Ed Finn

Center for Science and the Imagination

Arizona State University

Po Box 876511

Tempe AZ 85287-6511

Email: [edfinn@asu.edu](mailto:edfinn@asu.edu)

Phone: (480) 382-2116

Web: [www.edfinn.net](http://www.edfinn.net)

Twitter: @zonal

**Employment**

2012 - Founding Director, Center for Science and the Imagination

Assistant Professor, School of Arts, Media and Engineering / Department of English

Arizona State University

2011-12 University Innovation Fellow

Arizona State University

2005-11 Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant

Stanford University

2004-05 Manager, IT, Alliance for Lifelong Learning

2004 Freelance Assistant Editor, *Popular Science*

2002-03 Assistant Editor, *Slate*

2002 Editorial Intern, Hong Kong Bureau, *TIME*

**Education**

2011 Ph.D., English, Stanford University

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2007 M.A., English, Stanford University

2002 A.B., *summa cum laude*, Comparative Literature with certificates in Applications of Computing, Creative Writing and European Cultural Studies, Princeton University

**Honors and Awards**

Most Significant Futures Works, Association of Professional Futurists, 2015

Alden Dissertation Prize, Department of English, Stanford University, 2012

**Other Professional Positions**

Academic Director, Future Tense 2015 –

Co-Director, Imagination and Climate Futures Initiative 2014 –

Co-Director, Emerge 2013, 2014, 2017

Digital Humanities Advisory Board, Arizona State University 2012 – 2015

**Books**

David H. Guston, Ed Finn, and Jason S. Robert, eds. *Frankenstein: Annotated for Scientists, Engineers and Creators of All Kinds*. Cambridge: MIT Press. In press (May 2017).

*What Algorithms Want: Imagination in the Age of Computing*. MIT Press, March 2017.

Ed Finn and Kathryn Cramer, eds. *Hieroglyph: Stories and Visions for a Better Future*. William Morrow, September 2014.

*Tomorrow Project Anthologies*

Ed Finn and G. Pascal Zacchary, eds. *Living Tomorrow.* Intel Corporation, 2015.

Ed Finn and G. Pascal Zacchary, eds. *Journeys Through Time and Space*. Intel Corporation, 2015.

Ed Finn and G. Pascal Zacchary, eds. *Dark Futures*. Intel Corporation, 2014.

Ed Finn and G. Pascal Zacchary, eds. *The Future—Powered by Fiction.* Intel Corporation, 2014.

Ed Finn, ed. “Green Dreams” section of *Cautions, Dreams & Curiosities: A Tomorrow Project Anthology*, 2013.

**Scholarly Publications**

Megan K. Halpern, Jathan Sadowski, Joey Eschrich, Ed Finn, David H. Guston. “Stitching Together Creativity and Responsibility: Interpreting *Frankenstein* Across Disciplines.” *Bulletin of Science, Technology and Society* Vol. 36, no. 1, 2016.

“We Can Build the Future.” *Computer*, IEEE Computer Society, November 2015.

“Field Notes from the Future of Publishing,” *electronic book review*, October 5 2014.

“Revenge of the Nerd: Junot Díaz and the Networks of American Literary Imagination,” *Digital Humanities Quarterly* Vol. 7, no. 1, 2013.

“New Literary Cultures: Mapping the Digital Networks of Toni Morrison.” *From Codex to Hypertext: Reading at the Turn of the Twenty-First Century*, ed. Anouk Lang, University of Massachusetts Press, 2012.

“Becoming Yourself: The Afterlife of Reception.” *The Legacy of David Foster Wallace: Critical and Creative Assessments,* eds. Lee Konstantinou and Samuel Cohen, University of Iowa Press, 2012.

*A modified version of the above has also been published as:*

“Becoming Yourself: The Afterlife of Reception.” *Pamphlets of the Stanford Literary Lab* #3. September 15, 2011.

**Selected General Audience Publications**

“Facebook Trending story: The Wizard of Oz algorithm.” *CNN*, May 14, 2016.

“Algorithms Aren’t Like Spock.” *Slate*, February 26, 2016.

“The Internet of Slow Things.” *Slate*, September 21, 2015.

“The Inspiration Drought: Why Our Science Fiction Needs New Dreams.” *Slate*, September 16, 2014.

“What if Computers Know You Better than You Know Yourself?” *Slate*, March 4, 2014.

“Thought Experiments: Dreaming Up a Center for Science and the Imagination.” *Asimov’s Science Fiction.* October-November 2013.

**Keynotes, Invited Lectures and Refereed Talks**

“Illusions of Progress: Visualization and the Politics of Stylized Time.” Modern Language Association, Philadelphia (January 2017).

“Making the Future – Foresight Thinking to Motivate and Innovate.” Plenary Panel at Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities, University of Colorado, Denver (November 2016)

“Frankenstein Digital Museum.” Frankenstein’s Shadow: A Bicentennial Assessment of the *Frankenstein* Narrative’s Influence, Fondation Brocher, Geneva (June 2016).

“MegaCity: Stories and Visions for a Better Future.” Keynote at Mad Scientist, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Arizona State University (April 2016)

“Engineering Imagination,” College of Engineering Distinguished Lecture Series, California State University at Long Beach (March 2016)

“The Black Box of the Present: Computational Time in the Age of the Algorithm,” The Contemporary at Princeton University (March 2016)

“How to Build a Dream Machine,” Keynote at Chabot Science Center (May 2015)

“Moving the Goal Posts,” Panel on Alternative Careers, University of California, Los Angeles (May 2014)

“Networking the Monster: The Frankenstein Myth as Cultural Linking Structure,” Cinema and Interdisciplinary Interpretation, University Seminars, Columbia University, New York (April 2014)

“Thinking Big: A Conversation with Neal Stephenson,” Keynote at Association of Science-Technology Centers, Albuquerque (October 2013)

“The Science Fiction of Science: Collaborative Lexicons and Project Hieroglyph,” Digital Humanities (June 2013)

“Getting There: Designing Better Dreams for Better Futures,” Keynote, International Conference on Automated People Movers and Transit Systems, Phoenix (April 2013)

“Mobile Futures,” Opening Keynote, Knight Foundation Mobile News Challenge, Cronkite School of Journalism (January 2013)

“Future of the Nano-City,” Science Café, Arizona Science Center (September 2012)

“American Networks, American Nerds.” Lecture, Digital Scholarship Commons,

Emory University (November 2011)

“Literary Networks: A Field Guide.” ACLx (American Comparative Literature Experimental) Conference, Pennsylvania State University (September 2011)

“Reading, Writing and Reputation: Literary Networks in Contemporary American Fiction.” for “Networks, Literature, Culture” panel, Digital Humanities, Stanford University (June 2011)

“The Social Lives of Books: Mapping the Ideational Networks of Toni Morrison.” Digital Humanities, King’s College, London (June 2010)

“Cultural Capital in the Digital Era: Mapping the Ideational Networks of Toni Morrison.” American Comparative Literature Association, New Orleans (April 2010)

**“**Cultural Capital in the Digital Era: Mapping the Success of Thomas Pynchon.” Digital Humanities, University of Maryland (June 2009)

**External Research Awards**

National Science Foundation. *Increasing Learning and Efficacy about Emerging Technologies through Transmedia Engagement by the Public in Science-in-Society Activities.* 2015 – 2019. $2,999,999. Principal Investigator.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration. *Narrative Projections for Commercial Space Futures.* 2015-2016. $140,000. Principal Investigator.

National Science Foundation. *EAGER: Towards Knowledge Curation*. 2014 – 2016. $299,034. Co-Principal Investigator.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration. *Workshop on Understanding Literature and Art Cultures for Transformative Research*. 2014-2016. $49,548. Principal Investigator.

Department of Defense - National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. *The Foresight Initiative*. 2014-2015. $3,993,560. Co-Principal Investigator.

World Bank. *Evoke Creative Framework and Network Development*. 2014. $25,000. Principal Investigator.

National Science Foundation. *Informal Learning and Scholarship in Science and Society: A Multi-Disciplinary Workshop on Scientific Creativity and Societal Responsibility.* 2014 - 2015. $49,997. Principal Investigator.

Intel Corporation. *Sprint Beyond the Book*. 2013-2014. $102,500. Principal Investigator.

**University Faculty Affiliations**

Center on the Future of War

Consortium for Science, Policy & Outcomes

Human & Social Dimensions of Science & Technology

Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability

School for the Future of Innovation in Society

Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing

**Professional Affiliations**

Association for Computers and the Humanities

Association for Professional Futurists

Modern Language Association

Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts

**Languages**

French (reading and spoken)

Latin (reading)

Spanish (reading)