some of this context in the photographs included here, which depict community resistance against femicide and sexual violence in one of our research sites.



Pictured: A wall under a main bridge in downtown Xalapa with posters, paintings, and graffiti in protest of the high rates of femicide and sexual violence in the country.

#### Dr. Stephanie E. Vasko to be a guest artist at Peters Valley School of Craft

Dr. Stephanie E. Vasko (C4I Managing Director) will spend a week at the end of March/beginning of April at Peters Valley School of Craft as a guest artist. She will be working on a project entitled "Creating Augmented Reality and Soundscape Experiences of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area." Dr. Vasko's goal is to create at least two augmented reality experiences using Adobe Aero that combine photography-based 3D models, background information and research, and field-recorded soundscapes to create interactive experiences of different sites for visitors to the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area



Our email address is:  
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