

behavioral
science & policy association

BSPA CONFERENCE 2024

Online conference – May 2–3, 2024

theme: technology & society

The background of the entire page is a vibrant, futuristic digital cityscape at night. The lower portion shows a skyline of illuminated skyscrapers in various colors (yellow, blue, white). Overlaid on this is a complex, glowing network of blue lines and nodes, resembling a data network or a digital globe. Various white icons are scattered throughout, including a smartphone, a car, a house, a person, a location pin, a cloud, and a graph. The overall aesthetic is high-tech and modern.

thursday
may 2

11:00am

welcome remarks

Hear from our co-founders and conference chairs as they introduce the BSPA annual conference - and learn how to get the most out of your virtual experience with us!

Craig Fox, UCLA
Michael Hallsworth, BIT North America
Anuj Shah, University of Chicago
Sim Sitkin, Duke University

11:10am

panel discussion: policy making

This panel will share the latest real-world insights on how behavioral science is being combined with new technology to advance policy goals - and what the potential risks are for governments.

speakers

Nicholas Chesterley, Financial Sector Policy Branch, Dept of Finance Canada
Irene González, Plan Ceibal
Laura Smart, Behavioural Hub

moderator

Beth Blauer, Johns Hopkins University

12:00pm

book panel: how technology shapes society

This book panel will examine how the choices we make about society have a profound impact on each generation's fortunes and understanding of the world..

speakers

Simon Johnson "Power and Progress" – MIT
Jean Twenge – "Generations"- San Diego State University
Sander van der Linden – "Foolproof"- University of Cambridge

moderator

TBD, TBD

12:45pm

break

1:15pm

topic-focused panel sessions

Hear from our community thought leaders as they discuss the behavioral science findings most relevant to promoting the application of rigorous behavioral science research to concrete societal challenges. In this first of two topic-focused panels, we feature experts in the behavioral science of: poverty & financial well-being; environment & sustainability; and global health

area 1: poverty & financial wellbeing

Tatiana Homonoff, New York University

area 2: environment & sustainability

Elke Weber, Princeton University

area 3: global health

Jeannie Annan, International Rescue Committee

- 2:15pm **parallel sessions: lightning talks in three areas**
Following the three topic-focused panels, competitively selected papers on each topic will be presented simultaneously in three parallel sessions. Participants select one of three separate tracks to attend: poverty & financial well-being; diversity, equity & inclusion; or global health - and will come from each talk with novel, actionable insights
- various speakers**
- 3:00pm **break**
- 3:30pm **panel discussion: how can behavioral science inform AI regulation**
This panel discussion draws on evidence.
- speakers**
- TBD
 - TBD
 - TBD
- moderator**
- Aaron "Ronnie" Chatterji, Duke University
- 4:15 pm **keynote: algorithms - the next frontier for choice architecture**
- speaker**
- Sendhil Mullainathan, University of Chicago
- 5:00 pm **day 1 closing remarks**

friday may 3

11:00 am

welcome remarks

11:15 am

firesdie chat: better government in the digital age

Jennifer Pahlka, founder of Code for America and former U.S. Deputy Chief Technology Officer, will discuss the cultural and technological challenges facing the government, along with insights on how it can do better..

speaker

Jennifer Pahlka, Author, Businesswoman and Political Advisor

moderator

Wendy De La Rosa, University of Pennsylvania

12:00 pm

topic-focused sessions

Hear from our community thought leaders as they discuss the behavioral science findings most relevant to promoting the application of rigorous behavioral science research to concrete societal challenges. In this second of four topic-focused panels, we feature experts in the behavioral science of: organizations & management, justice & ethics and education.

area 5: organizations & management

Adam Waytz, Northwestern/Kellogg

area 6: justice & ethics

Keith Chen, UCLA

area 7: education

David Yeager, University of Texas at Austin

1:00 pm

break

1:30 pm

parallel sessions: lightning talks in four areas

Following the three topic-focused panels, competitively selected papers on each topic will be presented simultaneously in two parallel sessions. Participants select one of four separate tracks to attend – organizational & management, justice & ethics, or education and will come away from each talk with novel, actionable insights.

2:15 pm

networking

Conference attendees stay 30-45 more min in the same groups from the lightning talks

3:00 pm

break

3:30 pm

behavioral science & design panel

People have been talking about the potential benefits of bringing together behavioral science and human centered design for some time. But how is this being done in practice? Expert practitioners share the latest tangible benefits for policymakers.

speakers

Lindsay Moore, US Department of Veterans Affairs

Ruth Schmidt, Institute of Design

Piyush Tantia, ideas42

moderator

Ravi Gurumurthy, Nesta

agenda

all times EST

friday may 3

4:30 pm

best paper award

BSPA's Best Publication Award recognizes research that advances the rigorous application and development of behavioral and social science to policy and practice in public, private and nonprofit sectors.

presenter

TBD

4:45 pm

bspa upcoming conferences, events, special issues & day 2 closing