

Kai Lukoff

Assistant Professor, Computer Science & Engineering, Santa Clara University

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Research Focus

I research and design technologies that support rather than diminish user agency, i.e., the experience of control over one's actions and their outcomes. Three threads run through this work. First, digital wellbeing: I study how the design of apps and platforms captures user attention, and I build interventions that restore control over screen time, from proof-of-concept redesigns of YouTube to workshop programs I run with students in universities. Second, community-engaged design: I develop co-design methods for place-based augmented reality, centered on the Thámien Ohlone AR Tour, a collaboration with the local Ohlone community to surface Indigenous history on the Santa Clara University campus. Third, generative AI: I audit how these systems represent people (e.g., race and gender across 41 occupations in LLM-generated personas), and I study how students and professionals keep judgment and authorship of their own work while building with AI agents.

Education

2016 – 2022	University of Washington <i>Ph.D. in Human Centered Design & Engineering</i> Dissertation: <i>Designing to Support Sense of Agency for Time Spent on Digital Interfaces</i> 🏆 Received ACM SIGCHI Outstanding Dissertation Award, 2023 Co-advisors: Sean A. Munson, Alexis Hiniker	Seattle, WA
2015 – 2016	University of Michigan Completed 90 credits towards M.S. in Information Advisor: Paul Resnick	Ann Arbor, MI
2004 – 2008	Stanford University <i>B.A., Political Science with Honors</i> (minor in Economics) Advisor: Coit D. Blacker	Stanford, CA

Employment

2022 – Present	Santa Clara University , Department of Computer Science & Engineering <i>Assistant Professor</i> <i>Director, Human-Computer Interaction Lab.</i> Founded and convene the lab's industry advisory board (2026–Present): Alvin Wang Graylin (XR technology pioneer), Jofish Kaye (distinguished HCI research scientist), Lou Marzano (Chief Hardware Officer, Matterport), Zak Murase (Partner, AZCA), Keren Ruth Wong (Partnerships, IDEO Play Lab), and two recent lab alumni, Cinthya Jauregui (robotics R&D) and Madison Nguyen (UX design, F5). <i>Faculty Director, AI Kitchen</i> (2025–Present). Cross-disciplinary program providing students from all majors hands-on experience with AI tools through mentorship, collaborative projects, and a year-end showcase.	Santa Clara, CA
2021 – 2022	University of Washington , Dept. of Human-Centered Design & Engineering <i>Co-Instructor</i>	Seattle, WA
2016 – 2021	University of Washington , Dept. of Human-Centered Design & Engineering <i>Graduate Student Research Assistant</i> (2016–2021); <i>Teaching Assistant</i> (2017–2021)	Seattle, WA
2018	Mozilla , Emerging Technologies Group <i>User Research Intern</i> , Firefox Voice Project Supervisors: Dr. Janice Tsai, Dr. Jofish Kaye	Mountain View, CA

2016	National University of Singapore, BIGHEART <i>Research Intern</i> Supervisor: Dr. Brian Y. Lim	Singapore
2012 – 2015	Wandoujia Mobile Technology (acquired by Alibaba) <i>Director of International Product</i> (2013–2015); <i>Product Manager</i> (2012–2013). Grew Android product from zero to 7M users in SE Asia. Led UX research in Thailand, Indonesia, and India.	Beijing, China

Awards and Honors

- 2026 **Top Faculty Paper**, Mobile Communication Division, International Communication Association (ICA)
- 2024 **Niantic 8th Wall Grand Prize**, Explore Together Challenge, Thámien Ohlone AR Tour
Auggie Award Finalist: Societal Impact Category, AWE XR USA Conference
Best Movie Award, ACM CHI 2024
Best Paper Honorable Mention, ACM CHI 2024 (top 5%)
- 2023 **Outstanding Dissertation Award**, ACM SIGCHI
Best Paper Honorable Mention, ACM CHI 2023 (top 5%)
- 2022 **Graduate Student Award of Excellence for Innovation**, Dept. of HCDE, University of Washington
- 2019 **Best Paper Honorable Mention**, ACM CHI 2019 (top 5%)
- 2016 **Moth StorySLAM Champion**, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2008 **Chinese Scholarship Council Scholarship**, Shanghai Jiaotong University (2008–2009)
- 2002 **National First Place Winner**, Holocaust Remembrance Project Essay

Publications

† Student researcher in the SCU HCI Lab at the time of the work.

Conference & Journal Publications

Note: Unlike most academic fields, premier conferences in Computer Science and Human-Computer Interaction are highly selective venues for archival research, with top venues typically accepting fewer than 30% of submissions. These conferences often exceed journals in selectivity, visibility, and impact (see [CRA Best Practices Memo](#)).

- 2026 **[P.20] The Missing Link of XR: Empathy-Driven Reality for XR and Beyond.**
Yun Suen Pai, Tamil Selvan Gunasekaran, Jiashuo Cao, Kunal Gupta, Andreia Valente, Ken Jen Lee, Giulia Barbareschi, Kai Lukoff, Lingyuan Li, Ruofei Du, Fannie Liu, Jennifer Day, Tanner Person, Johann Wentzel, Misha Sra, Yuhang Zhao, Theophilus Teo, Elisabeth André, Mark Armstrong, Mark Billingham, Danielle Lottridge, Huidong Bai, Kinga Skiers, Erica Principe Cruz, Takuji Narumi, Anish Kundu, and Kouta Minamizawa.
ISMAR 2026 – *IEEE International Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality* [To appear].
- [P.19] Can't Stop: How Context and Individual Traits Influence Effectiveness of Different Gradual Interventions for Infinite Scrolling on Short-Form Video Platforms.**
Luca-Maxim Meinhardt†, Manuela Dragic, Mark Colley, Kai Lukoff, and Enrico Rukzio.
IMWUT 2026 – *Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies*, Vol. 10, Issue 3, Article 140 (September 2026), 36 pages.
- [P.18] Generating the Modal Worker: A Cross-Model Audit of Race and Gender in LLM-Generated Personas Across 41 Occupations.**
Ilona van der Lindent†, Sahana Kumart†, Arnav Dixitt†, Aadi Sudant†, Smruthi Dandatt†, Julianna Dietricht†, David C. Anastasiu, and Kai Lukoff.
FAccT 2026 – *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency* (33% acceptance rate).

- 2025 [P.17] **The Digital Attention Heuristics: Supporting the User’s Attention by Design.**
Alberto Monge Roffarello, Luigi De Russis, and Kai Lukoff.
TOCHI 2025 – *ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction*.
- 2024 🏆 [P.16] **“I Finally Felt I Had the Tools to Control These Urges”: Empowering Students to Achieve Their Device Use Goals With the Reduce Digital Distraction Workshop.**
Ulrik Lyngs, Kai Lukoff, Petr Slovak, Michael Inzlicht, Maureen Freed, Hannah Andrews, Claudine Tinsman, et al.
CHI 2024 – *Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (26% acceptance rate).
[Best Paper Honorable Mention Award]
- [P.15] **Digital Self-Control in Danish High Schools: A Pilot Intervention Study.**
Ulrik Lyngs, Helene Willadsen, Maya Møller-Jensen, and Kai Lukoff.
NordiCHI 2024 – *Adjunct Proceedings of the 2024 Nordic Conference on Human-Computer Interaction*.
- [P.14] **Designing for Sustained Motivation: A Review of Self-Determination Theory in Behaviour Change Technologies.**
Lize Alberts, Ulrik Lyngs, and Kai Lukoff.
IwC 2024 – *Interacting with Computers*, Vol. 38 (2026), pp. 447–468.
- 2023 🏆 [P.13] **SwitchTube: A Proof-of-Concept System Introducing “Adaptable Commitment Interfaces” as a Tool for Digital Wellbeing.**
Kai Lukoff, Ulrik Lyngs, Karina Shirokova, Raveena Rao, Larry Tian, Himanshu Zade, Sean A. Munson, and Alexis Hiniker.
CHI 2023 – *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (24% acceptance rate).
[Best Paper Honorable Mention Award]
- [P.12] **Defining and Identifying Attention Capture Deceptive Designs in Digital Interfaces.**
Alberto Monge Roffarello, Kai Lukoff, and Luigi De Russis.
CHI 2023 – *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (24% acceptance rate).
- 2022 [P.11] **The Goldilocks Level of Support: Using User Reviews, Ratings, and Installation Numbers to Investigate Digital Self-Control Tools.**
Ulrik Lyngs, Kai Lukoff, Laura Csuka, Petr Slovak, Max Van Kleek, and Nigel Shadbolt.
IJHCS 2022 – *International Journal of Human-Computer Studies*.
- [P.10] **Monitoring Screen Time or Redesigning It? Two Approaches to Supporting Intentional Social Media Use.**
Mingrui (Ray) Zhang, Kai Lukoff, Raveena Rao, Amanda Baughan, and Alexis Hiniker.
CHI 2022 – *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (22% acceptance rate).
- [P.9] **“I Don’t Even Remember What I Read”: How Design Influences Dissociation on Social Media.**
Amanda Baughan, Mingrui (Ray) Zhang, Raveena Rao, Kai Lukoff, Anastasia Schaadhardt, Lisa Butler, and Alexis Hiniker.
CHI 2022 – *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (22% acceptance rate).
- 2021 [P.8] **How the Design of YouTube Influences User Sense of Agency.**
Kai Lukoff, Ulrik Lyngs, Himanshu Zade, J. Vera Liao, James Choi, Kaiyue Fan, Sean A. Munson, and Alexis Hiniker.
CHI 2021 – *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (26% acceptance rate).
- 2020 [P.7] **From Ancient Contemplative Practice to the App Store: Designing a Digital Container for Mindfulness.**
Kai Lukoff, Ulrik Lyngs, Stefania Gueorguieva, Erika S. Dillman, Alexis Hiniker, and Sean A. Munson.
DIS 2020 – *Proceedings of the ACM Designing Interactive Systems Conference* (24% acceptance rate).

[P.6] “I Just Want to Hack Myself to Not Get Distracted”: Evaluating Design Interventions for Self-Control on Facebook.

Ulrik Lyngs, *Kai Lukoff*, Petr Slovak, William Seymour, Helena Webb, Marina Jirotko, Jun Zhao, Max Van Kleek, and Nigel Shadbolt.

CHI 2020 – *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (23% acceptance rate).

[P.5] Meta-analysis of Technology-Enabled Mindfulness-Based Programs for Negative Affect and Mindful Awareness.

David E. Victorson, Christina M. Sauer, Lauren Wolters, Carly Maletich, *Kai Lukoff*, and Nat Sufrin.

Mindfulness 2020 – *Mindfulness*.

2019 **✂ [P.4] Self-Control in Cyberspace: Applying Dual Systems Theory to a Review of Digital Self-Control Tools.**

Ulrik Lyngs, *Kai Lukoff*, Petr Slovak, Reuben Binns, Adam Slack, Michael Inzlicht, Max Van Kleek, and Nigel Shadbolt.

CHI 2019 – *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (24% acceptance rate).

[Best Paper Honorable Mention Award]

2018 **[P.3] TableChat: Mobile Food Journaling to Facilitate Family Support for Healthy Eating.**

Kai Lukoff, Taoxi Li, Yuan Zhuang, and Brian Y. Lim.

CSCW 2018 – *Proceedings of the ACM: Human-Computer Interaction* (26% acceptance rate).

[P.2] What Makes Smartphone Use Meaningful or Meaningless?

Kai Lukoff, Cissy Yu, Julie Kientz, and Alexis Hiniker.

UbiComp 2018 – *Proceedings of the ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive and Ubiquitous Computing* (29% acceptance rate).

2017 **[P.1] Gender Norms and Attitudes about Childcare Activities Presented on Father Blogs.**

Kai Lukoff, Carol Moser, and Sarita Schoenebeck.

CHI 2017 – *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (25% acceptance rate).

Extended Abstracts & Workshop Papers

Lightly reviewed contributions. The type of each (workshop paper, workshop or meet-up proposal, panel, poster, video showcase) is noted at the start of its venue line.

2026 **[W.21] The Workshop Without Its Master: Context Provenance as the Neglected Layer in Agent-Mediated Work.**

Kai Lukoff.

CSCW 2026 – *Workshop paper, Workshop on “Nobody Did This”: Contribution, Originality, and Accountability in Agent-Mediated Collaboration, ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing* [To appear].

[W.20] “Dear Professor Lukoff”: GenAI and the Collapse of Costly Signals in Communication.

Kai Lukoff.

CSCW 2026 – *Workshop paper, Workshop on Broader Impacts of GenAI in Communication, ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing* [To appear].

[W.19] Jacaranda: Grafting User-Editable Web Experiences Across Sites.

Xinqi Zhang†, Mingyuan Zhong, Longjie Guo, Bryan Min, Yuanhao Zhang, and *Kai Lukoff*.

UIST 2026 – *Poster, Adjunct Proceedings of the ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology* (46.1% acceptance rate) [To appear].

[W.18] User Agency in Runtime Malleable Software Under Change Aversion.

Xinqi Zhang†, Bryan Min, Shizhao (Lawrence) Liu†, and *Kai Lukoff*.

CHI 2026 – *Workshop paper, Workshop on “What Does Generative UI Mean for HCI Practice?”, ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.

[W.17] Bridge Over Troubled Water: Aligning Commercial Incentives With Ethical Design Practice To Combat Deceptive Patterns.

Thomas Eßmeyer, Johanna Gunawan, Colin M. Gray, Lorena Sánchez Chamorro, Alberto Monge Roffarello, Katie Seaborn, Hauke Sandhaus, *Kai Lukoff*, Gian-Luca Savino, Shruthi Sai Chivukula, and Satoshi Nakamura. **CHI 2026** – Workshop proposal (co-organizer), *Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.

[W.16] Generative Design and Vibe Coding: Rethinking The Design-Development Divide for UI Prototyping.

Xinqi Zhang†, Hariharan Subramonyam, Advait Sarkar, Ian Drosos, Zichao Wang, Kyungho Lee, Veronica Pimenova, Xiang ‘Anthony’ Chen, and *Kai Lukoff*.

CHI 2026 – Meet-up proposal (co-organizer), *Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.

2025 **[W.15] Co-Design as Community Empowerment: The Thámien Ohlone AR Tour and Indigenous Collaboration in HCI.**

Kai Lukoff.

CHI 2025 – Workshop paper, *Workshop on Weaving Indigeneity and Culture into the Fabric of HCI Futures*, ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.

[W.14] Rethinking Parental Control: Teen Agency in Mobile Technology and Digital Well-Being.

Shizhao (Lawrence) Liu†, Luca-Maxim Meinhardt†, Meziah Ruby Cristobal†, Xinqi Zhang†, and *Kai Lukoff*.

CHI 2025 – Workshop paper, *Workshop on Mobile Technology and Teens: Understanding the Changing Needs of Socio-cultural and Technical Landscape*, ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.

[W.13] Community Empowerment through Location-Based AR: The Thámien Ohlone AR Tour.

Kai Lukoff and Xinqi Zhang†.

CHI 2025 – Workshop paper, *Workshop on Purposeful XR: Affordances, Challenges, and Speculations for an Ethical Future*, ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.

2024 **[W.12] Sociotechnical Considerations for SLAM Anchors in Location-Based AR.**

Tiffany T. Nguyent†, Cinthya Jauregui†, Sarah Hazel Salleet†, Mohan Raj Chandrasekar†, Liam A’Hearn†, Dominic Jonathan Woetzel†, Pinak Paliwal†, Madison Nguyent†, Isabella ‘Amne Gomez†, Xinqi Zhang†, Lee M. Panich, Danielle M. Heitmuller, Amy Lueck, and *Kai Lukoff*.

CHI 2024 – Workshop paper, *Workshop on With or Without Permission: Site-Specific Augmented Reality for Social Justice*, ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.

 [W.11] We Are Still Here: The Thámien Ohlone Augmented Reality Tour.

Cinthya Jauregui†, Tiffany T. Nguyent†, Sarah Hazel Salleet†, Mohan Raj Chandrasekar†, Liam A’Hearn†, Dominic Jonathan Woetzel†, Pinak Paliwal†, Shea MacDonald†, Madison Nguyent†, Lee M. Panich, Danielle M. Heitmuller, Amy Lueck, and *Kai Lukoff*.

CHI 2024 – Video Showcase, *Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.

[Best Movie Award]

[W.10] With or Without Permission: Site-Specific Augmented Reality for Social Justice.

Rafael M. L. Silva, Ana María Cárdenas Gasca, Joshua A. Fisher, Erica Principe Cruz, Cinthya Jauregui†, Amy Lueck, Fannie Liu, Andrés Monroy-Hernández, and *Kai Lukoff*.

CHI 2024 – Workshop proposal (co-organizer), *Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.

2023 **[W.9] Empowering Adolescents to Self-Regulate Their Use of Digital Devices: A Pilot Study in Danish High Schools.**

Ulrik Lyngs, Maya Møller-Jensen, *Kai Lukoff*, and Helene Willadsen.

DMDM 2023 – Abstract, *Digital Media and Developing Minds International Scientific Congress, Children and Screens: Institute of Digital Media and Child Development, Washington, DC*.

- 2022 **[W.8] Leveraging Self-Regulation Research When Designing for Digital Wellbeing.**
Ulrik Lyngs and Kai Lukoff.
AVI 2022 – Workshop paper, *Workshop on Designing for Meaningful Interactions and Digital Wellbeing, International Conference on Advanced Visual Interfaces*.
- [W.7] Designing to Support Autonomy and Reduce Psychological Reactance in Digital Self-Control Tools.**
Kai Lukoff, Ulrik Lyngs, and Lize Alberts.
CHI 2022 – Workshop paper, *Workshop on Self-Determination Theory in HCI: Shaping a Research Agenda, ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.
- 2021 **[W.6] What Can CHI Do About Dark Patterns?**
Kai Lukoff, Alexis Hiniker, Colin M. Gray, Arunesh Mathur, and Shruthi Sai Chivukula.
CHI 2021 – Workshop proposal (lead organizer), *Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.
- [W.5] Addressing Present Bias in Movie Recommender Systems and Beyond.**
Kai Lukoff.
IUI 2021 – Workshop paper, *HUMANIZE: Transparency and Explainability in Adaptive Systems through User Modeling Grounded in Psychological Theory, Joint Proceedings of the ACM IUI 2021 Workshops, CEUR Workshop Proceedings, Vol. 2903*.
- 2020 **[W.4] The ReDD Workshop: A Template for Supporting People in Regaining Control Over Digital Device Use.**
Ulrik Lyngs, Maureen Freed, Kai Lukoff, Max Van Kleek, and Petr Slovak.
CHI 2020 – Workshop paper, *Workshop on Technology Ecosystems: Rethinking Resources for Mental Health, ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.
- 2019 **[W.3] Designing for Digital Wellbeing: A Research & Practice Agenda.**
Marta E. Cecchinato, John Rooksby, Alexis Hiniker, Sean Munson, Kai Lukoff, Luigina Ciolfi, Anja Thieme, and Daniel Harrison.
CHI 2019 – Workshop proposal (co-organizer), *Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.
- 2018 **[W.2] Tracking Together with Close Ties as an Act of Solidarity.**
Kai Lukoff.
CSCW 2018 – Workshop paper, *Workshop on Social Issues in Personal Informatics: Design, Data, and Infrastructure, ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing*.
- [W.1] Beyond ‘Engagement’ Metrics: How Can We Design Technology for Meaningful Experiences?**
Kai Lukoff.
CHI 2018 – Symposium paper, *3rd Symposium on Computing and Mental Health, ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.

Conference Presentations, Posters & Exhibitions

- 2026 **Generating the Modal Worker: A Cross-Model Audit of Race and Gender in LLM-Generated Personas Across 41 Occupations.**
Ilona van der Lindent, Sahana Kumart, Arnav Dixitt, Aadi Sudant, Smruthi Dandatt, Julianna Dietricht, David C. Anastasiu, and Kai Lukoff.
BayLearn 2026 – Poster, *15th Annual Bay Area Machine Learning Symposium, Santa Clara University* (peer-reviewed) [To appear].

✂ Cross-National Patterns of Voluntary Disconnection in the Digital Age: A Comparative Study of Nine Countries.

Malene Hornstrup Jespersen, Minh Hao Nguyen, Alex Beattie, Mahmut Bingöl, Osman Bor, Veysel Bozan, Francesca Comunello, Błażej Dyczewski, Francesca Ieracitano, Sueun Jang, Katarzyna Kopecka-Piech, Hilary Lett, Uichin Lee, Kai Lukoff, Daniela Marella, and Mora Matassi.

ICA 2026 – Paper presentation, Mobile Communication Division, 76th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association, Cape Town (peer-reviewed).

[Top Faculty Paper, Mobile Communication Division]

Phone Face-Down: How College Students with ADHD Regulate Attention in Everyday Digital Environments.

Shizhao (Lawrence) Liut, Nishi Goyalt, Javelly Tejeda Benitez†, Inayah Haqt, Paul C. Ezeamii, Sonia Rubens, and Kai Lukoff.

UbiComp & Health 2026 – Poster, UbiComp and Health Symposium, NYU Tandon School of Engineering, Brooklyn, NY.

Race and Gender in LLM-Generated Personas: A Large-Scale Audit of 41 Occupations.

Ilona van der Lindent, Julianna Dietricht, Sahana Kumart, Aadi Sudant, Arnav Dixitt, David C. Anastasiu, and Kai Lukoff.

TETHICON 2026 – Poster and breakout session, TETHICON Tech Ethics Research Conference, McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society, Stanford University.

SMAR: A Web-Based Scraper for Analyzing the Mobile App Ecosystem.

Johan Kout, Ella Jackson†, Raphael Kusumat, Jeshwin Prince†, Vedant Vivek Kandget, Rakshitha Srinivasat, and Kai Lukoff.

TETHICON 2026 – Poster and live demo, TETHICON Tech Ethics Research Conference, McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society, Stanford University.

2025 **Who's the F(AI)rest of Them All? A Large-Scale Analysis of Racial and Gender Bias in AI-Generated User Personas.**

Ilona van der Lindent, Julianna Dietricht, Sahana Kumart, Aadi Sudant, Arnav Dixitt, Smruthi Danda†, David C. Anastasiu, and Kai Lukoff.

BayLearn 2025 – Poster, 14th Annual Bay Area Machine Learning Symposium, Santa Clara University (peer-reviewed).

The Thámien Ohlone AR Tour.

Danielle M. Heitmuller, Kai Lukoff, Amy Lueck, and Lee M. Panich.

UFVA 2025 – New Media Exhibition, 79th Annual Conference of the University Film & Video Association, Prairie View A&M University (juried; presented by Heitmuller).

Reimagining Land Acknowledgment: Co-Designing Location-Based AR with Indigenous Communities.

Kai Lukoff, Sean Hauze, Madison Nguyent, and Isabella 'Amne Gomez†; moderated by Tiffany T. Nguyent.

MXR 2025 – Panel, Meaningful XR Conference, University of California, Davis (peer-reviewed).

Co-Designing Location-Based Augmented Reality as Community Empowerment: The Thámien Ohlone AR Tour.

Kai Lukoff, Madison Nguyent, Sarah Hazel Salleet, Prakriti Patnaikt, Dominic Jonathan Woetzel†, and Xinqi Zhang†.

MXR 2025 – Poster, Meaningful XR Conference, University of California, Davis (peer-reviewed).

2024 **Virtual Campus Tours: Designing for Underrepresented Students to Feel a Sense of Belonging at College.**

Luke Ponssent, Varnika Sirasalat, Jenny Dinh-Trant, Kidus Solomont, Joshua Panickert, Jiehui Mat, Trisha Nguyent, and Kai Lukoff.

MXR 2024 – Poster, Meaningful XR Conference, Stanford University (peer-reviewed).

Location-Based Augmented Reality for Social Justice: The Thámien Ohlone AR Tour.

Cinthya Jauregui†, Dominic Jonathan Woetzel†, Tiffany T. Nguyen†, Mohan Raj Chandrasekhar†, Sarah Hazel Salle†, Xinqi Zhang†, Liam A'Hearn†, Pinak Paliwal†, Shea MacDonald†, Madison Nguyen†, Isabella 'Amne Gomez†, Lee M. Panich, Amy Lueck, Danielle M. Heitmuller, and *Kai Lukoff*.

MXR 2024 – Poster, *Meaningful XR Conference, Stanford University* (peer-reviewed).

Digital Tools for Co-Creating Ohlone Heritage Tours at Santa Clara University.

Lee M. Panich, Amy Lueck, *Kai Lukoff*, Danielle M. Heitmuller, and Isabella Gomez†.

SCA 2024 – Poster, *58th Annual Meeting of the Society for California Archaeology, Riverside, CA* (presented by Panich).

Dissertation

2022 🏆 [D.1] **Designing to Support Sense of Agency for Time Spent on Digital Interfaces.**

Kai Lukoff.

Ph.D. Dissertation – *University of Washington.*

[**ACM SIGCHI Outstanding Dissertation Award, 2023**]

Funding

2026	Clare Boothe Luce Scholar Award , SCU (\$20,000)	Faculty Mentor
	Thámien Ohlone Augmented Reality Tour (Student Researcher: Grace Fujii)	
	Regents Experiential Learning Initiative , SCU (\$15,000)	Program Director
	AI Kitchen	
	Teaching and Technology Innovation Grant , SCU (\$6,000)	Co-PI
	Discernment in the AI Coding Classroom: A Cross-School Curriculum at SCU (with Haibing Lu)	
2025	NSF CISE REU Student Funding (\$10,000)	PI
	Undergraduate researcher for the Systematic Mobile App Review (SMAR) project (NSF #2348493)	
	Responsible AI (R-AI) Summer Undergraduate Research , SCU (\$7,200)	PI
	Summer undergraduate research on responsible AI (Student Researcher: Tiffany Le)	
2024	Louie Family Fund for AI Research (\$15,000)	PI
	Gift supporting summer AI research with students in the HCI Lab	
	ACLS Digital Justice Development Grants (\$92,221)	Co-PI
	Thámien Ohlone Augmented Reality Tour	
2024	Hackworth Faculty Grant , Santa Clara University (\$5,000)	PI
	Representational Bias in AI Text-Generation: Race and Gender Across Occupations (Student Researcher: Sahana Kumar)	
	Whitham Family Collaborative Award (Track 2), SCU (\$25,000)	PI
	The Ohlone Augmented Reality Campus Tour	
2024	National Science Foundation (\$174,555)	PI
	The Systematic Mobile App Review (SMAR) Research Method	
	Whitham Family Collaborative Award (Track 2), SCU (\$35,000)	PI
	The Ohlone Augmented Reality Campus Tour	
2024	Niantic Inc., 8th Wall (\$2,500)	Project Director
	Grand Prize, Explore Together Challenge	
	Kuehler Undergrad Research , SCU (\$6,360)	PI
	Co-Design Methods to Create Augmented Reality Tours for Social Justice (Student Researcher: Tiffany Nguyen)	

	REAL Undergrad Research , SCU (\$6,000)	PI
	A Day Reconstruction Method Study of Digital Temptations (Student Researcher: Heather Lyons)	
	Regents Experiential Learning Initiative , SCU (\$10,000)	Program Director
	Extended Reality at the AWE USA Conference	
	Stitt Family Philanthropic Gift (\$150,000)	Program Director
	Stitt Family Fellowship Program for the Human-Computer Interaction Lab	
	2FURS Undergrad Research , SCU (\$1,000)	PI
	Co-Design Methods to Create Augmented Reality Tours for Social Justice	
2023	Whitham Family Collaborative Award (Track 1), SCU (\$30,000)	PI
	The Ohlone Augmented Reality Campus Tour	
2020	Google Faculty Research Award (\$76,502)	Lead Researcher
	PhoneBalance: A Program for Supporting Families in Self-Nudging Smartphone Use	
	Proposal co-authored with Professor Sean Munson	
		Total Awarded: \$687,338

Teaching

Santa Clara University

F22, Sp25	Human-Computer Interaction (CSEN 277) – Graduate; 31 students (F22), 35 students (Sp25)
W25, W26	Human-Computer Interaction (CSEN 129, lecture and two CSEN 129L lab sections) – Undergraduate; 29 students per offering
Sp23	Special Topics: Attention Management Tools (CSEN 296A) – Graduate
F23–F24, Sp26	Software Engineering (CSEN 174, lecture and two CSEN 174L lab sections) – Undergraduate; 5 quarters, 29–35 students per offering (163 total)
F22	Abstract Data Types and Data Structures (CSEN 12) – Undergraduate

University of Washington

2021	User Research and Evaluation Studio (TECHIN 523) Co-instructor with Prof. Julie Kientz
2018–2019	User Research and Evaluation Studio (TECHIN 523) Teaching assistant for Prof. Julie Kientz
2018	The History & Future of Technology (TECHIN 522) Teaching assistant for Prof. David Ribes

Teaching Presentations

- 2026 **The AI Kitchen: A Welcoming Space for Hands-On AI Learning.**
Kai Lukoff, Sanjiv Das, Yi Fang, Jeremy Kemp, Tiffany Le, Tripti Agrawal, Misa Truong, Espy Aguilar, Linus Wong, Franco Garcia Brito, and Bridget Hestad.
ATXpo 2026 – *IdeaLab, 13th Annual Academic Technology Expo, Stanford University* [To appear].
- From Chatbots to Agents: Teaching Students to Supervise AI.**
Kai Lukoff, Xinqi Zhang, and Lawrence Liu.
ATXpo 2026 – *IdeaLab, 13th Annual Academic Technology Expo, Stanford University* [To appear].
- Slide Deck Recipes with Claude Design.**
Kai Lukoff.
AI Kitchen 2026 – *Tutorial, Taste Test session, AI Kitchen, Santa Clara University, April 24, 2026.*

- 2025 **From Peripheral Participants to Co-Authors: Teaching Undergraduate Research through Communities of Practice.**
Kai Lukoff.
ATXpo 2025 – IdeaLab, 12th Annual Academic Technology Expo, San José State University.
- 2024 **Reimagining Campus Narratives with Augmented Reality: The Thámien Ohlone AR Tour.**
Kai Lukoff, Danielle M. Heitmuller, Amy Lueck, and Lee M. Panich.
ATXpo 2024 – IdeaLab, 11th Annual Academic Technology Expo, UC San Francisco.

Mentoring and Advising

Each entry lists the student's co-authored publications (IDs as above) and posters (by venue), then their program. Quarters: F = Fall, W = Winter, Sp = Spring, Su = Summer.

Ph.D. Student Advising, Santa Clara University

- F26 – Present **Nazia Tabassum Toma** | Computer Science & Engineering
 Research area: digital wellbeing.
- F24 – Present **Shizhao (Lawrence) Liu** | W.14, W.18; UbiComp & Health 2026 poster | Computer Science & Engineering
 Research area: digital wellbeing and attention management.
- W24 – Present **Xinqi (Kiki) Zhang** | W.12, W.13, W.14, W.16, W.18, W.19; MXR 2024 and MXR 2025 posters | Computer Science & Engineering
 Research area: generative AI for UI design and prototyping.

M.S. Thesis Supervision, Santa Clara University

- W24 – Sp25 **Ilona van der Linden** | P.18; BayLearn 2025, TETHICON 2026, BayLearn 2026 posters | M.S. Computer Science & Engineering
 Thesis on race and gender bias in LLM-generated personas, completed June 2025. First author of P.18.

Master's Research Mentorship, Santa Clara University

- Sp26 – Present **Rakshitha Srinivasa** | TETHICON 2026 poster | M.S. Computer Science & Engineering
- F25 – Sp26 **Julianna Dietrich** | P.18; BayLearn 2025, TETHICON 2026, BayLearn 2026 posters | M.S. Computer Science & Engineering
- Su25 – Sp26 **Smruthi Danda** | P.18; BayLearn 2025, BayLearn 2026 posters | M.S. Computer Science & Engineering
- Sp25 – Sp26 **Ella Jackson** | TETHICON 2026 poster | M.A. Applied Psychology
 Next position: Operations Associate, Ekho
- Sp25 – Present **Raphael Kusuma** | TETHICON 2026 poster | M.S. Computer Science & Engineering
- W25 – Present **Vedant Vivek Kandge** | TETHICON 2026 poster | M.S. Computer Science & Engineering
- Su23 – W24 **Jiehui Ma** | MXR 2024 poster | M.S. Computer Science & Engineering
- Sp23 – Su24 **Mohan Raj Chandrasekar** | W.11, W.12; MXR 2024 poster | M.S. Computer Science & Engineering
 Best Movie Award, CHI 2024 (for W.11)
- W23 – Sp24 **Cinthya Jauregui** | W.10, W.11, W.12; MXR 2024 poster | M.S. Engineering Management (B.S. 2022)
 Best Movie Award, CHI 2024 (for W.11)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Mentorship, Santa Clara University

- F22 – F23 **Trisha Nguyen** | MXR 2024 poster | B.S. Computer Science & Engineering (University Honors Program)
 Continued as an M.S. Engineering Management directed research student, F23.

Undergraduate Research Mentorship, Santa Clara University

- Sp26 **Inayah Haq** | UbiComp & Health 2026 poster | B.S. Web Design and Engineering
 Co-mentored with Shizhao (Lawrence) Liu

Sp26	Javely Tejeda Benitez UbiComp & Health 2026 poster B.S. Computer Science Co-mentored with Shizhao (Lawrence) Liu
Su25 – Sp26	Aadi Sudan P.18; BayLearn 2025, TETHICON 2026, BayLearn 2026 posters B.S. Computer Science
Sp25 – Sp26	Sahana Kumar P.18; BayLearn 2025, TETHICON 2026, BayLearn 2026 posters B.S. Computer Science and French Studies
Sp25 – Present	Johan Kou TETHICON 2026 poster B.S. Computer Science & Engineering Project lead, SMAR
Sp25 – Sp26	Jeshwin Prince TETHICON 2026 poster B.S. Computer Science & Engineering
Sp25 – Present	Nishi Goyal UbiComp & Health 2026 poster B.S. Web Design and Engineering CRA UR2PhD undergraduate research course, Summer 2026. Co-mentored with Shizhao (Lawrence) Liu
F24 – Sp26	Arnav Dixit P.18; BayLearn 2025, TETHICON 2026, BayLearn 2026 posters B.S. Computer Science
Su24 – Present	Prakriti Patnaik MXR 2025 poster B.S. Computer Science & Engineering
W24 – Present	Isabella ‘Amne Gomez W.12; MXR 2024 poster; MXR 2025 panel B.A. Philosophy and Environmental Studies Ohlone student researcher and community partner on the Thámien Ohlone AR Tour
W24 – Present	Madison Nguyen W.11, W.12; MXR 2024 and MXR 2025 posters; MXR 2025 panel B.S. Computer Science & Engineering Best Movie Award, CHI 2024 (for W.11). Outstanding Computer Science and Engineering Senior Award, 2025
W24 – Su24	Kidus Solomon MXR 2024 poster B.S. Psychology Speaker, AWE USA 2024
W24 – Sp24	Jenny Dinh-Tran MXR 2024 poster B.S. Psychology Speaker, AWE USA 2024
W24 – Su24	Shea MacDonald W.11; MXR 2024 poster B.S. Economics Best Movie Award, CHI 2024 (for W.11)
Su23 – Su26	Sarah Hazel Sallee W.11, W.12; MXR 2024 and MXR 2025 posters B.A. English and Philosophy Best Movie Award, CHI 2024 (for W.11). Next position: J.D. student, Santa Clara University School of Law
Su23 – Sp25	Hilary Le ICA 2026 paper B.S. Computer Science & Engineering
Sp23 – Sp25	Dominic Jonathan Woetzel W.11, W.12; MXR 2024 and MXR 2025 posters B.S. Computer Science Best Movie Award, CHI 2024 (for W.11)
Sp23 – Sp24	Liam A’Hearn W.11, W.12; MXR 2024 poster B.S. Computer Science & Engineering Best Movie Award, CHI 2024 (for W.11). Next position: M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech
Sp23 – Sp24	Luke Ponssen MXR 2024 poster (first author) B.S. Computer Science & Engineering
W23 – Present	Tiffany T. Nguyen W.11, W.12; MXR 2024 poster; MXR 2025 panel B.S. Computer Engineering Best Movie Award, CHI 2024 (for W.11). Co-mentored with Lee M. Panich

Visiting Researcher Mentorship

W25 – Sp26	Luca-Maxim Meinhardt W.14, P.19 Visiting Ph.D. student, Ulm University (Germany) In residence at SCU, Winter 2025; continued remotely. Ph.D. 2026 (I served as external examiner)
Sp24 – Sp25	Meziah Ruby Cristobal W.14 Volunteer researcher Next position: Ph.D. student, Human Centered Design & Engineering, University of Washington

Pre-College Research Mentorship

W24 – Su24	Joshua Panicker MXR 2024 poster High school student
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Su23 – W25 **Pinak Paliwal** | W.11, W.12; MXR 2024 poster | High school student
Best Movie Award, CHI 2024 (for W.11). Next position: undergraduate, UC Berkeley

Su23 – Su24 **Varnika Sirasala** | MXR 2024 poster | High school student

Also supervised 19 more students (13 M.S., 6 B.S.) in for-credit directed research or senior design projects (F23 – F26), none of whom have co-authored a publication yet.

Other Ph.D. Student Committees

Sp26 **Luca-Maxim Meinhardt** (Ulm University, Germany) | External examiner; defended April 2026

Academic Service

- 2026 **Associate Chair**, Design Track, ACM CHI 2026
Associate Editor, Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (PACMHCI), CSCW (2026–Present)
Mentor, Doctoral Consortium, ACM CSCW 2026, Salt Lake City
Lead Organizer, San Francisco Bay Area HCI Research Gathering, Santa Clara University (150 attendees)
Faculty Associate for AI, Faculty Development, Santa Clara University (2026–2027). Mentor an AI-Exploration Grant faculty cohort and support AI-focused teaching and programming university-wide.
- 2025 **Associate Chair**, Design Track, ACM CSCW 2025
Co-Organizer, San Francisco Bay Area HCI Research Gathering, UC Berkeley
Member, Expert Working Group on Connecting Researchers & Practitioners to Catalyze Actionable Research, convened by the Prosocial Design Network, Trust and Safety Foundation, and Integrity Institute (Fall 2025). One of 17 researchers and practitioners whose discussions produced the group’s [report](#) (April 2026).
- 2024 **Co-Organizer**, San Francisco Bay Area HCI Research Gathering, Stanford University
- 2023 **Associate Chair**, Design Track, ACM CHI 2023
- Service **Partnerships Task Force**, Santa Clara University
Faculty Senate Council Representative, Santa Clara University
Reviewer (17x special recognitions for outstanding reviews):
ACM CHI (2018–2026); ACM CSCW (2020–2025); ACM DIS (2018–2021, 2023); ACM TOCHI (2021, 2024); ACM UbiComp (2018–2019); ACM UIST (2026); ACM TEI (2021); Journal of Adolescent Research (2019); Pervasive Health (2017)

Invited Talks

- 2026 *Stanford University*, 13th Annual Academic Technology Expo (ATXpo), plenary talk on the AI Kitchen (hosted by Michael Rouan) [October 5, 2026].
UC Santa Cruz, HCI Seminar (hosted by Christina Chung).
Stanford University, TETHICON Tech Ethics Research Conference, panelist, “Sharing Perspectives on Research on Ethical Technologies” (with Diyi Yang and Navid Shaghghi).
- 2025 *UC San Francisco*, Academy of Medical Educators Annual Celebration, keynote address (hosted by Ann Poncelet).
San Francisco State University, CS Colloquium (hosted by Sanika Doolani).
Sonoma State University, CS Colloquium (hosted by Mark Gondree).
University of Chile (hosted by Francisco J. Gutierrez).
Pontifical Catholic University of Chile (hosted by Valeria Herskovic).

- 2024 UC San Francisco, 11th Annual Academic Technology Expo (ATXpo), opening plenary talk on the Thámien Ohlone AR Tour, with Danielle M. Heitmuller, Amy Lueck, and Lee M. Panich (hosted by Rebecca Frazee).
University of Washington, Research Symposium (hosted by Carole Palmer).
Prosocial Design Network, Pro-Socials Series (hosted by Julia Kamin).
BayCHI, Monthly Seminar (hosted by Ted Selker).
- 2023 Berea College, HCI Seminar (hosted by Jasmine Jones).
Stanford University, HCI Seminar (hosted by Michael Bernstein).
UC Santa Cruz, HCI Seminar (hosted by Norman Makato Su).
Leibniz University Hannover, HCI Group (hosted by Michael Rohs).
- 2022 University of Washington, DUB Group (hosted by Jason Yip).
- 2021 University of Copenhagen, Human-Centred Computing Seminar (hosted by Hasti Seifi).
Carleton University, CLUE Seminar (hosted by Audrey Girouard).
- 2020 Wellesley Centers for Women, Youth, Media, & Wellbeing Research Lab (hosted by Catherine Grevet Delcourt).

Selected Media Coverage

- 2026 Inside a University's 'AI Kitchen'. *Inside Higher Ed*.
Not sure where you fit into a future driven by AI? This 'kitchen' will give you a first taste. *Santa Clara University*.
How 4 Programs Instill Learning by Doing. *Inside Higher Ed*.
5 Ways Colleges Are Reshaping STEM Education. *Inside Higher Ed*.
One New Thing: Dropping In to an Artificial Intelligence 'Kitchen'. *U.S. News & World Report*.
- 2024 Co-creating AR experiences with and for Indigenous communities. *Mixed Reality in Culture Podcast*.
- 2023 Santa Clara University holds seminar on Native history in Bay Area. *KTSF26*.
'Our representation matters': Indigenous Peoples' Day celebrated across the Bay Area. *NBC Bay Area*.
AR walking tour at Santa Clara University brings Indigenous stories to life. *ABC 7 News*.
Too many digital distractions are eroding our ability to read deeply. *The Conversation Weekly Podcast*.
- 2021 Sesiones siempre abiertas y privacidad a medio proteger. *El País*.
- 2019 The Big Hangup: Why the Future Is Not Just Your Phone. *The Wall Street Journal*.
- 2018 Addicted to your phone? New features could help limit use. *King5 News*.

Cultural Competencies

Languages	Fluency in English, German, and Mandarin (Chinese)
International	Led user research on mobile technology products in China, India, Indonesia, and Thailand