Past Issues Translate \*

RSS 3



# **MSU C4I Weekly Newsletter April 18th, 2022**

#### C4I News & Events

Subscribe

#### C4I Visiting Faculty Colloquium



2022 University Interdisciplinary Colloquium with Dr. Melinda Fagan

### "Low-Effort Interdisciplinarity: A Proposal"

**April 29th, 2022** 4:00 - 5:30 PM EDT via Zoom

Zoom Link: https://msu.zoom.us/j/93682576780 Meeting ID: 936 8257 6780 Passcode: 672426

Interdisciplinary research is challenging and resource-intensive. But it can be made easier with interventions. I propose a conceptual intervention that may facilitate interdisciplinary projects involving very disparate fields, where accomplishing goals requires combining different explanatory models. I characterize these projects in terms of a general taxonomy of model-model relations, then propose requirements for their success. These requirements, though not trivial, are undemanding – minimal conditions for interdisciplinary explanation (IDE). I'll also discuss how philosophers can help scientific groups meet these minimal conditions, as a starting-point for building stronger interdisciplinary ties.

### C4I Seed Grant Feature:

This week we are featuring *Unsettling Startup Ecosystems:* Geographies, Mobilities, and Transnational Practices in the Palestinian and Israeli Startup Ecosystems, which is led by Professor Steven Fraiberg (Writing, Rhetoric, & American Cultures).



that designs bricks made of ash and rubble from local buildings destroyed by war. An inexpensive alternative to cement, the technology is helping to rebuild Gaza and create opportunities for female entrepreneurs.

Unsettling Startup Ecosystems: Geographies, Mobilities, and Transnational Practices in the Palestinian and Israeli Startup Ecosystems

This transnational project, conducted by Dr. Steven Fraiberg (MSU), Arees Bishara (Tel Aviv University), and Aseel Khatib (Independent Scholar), focuses on Palestinian entrepreneurs in an emerging hightech ecosystem located in the occupied Palestinian territory. This area consists of the West Bank and Gaza Strip with approximately 4.5 million Palestinians. Despite or perhaps in response to the current political situation, there is a move by the local population to reach a global marketplace that extends beyond the area's deeply contested borders. Core to these efforts is the development of a startup ecosystem comprising a growing list of venture capitalists, incubators, accelerators, coworking spaces, and meetups. Despite this emerging infrastructure, the industry is still seeking its first major exit or success story. Moreover, the dream of startup success is linked to a wider national narrative and the struggle for Palestinian statehood, liberation, and independence. This study looks more closely at this state of affairs and ways these issues are deeply entangled.

To capture the complexity of the issues, this project traces the trajectories of Palestinian entrepreneurs living in a region that has been fragmented and balkanized by series of checkpoints, policies, other structures that sharply restrict mobility. This study is intended to trace how Palestinian entrepreneurs negotiate these contested spaces. Notably, a contingent of these startup entrepreneurs is further connected to the Israeli startup ecosystem (e.g., outsourcing), which is one of the largest innovation systems in the world. This project maps the historical and political forces shaping this networked interplay.

accomplish these aims. This collaborative approach is grounded in the notion that it takes a village to study a village—or ecological system with each perspective and background allowing for a broader, richer, and more complex mapping.

# Rinkus Featured on Community Possibilities Podcast

A transnational and multilingual team has been assembled to



TDI Center Associate Director, Dr. Marisa Rinkus, spoke with Dr. Ann Price about the power of communication and collaboration through her work with the Toolbox Dialogue Initiative for the podcast Community Possibilities. You can listen to the full episode here:

https://communitypossibilities.buzzsprout.com/1585792/10299801-drmarisa-rinkus-the-toolbox-dialogue-initiative-and-the-power-ofcollaboration









Our email address is:

