

# The Future of Humans as Sensors



**August 25, 2017, 12:30PM - 5:45PM**  
**UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, Room 2343**  
**337 Charles E. Young Drive East, Los Angeles, CA 90095**

The premise of computational social science is that digital technology turns humans into sensors that generate behavioral data on an unprecedented scale. A golden age of computational social science may be ending, however: Facebook is essentially closed to social science questions, Instagram curtailed their API in 2016, and Twitter appears to have plateaued. This workshop will discuss how “humans as sensors” can continue to yield productive research agendas. We will focus on how to extract more data from existing sources and promising sources of new data.

**Michael Macy** presents “Digital Footprints: Where Are They Leading?”

**Joseph Reisinger** presents “Robust Statistical Measurement and Rapid Policy Evaluation with Targeted Crowds”

**Zachary Steinert-Threlkeld** presents “Measuring Protests with Social Media”

**Joshua Blumenstock** presents “Using Data to Fight Poverty”

**Pablo Barbera** presents “How Demographic Sample Weights Can Improve Public Opinion Estimates Based on Twitter Data”

**Jennifer Pan** presents “Social Media and Collective Action”

**Keith Chen** presents “What Can We Learn from Tracking Smartphones?”