

*Curriculum vitae***Sydney L. Forde, Ph.D.**

Research Fellow

Media, Inequality and Change (MIC) Center

Annenberg School for Communication | University of Pennsylvania

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- Ph.D. Mass Communications, 2025**
The Pennsylvania State University
Committee: Matthew McAllister, Christopher Ali, Krishna Jayakar,
Matthew Jordan, Victor Pickard
Dissertation: *Failing to Preserve, or Preserving Failure? Journalism Antitrust
Exemption Acts and the Democratic State*
- M.A. Canadian-American Studies, 2019**
The State University of New York at Buffalo | Brock University
Thesis: *Diverging Media: US and Canadian Public and Private Media
Representations of Immigrants and Refugees*
- B.A. Business Communications, 2018**
Brock University
Honours with First Class Standing
- OCD Business Sales and Marketing, 2014**
Niagara College
Ontario College Diploma

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Pennsylvania. June 2025 –
Annenberg School for Communication, Media Inequality and Change (MIC) Center.

Visiting Fellow, Institute for Social Research (IfS) April 2024 – May 2025
Institut für Sozialforschung, IfS. Affiliated with Goethe University, Frankfurt Germany.

PUBLICATIONS**Refereed Journal Articles**

- Ali, C., Simmerman, A. & Forde, S. L. (forthcoming). A regulatory taboo Rate regulation in US broadband policy. Accepted for publication at the Journal of Information Policy.
- Berman, D. E. & Forde, S. L. (forthcoming). The Broadband Consensus: Market Ontology and the Politics of Digital Inequality. Accepted for publication in Democratic Communiqué, Special issue: Discourse about labor and unionization on digital media platforms in the new era of Musk and Trump 2.0
- Forde, S. L. & Tröger, M. (2026). Communications ‘outside of the mainstream’: Reflections on Vincent Mosco’s class consciousness. *Work Organisation, Labour & Globalisation*. Vol. 20(2): 225-239. <https://doi.org/10.13169/workorgalaboglob.20.2.0004>

- Popiel, P., Ali, C., Thiene, H. & Forde, S. L. (2025). Performative Competition: The U.S. Wireless Communication Market and the T-Mobile/Sprint Merger. *Int'l Comm Gazette*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/17480485251405601>
- Ali, C. & Forde, S. L. (2025). The “NextGen” of media subsumption: The adoption of ATSC 3.0 by US public broadcasters. *Television & New Media*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1527476425136512>
- Forde, S. L. (2025). The Dialectic of Broadband. Policy Portal Special Issue on Intersectionality and Inclusion in Digital Policy, edited by Tamara Shepherd and Leslie R. Shade. *The Canadian Journal of Communication*. <https://doi.org/10.3138/cjc-2024-0023>
- Forde, S. L. & Jordan, M. (2025). From Broadcast to Broadband: Policy Silences as “Compromise and Consensus” of Industry Capture. *The Political Economy of Communication*, 11(1) <https://www.polecom.org/index.php/polecom/article/view/175>
- Forde, S. L. & Freedman, D. (2025). Arm’s Length or Joined at the Hip? Public Service Media’s Coverage of Gaza. *Communication, Culture, & Critique*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ccc/tcaf003>
- Ali, C. & Forde, S. L. (2025). Public Media Lobbying: The Case of APTS. Special Issue on Understanding Media Policy in the 21st Century: Affirmation, Challenge, Re-Constitution. *Frontiers in Communication* (10). <https://doi.org/10.3389/fcomm.2025.1548625>
- Wang, R., Forde, S. L., Alrawi, A., Solis, E. & Jayakar, K. (2025). Textual Convergence in National Domain Name Dispute Resolution Regimes: A Mixed-Methods Analysis of ccTLD Arbitration Policies. *Computer Law & Security Review: The International Journal of Technology Law and Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clsr.2025.106191>
- Forde, S. L., Solis, E., & Beykont, Y. (2024). Digital disregard: A case for amending Québec’s children advertising legislation. *Canadian Journal of Communication*, 49(2), 201–229. <https://doi.org/10.3138/cjc-2023-0026>
- Forde, S. L. (2024). Shifting Neoliberalism in US Telecommunications Policy: A Critical Reading of Chicago School Roads. *tripleC: Communication, Capitalism and Critique*. <https://doi.org/10.31269/triplec.v22i1.1436>
- McAllister, M. P., Beykont, Y., & Forde, S. L. (2023). The racialized celebrity other in perfume advertisements. *Communication, Culture, & Critique*, 16(3), 141-157. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ccc/tcad002>
- Forde, S. L. (2022). Ontario’s right-wing populism “will cost you”: A propaganda analysis of Ford’s Sticker Act and Canadian journalism’s response. *Canadian Journal of Communication*. 47(2), 337–359. <https://doi.org/10.22230/cjc.2022v47n2a4231>
- Forde, S. L., Gutsche, Jr., R. E., & Pinto, J. (2022). Digital palimpsests: Exploring “ideological correction” in online news updates of Portland protests & police violence. *Journalism*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14648849221100073>
- Gutsche, Jr., R. E., Forde, S. L., Pinto, J., & Zhu, Y. (2022). “GOOD MORNING, COVID!” The inertia of journalistic imaginaries in morning shows’ online comments”. *Journalism*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14648849221099265>

Zhong, B., Sun, T., Forde, S. L., & Payne, G. (2021). More Than Politics: How personality trait and media technology use affect vote likelihood during the 2020 U.S. Presidential election. *American Behavioral Scientist*. 66(3), 357-375.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00027642211003143>

Book Chapters

Forde, S. L. & Pickard, V. (forthcoming). Tensions in the American Press: Media Oligarchy and Corporate Libertarianism vs Democracy and Press Freedom. Book chapter for National History Day initiative on history of journalism and the freedom of the press.

Ali, C., & Forde, S.L. (2025). Public media lobbying: the case of APTS. In M. Puppis, S. Simpson, & H. Van den Bulck (Eds.), *Understanding Media Policy in the 21st Century: Affirmation, Challenge, Re-Constitution. Frontiers in Communication*.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fcomm.2025.1689462>

McAllister, M. P., Forde S. L., & Beykont, Y. (2024). bell hooks' "eating the other" as a critical advertising framework. In A. Das, H. R. Chaudhuri, & O. S. Turkdogan (Eds.), *Postcolonial marketing communication: Images from the margin* (pp. 17-35). Springer.

Forde, S. L. (2022). UnFoxing market failure: Complicating Media Matters for America's #UnFoxMyCableBox campaign for digital activism after Trump. In R. E. Gutsche, Jr., *The future of the presidency, democracy, and journalism: After Trump*. Routledge.
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003205739-13>

Public Scholarship

Tröger, M. & Forde, S. L. (2025). Be Realistic, Demand the Impossible: Reflections on Bob McChesney's Academic Impact and the Future of the Field. Article for *Monthly Review Magazine*. <https://monthlyreview.org/articles/be-realistic-demand-the-impossible/>

Popiel, P., Winseck, D., Theine, H., & Forde, S. L. (2025). A Paramount–Warner Bros. Discovery merger could give Trump even more influence over US media – shaping the news and culture Americans watch and stream. *The Conversation*.
<https://theconversation.com/a-paramount-warner-bros-discovery-merger-could-give-trump-even-more-influence-over-us-media-shaping-the-news-and-culture-americans-watch-and-stream-265699>

Forde, S. L. (2024). Problematizing Performative Policy in the Name of Future Evolutions. Milton Wolf Seminar on Media and Diplomacy. Media Inequality and Change (MIC) Center. <https://www.asc.upenn.edu/research/centers/milton-wolf-seminar-media-and-diplomacy-10>

Ali, C., Berman, D. E., Forde, S. L., Meinrath, S. & Pickard, V. (2024). The Bad Business of BEAD. Benton Institute, Digital Beat. <https://www.benton.org/blog/bad-business-bead>

Forde, S. L. (2023). Meta's Blockade of Democracy. Penn State News Literacy Initiative: Democracy Corner. <https://newsliteracy.psu.edu/news/dc-metas-blockade-of-democracy>

Forde, S. L. (2022). The political economy of journalistic objectivity. The Law and Political Economy Project (LPE), Yale Law School. <https://lpeproject.org/blog/the-political-economy-of-journalistic-objectivity/>

- Jordan, M., & Forde, S. L. (2022). Canadian trucker protests show how the loudest voices in the room distort democracy. *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/canadian-trucker-protests-show-how-the-loudest-voices-in-the-room-distort-democracy-177022>
- McAllister, M., Nutter, A., Beykont, Y., & Forde, S. L. (2022). Advertising and promotion. In K. Gabbard (Ed.), *Oxford Bibliographies Online in Cinema and Media Studies*. New York: Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/OBO/9780199791286-0002>

Book Reviews

- Forde, S. L. (2021). [Review of the book: *Wife, Inc.: The Business of Marriage in the Twenty-First Century* by Suzanne Leonard]. *International Journal of Communication*, 15, 3. <https://ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc/article/view/18374>
- Forde, S. L. (2020). [Review of the book: *From News to Talk: The Expansion of Opinion and Commentary in US Journalism* by K. Meltzer]. *Mass Communication and Society*, 24, 4. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15205436.2020.1856583>

Works In Progress

- Freedman, D. & Forde, S. L. (r&r). Journalism without history; news without context. Special Issue on Journalism in Ruins: Interrogating norms of ‘independent’ journalism in Communication, Culture & Critique.
- Forde, S. L. & Kadioğlu, D (r&r). Denaturalizing the Democratic Promises of Antitrust Action. Invited to submit chapter to Petros Iosifidis and Nicholas Nicoli (Eds.) Edward Elgar Research Handbook on Social Media Governance.
- Popiel, P., Forde, S. L. & Theine, H. (under review). Research Silences: The Political Economy of Big Tech-Funded Knowledge Production. *Under review at New Media and Society*.
- Simmerman, A. & Forde, S. L. (in progress). Shifting Giants: A political economic analysis of regulatory beneficiaries under Project 2025. *Under review at The Political Economy of Communication*.
- Forde, S. L. & Hewa, N. (in progress). Lobbying Between Giants: Bill C-18 and Journalism over Journalists. TechLobby North: Big Tech Influence Operations in Canada.
- Kadioğlu, D., Forde, S. L., Murphy, A. (in progress). Performing Solidarity: Juxtaposing Coverage and Politics of Palestine in Turkey.
- Forde, S. L. & Picard, R. G. (in progress). Global Growth of Streaming Services and Regulatory Implications: A Political Economy Perspective.
- Forde, S. L. (in progress). Rethinking Peltzman’s Economic Model of Regulation Through Ownership Consolidation and Digitized Media Communication Landscapes.

PROJECTS

Global Media and Internet Concentration Project (GMICP). 2024-2028

Team USA: Pawel Popiel, Hendrik Theine, Sydney Forde, & Christopher Ali.

A SSHRC funded project led by Dwayne Winseck at Carleton University which examines nearly 40 countries media and internet concentration levels.

The Tech Lobby Project. 2025 -

A SSHRC funded project led by Sara Bannerman joined by a cross-country team of researchers examining various aspects of tech companies' lobbying of the Canadian federal government.

Case study of the Online News Act (Bill C-18) with Nelanthi Hewa.

FELLOWSHIPS

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Fellowship. 2023-2025
Graduate Student Scholarship funded by the Government of Canada.

Milton Wolf Seminar for Media and Diplomacy, Emerging Scholars Fellowship. 2024

Awarded by the American Austrian Foundation and the Annenberg School for Communication. Held at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, April 8-10, 2024.

Pre-Doctoral Summer Fellow at the Media, Inequality & Change (MIC) Center. 2023

Inaugural Fellow for the Pennsylvania Broadband Research (PBR) Institute, a coalition between the Annenberg School for Communication and the Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications.

Consortium on Media Policy Studies (COMPASS) Fellowship. 2022

Media, Inequality & Change Center at the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania. [Internship with Common Cause: Media and Democracy, in Washington D.C.]

ACADEMIC AWARDS

AEJMC Cultural Critical Studies Division (CCSD) Dissertation Award (1 st)	2026
Brian Murphy Student Paper Award, Union for Democratic Communications	2025
International Communication Association: Communications Law and Policy Top Paper Award with Christopher Ali	2024
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Fellowship – \$50,000	2023
CRTC Prize for Excellence in Policy Research, PhD category - \$8,000 Awarded at the annual Canadian Communication Association (CCA) for co-authored paper with Erika Solis and Yasemin Beykont. Digital Disregard: A Case for Amending Quebec's Children Advertising Legislation	2023
National Communication Association: Economics, Communication and Society Division Top Paper Panel	2023
Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications Davis Ethics Award	2023
National Communication Association: Economics, Communication and Society Division Top Paper Award	2022

National Communication Association: Critical and Cultural Studies Division Top Paper Panel with Mathew P. McAllister & Yasemin Beykont	2022
Marlow Froke Graduate Scholarship (Penn State University) Awarded to outstanding Ph.D. students who are pursuing research in the area of public broadcasting in either the educational or public affairs (received in 2021, 2022, and 2023).	2023
Graham Scholarship (Penn State University)	2020
Distinguished Graduate Student Award (MA at Brock University) Awarded to the most distinguished graduate in each graduate program.	2019
Match of Minds Research Grant - \$5,000 (Brock University)	2019
Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) - \$15,000 (Brock University)	2018
Dean of Graduate Studies Excellence Fellowship (Brock University)	2018
Returning Scholars Award (Brock University)	2017
Deans Honour List (Brock University)	2016

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

McMaster University

Tech Lobby Research Project; Sara Bannerman	2026
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The Pennsylvania State University

Critical Policy and Broadband; Christopher Ali	2023 - 2025
News Literacy Initiative Graduate Assistant; Matthew Jordan	2022 - 2024
American Journalism; Juliet Pinto	2021 - 2021
Advertising and Promotion: Oxford Bibliography; Matthew McAllister	2021 - 2021
Research Ethics; Patrick Plaisance	2021 - 2021
Science Communication; Juliet Pinto	2020 - 2021

Brock University

Adaptive Learning during Covid-19, Jennifer Good	2021
Canadian Cities and International Migration (<i>University of Toronto Press</i>), Livianna Tossutti	2019
To Share or not to Share: Spiritual Experiences in Nature, Jennifer Good	2020
Rock for Change: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Benefit Concert. Nick Baxter-Moore	2020

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

(Instructor of Record)

The Pennsylvania State University

COMM197: News Literacy Ambassador Institute	2023
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Enrollment: 13 students

COMM110: Media and Democracy 2023

Enrollment: 310 students

News Literacy Ambassador Institute – Pilot Program 2022

Enrollment: 14 students

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

The Pennsylvania State University

COMM110: Media and Democracy. Instructor: Matthew Jordan 2022

COMM197: Build Your Media Brand. Instructor: Marie Hardin 2021

Brock University

COMM3P15: Media Analysis. Instructor: Ope Akanbi 2020

COMM2P50: Communication Theory. Instructor: Jennifer Good 2020

COMM3P19: Communication and Media Policy. Instructor: Ope Akanbi 2019

COMM3P18: Audience Studies. Instructor: Jennifer Good 2019

COMM3P55: Advertising in Context. Instructor: Jackie Botterill 2019

CANA1F91: Introduction to Canadian Studies. Instructor: Derek Foster 2018

GUEST LECTURES

The Political Economy of Journalism in *COMM 2018: 21st Century Journalism*. The University of Pennsylvania. Instructor: Nelanthi Hewa 2026

Tech Policy and the Common Good in *Leaders Building a Humane, Digital World*. Ursinus College. Instructor: Anthony Nadler 2026

Propaganda Analysis in *COM 390: Communication Research*. Murray State University. Instructor: Ryan Goke 2024

Propaganda Studies in Canada in *COM 337: International Communication*. Furman University. Instructor: Raiana de Carvalho 2024

Reinvigorating Propaganda Studies in *COMM 410: International Mass Communications*. Instructor: Yasemin Beykont 2023

Walter Lippman on Democracy in *COMM 410: International Mass Communications*. Instructor: Yasemin Beykont 2023

Narrative Policy Framework Analysis in *COMM 597: Advanced Qualitative Methods*. Instructor: Juliet Pinto 2022

Media Policy and Democracy in *COMM 110: Media and Democracy*. Instructor: Matthew Jordan 2022

Media Economics and the Political Economy of US Broadband in *COMM 100: Mass Media and Society*. Instructor: Loryn Rumsey 2022

Journalism and Democracy in <i>COMM 100: Mass Media and Society</i> . Instructor: Loryn Rumsey	2022
Introduction to News Literacy in <i>COMM 165: Build Your Media Brand</i> . Instructor: Marie Hardin	2021
Advanced Textual Analysis in <i>COMM 597: Advanced Qualitative Methods</i> . Instructor: Juliet Pinto	2021
Introduction to the Critical Political Economy of Journalism in <i>COMM 110: Media and Democracy</i> . Instructor: Ashley Walter	2021

PANEL PARTICIPATION

Postdoctoral Workshop panel for graduate students at the Manship School of Mass Communications at the Louisiana State University.	2026
<i>CCA Student Prizes Panel Discussion</i> . Canadian Communication Association (CCA) Graduate Student Webinar.	2024
Moderated <i>Harmful Content</i> at the ECREA Communication Law and Policy Workshop in Salzburg, Austria.	2023
Moderated <i>Expanding the ethical toolbox and implications for identity</i> in the Media Ethics division at the 2023 AEJMC Conference.	2023
Moderated <i>Issues in Personal Data Regulation</i> in the Communication Law and Policy division at the 73 rd Annual ICA Conference.	2023
Moderated <i>Pipe Dreams: Policy Interventions for Democratizing Internet Infrastructure at Democratizing the Internet: Platforms, Pipes, Possibilities</i> by the MIC Center, Annenberg School for Communication.	2023
<i>Faculty Think-In</i> . Graduate Student Panel at Bellisario Faculty Think-In at the Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications.	2022
<i>Sometimes "Fake" News is More Real Than "Real" News</i> . Discussant for Drs. Jonas Nicolaï PhD Seminar, University of Antwerp.	2021
<i>Polarization and Populism During the COVID-19 Era</i> . Special Video session for the Political Communication Division at IAMCR 2021 in Nairobi.	2021

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

(*Indicates paper award)

- Freedman, D., & Forde, S. L. (2026, October). Journalism without history, news without context. Accepted for presentation at the Union for Democratic Communications in Ithica, NY.
- Popiel, P., Theine, H., Forde, S. L., & Ali, C. (2026, October). Regulating the AI Stack: Political Economy and Policy of AI. Accepted for presentation at the Association of Internet Researchers, Mexico City, Mexico.
- Mirrlees, T., Hewa, N., Bannerman, S., Forde, S., Hoskins, G., & Shepherd, T. (October, 2026). The Tech

Lobby: U.S. Big Tech Companies and Canadian Communications and Digital Platform Policy.
Panel accepted for presentation at 4S in Toronto, ON.

Freedman, D., & Forde, S. L. (2026, September). Journalism without history; news without context – a critical political economic analysis of UK media coverage of Israel’s ban of 37 INGOs from Gaza. Accepted for presentation at European Communication Conference, Brno, Czech Republic.

Kadioğlu, D., Forde, S. L., & Murphy, A. (2026, July). Performing Solidarity: Juxtaposing Coverage and Politics of Palestine in Turkey. Paper presented at IAMCR in Galway, Ireland.

Popiel, P., Theine, H., Forde, S. L., Ali, C. (2026, July). The Politics of Regulating the AI Stack: Integration and Infrastructural Power. Paper presented at IAMCR in Galway, Ireland.

Pickard, V., Forde, S., Douglas, S., Tröger, M., & Schejter, A. (2026, June). Robert McChesney’s Critical Legacy. Panel presented at ICA 2026 in Cape Town, South Africa.

Hewa, N. & Forde, S. L. (2026, June). Is David in the Room with Us? Bill C-18 and the Lobbying of Goliaths. Paper presented at the Canadian Communication Association in Windsor, Ontario.

Dabbour, S., Forde, S., Solis, E., Beykont, Y. & McAllister, M. (2026, April). Exploring Media Through a Political Economic Lens. Panel presented at What is Research? Conference at University of Oregon, Portland.

Forde, S. L. & Kadioğlu, D. (2026, April). Saving the Market, Not the News: A Political Economic Critique of the Journalism Competition and Preservation Act. Paper presented at 2026 Local Journalism Researchers Workshop by Duke University's Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke in DC, in Washington, DC.

Breen, M., Kadioğlu, D., Forde, S., & Newman, R. (2026, February). Communication as an economic blindspot: essentializing communication and media in economic analysis. Panel presented at John Jay-New School Conference on Contemporary Political Economy, Union for Radical Political Economy (URPE) in New York, USA.

Forde, S. L. (2025, August). Complicating the Perversion of State: A Historical Materialist Analysis of Neoliberal Journalism Policies. Paper presented at the European Sociology Association mid-term conference on Communication and Capital(ism) in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Popiel, P., Ali, C. & Forde, S. L. (2025, July). Concentrating on “Competition”: Denaturalizing Neoclassical Assessments of US Wireless Market Competition. Accepted for presentation in the Political Economy division at IAMCR in Singapore.

Forde, S. L. & Simmerman, A. (2025, July). Shifting Giants: A political economic analysis of regulatory beneficiaries under Project 2025. Paper presented in the Political Economy division at IAMCR in Singapore.

*Forde, S. L. (2025, June). The Dialectic of Broadband. Paper presented at the Union for Democratic Communications at the University of Washington at Tacoma. **Received Brian Murphy award.**

Popiel, P., Theine, H., & Forde, S. L. (2025, June). Research Capture: Assessing Big Tech Funding of Academic Research on Digital Platforms. Panel titled: Corporate Power Beyond Media Ownership Concentration Panel presented at the Union for Democratic Communications at the University of Washington at Tacoma.

Forde, S. L., Simmerman, A., & Ali, C. (2025, June). The Voldemort of Broadband Policy: The discursive dismissal of “rate regulation”. Paper presented at the Union for Democratic Communications at the University of Washington at Tacoma.

- Forde, S. L., & Freedman, D. (2025, June). Arm's Length or Joined at the Hip? Public Service Media's Coverage of Gaza. Paper presented in the Philosophy, Theory & Critique division at ICA in Denver, Colorado.
- Ali, C., & Forde, S. L. (2025, June). Public Media Governance: The Case of APTS. Presented in the Communication Law and Policy division at ICA in Denver, Colorado.
- Forde, S. L., Theine, H., Ali C., & Popiel, P. (2025, June). Competitive or concentrated? An Analysis of Trends and Dynamics in US Media and Communications Markets. Interdivisional panel, extended session on Media and internet concentration in an age of uncertainty: the role of public scholarship in shaping the media industries and media policy. Presented at ICA in Denver, Colorado.
- Ali, C., Forde, S. L., Popiel, P., & Theine, H. (2025, June). International Media Ownership and Concentration Studies in the Age of Digital Platforms: Findings and Policy Implications From the GMICP. Panel presented in the Communication Law and Policy division at ICA in Denver, Colorado.
- Shepherd, T., Shade, L. R., Bannerman, S., Forde, S. L., McCrory, L., Smith, K. L. & Yu, S. S. (2025, June). Intersectionality & Inclusion in Digital Policy. Roundtable presented at Canadian Communication Association 2025, George Brown College in Toronto.
- Theine, H. & Forde, S. L. (2024, October). Make big tech pay their fair share? A comparative analysis of news-based policies and their underlying economic imaginaries. Presented at the International Conference on Historical-Materialist Policy Analysis at the University of Vienna, Austria.
- Popiel, P., Theine, H., & Forde, S. L. (2024, September). Research Capture: Assessing Big Tech Funding of Academic Research on Digital Platforms. Presented at ECREA in Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- Theine, H., Forde, S. L., Popiel, P., Tröger, M., & Fanta, A. (2024, September). Research in Whose Interest? Assessing Big Tech Funding of Academic Research in North America and Europe. Presented at the KriKoWi annual conference in Paderborn, Germany.
- Jeong, D., Wang, R., Jayakar, K., Ali, C., Meinrath, S. & Forde, S. (2024, September). Predicting the rate of adoption of the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) among eligible households: A diffusion model with panel data. Presented at TPRC52 in Washington, DC.
- Theine, H., Forde, S. L., & Popiel, P. (2024, July). Research Capture: Assessing Big Tech Funding of Academic Research on Digital Platforms. Presented in the Political Economy Section of IAMCR in Christchurch, New Zealand.
- Forde, S. L. & Theine, H. (2024, June). Make big tech pay their fair share for journalism? A comparative analysis of news-based policies and the underlying economic imaginaries that support them. Presented at the Political Economy of Journalism IAMCR pre-conference organised by the AUT research centre for Journalism, Media and Democracy in Auckland, New Zealand.
- Ali, C., Forde, S. L., Mansell, R., Pickard, V., Popiel, P. & West, E. (2024, June). Placing Political Economy: An Inter-Divisional Assessment of the Critical Approach at ICA. Interdivisional Panel presented in Philosophy, Theory and Critique, Media Industry Studies, Communication Law and Policy, and History divisions at ICA in Gold Coast, Australia.
- *Ali, C. & Forde, S. L. (2024, June). NextGenTV? The implications of ATSC 3.0 adoption for US public broadcasters. Presented in the Communication Law and Policy division at ICA in Gold Coast, Australia. **Division top paper award.**
- Popiel, P., Theine, H. & Forde, S. L. (2024, June). The 50 Shades of Research Capture: Assessing Big Tech Funding of Academic Research on Digital Platforms. Presented in the Communication Law and Policy division at ICA in Gold Coast, Australia.

- Forde, S. L. & Freedman, D. (2024, May). Crown to Cuff: Examining Public Service Media ‘Arm’s Length. Presented at RIPE PSM 2024 conference in Lisbon, Portugal.
- Forde, S. L. & Ali, C. (2024, May). APTS & ATSC 3.0: The Politics of US Public Media Lobbying. Presented at RIPE PSM 2024 conference in Lisbon, Portugal.
- Forde, S. L. (2024, March). Exempting Democracy: An Analysis of Market Ontology Through Two Journalism Anti-Trust Exemption Acts [NPA and JCPA]. Presented at the 2023 Local Journalism Researchers Workshop at the Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University.
- *Forde, S. L. (2023, November). Contradictions of Liberalism: Examining the CONNECT Broadband Act through Hayek and Friedman. Presented in the Economics, Communication and Society Division at the 109th Annual NCA in National Harbor, MD. **Division top paper panel.**
- Ali, C. & Forde, S. L. (2023, November). Public broadcasters as digital intermediaries: The adoption of ATSC 3.0 in the United States. Presented at the workshop for Communication Law and Policy (CLP) section of ECREA in Salzburg, Austria.
- Theine, H., Forde, S. L. & Popiel, P. (2023, October). Research Capture: Assessing Big Tech Funding of Academic Research on Digital Platforms. Presented at Heterodox Economics Meets Law and Political Economy: Institutions & Power at The New School for Social Research in New York.
- Ali, C., Berman, D. E., Forde, S. L., Meinrath, S. & Pickard, V. (2023, October). The Pennsylvania Institute for Broadband Policy & Digital Equity. Panel Presented at the Union for Democratic Communications in Philadelphia.
- Berman, D. E. & Forde, S. L. (2023, October). Public Broadband and the New Municipalism: Toward a Politics of Radical Digital Infrastructure. Presented at the Union for Democratic Communications in Philadelphia.
- Forde, S. L., Beykont, Y. & McAllister, M. (2023, October). When Audience Commodities Collide: Super Bowl Advertising in Canada. Presented at the Union for Democratic Communications in Philadelphia.
- Forde, S. L., Ali, C., Meinrath, S., Pickard, V. & Berman, D. E. (2023, September). The Politics of Broadband Policy: The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Battle for Digital Equity. Panel presented at TPRC 51, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, DC.
- Wang, R., Forde, S. L., Al Rawi, A. & Jayakar, K. (2023, September) National domain name arbitration regimes: Convergence or divergence? Presented at TPRC 51, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, DC.
- Medina, L. & Forde, S. L. (2023, August). “I hate him passionately”: A Propaganda Analysis of Fox News January 6th Coverage and Dominion v. Fox Contradictions. Presented in the Cultural and Critical Studies division at AEJMC in Washington, D.C.
- Forde, S. L. & Troy, C. (2023, July). Dear Earth, No Thanks: How YouTube's Embrace of Neoliberal Environmentalism Impedes Meaningful Climate Progress. Presented in the Environment Science and Risk Communication working group at IAMCR in Lyon, France.
- *Forde, S. L., Solis, E., & Beykont, Y. (2023, May). Digital Disregard: A Case for Amending Quebec’s Children Advertising Legislation. Presented at the Canadian Communication Association Annual Conference at Congress 2023. York University, Toronto. **CRTC Prize for Excellence in Policy Research, PhD category.**
- Forde, S. L. & Picard, R. G. (2023, May). Global Growth of Streaming Services and Regulatory

- Implications: A Political Economy Perspective. Presented in the Communication Law and Policy division at ICA in Toronto, Canada.
- Forde, S. L. & Jordan, M. (2023, May). From Broadcast to Broadband: Similarities and Silences between Clinton's Telecommunications Act of 1996 and Biden's 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Presented in the Communication Law and Policy division at ICA in Toronto, Canada.
- Melton, B., Forde, S. L., & Beykont, Y. (2023, May). The Women of Republican TikTok: Gender Performance and the Conservative Double Bind. Presented in the Feminist Scholarship division at ICA in Toronto, Canada.
- *Forde, S. L. (2022, November). Regulatory Theory and Media Economics: Complicating Peltzman's Economic Model of Regulation in Media Industries. Presented in the Economics, Communication and Society Division at the 108th Annual NCA in New Orleans, LA. **Division top paper award.**
- *McAllister, M., Forde, S. L., & Beykont, Y. (2022, November). bell hooks' "Eating the Other" as a Framework for Critical Advertising Studies. Presented in the Critical and Cultural Studies division at the NCA in New Orleans, LA. **Division top paper panel.**
- Forde, S. L. (2022, September). Rethinking Peltzman's Economic Model of Regulation Through Ownership Consolidation and Digitized Media Communication Landscapes. Presented at TPRC 50, at American University Washington College of Law, Washington, DC.
- McAllister, M., Beykont, Y., & Forde, S. L. (2022, August). The Racialized Celebrity Other in Perfume Advertisements. Presented in Minorities and Communication division at AEJMC in Detroit, MI.
- Forde, S. L., Wang, R., Solis, E., & Jayakar, K. (2022, May). Predictors of support for public funding of news organizations: Findings from a 23-country cross-national study. Presented in the Media Industry Studies division at the 72nd Annual ICA Conference. Paris, France.
- Rumsey, L., Forde, S. L., Beykont, Y., & Walter, A. (2022, May). Wearing Symbolism: Analyzing US News Media's Coverage of 2021 Inauguration Day Attire. Presented in the Journalism studies division at the 72nd Annual ICA Conference. Paris, France.
- Melton, B. & Forde, S. L. (2022, May). Representation in the Era of Decolonization: A Discourse Analysis of Media and Communication Doctoral Syllabi. Presented at the Canadian Communication Association Annual Conference at Congress 2022, Virtual.
- Forde, S. L. (2021, November). UnFoxing Market Failure. Presented at the Moscow Readings Conference 2021, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia.
- Gutsche, Jr., R. E., Pinto, J., Forde, S. L., & Norman, M. (2021, November). A Thematic Literature of Artificial Intelligence in (Digital) Journalism Studies: 2010-2021. Presented at Moscow Readings 2021, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia.
- Zhu, Y., Gutsche, Jr., R. E., Pinto, J., & Forde, S. L. (2021, September). "Good morning, COVID!:" The digital demand for journalistic credibility on UK morning shows. Presented at the Future of Journalism Conference, Cardiff, Wales, UK.
- Gutsche, Jr., R. E., Forde, S. L., & Pinto, J. (2021, September). From "Quelling Unrest" To "Unleashing Militarized Crackdown": The Role of "Journalistic Reuse" in Digital News Updates. Presented at the Future of Journalism Conference, Cardiff, Wales, UK.
- *Forde, S. L. (2021, July). Ontario's Right-Wing Populism "Will Cost You": The Applicability of Propaganda Analysis to Ford's Sticker Act. Presented in the Political Communication Division at IAMCR conference, Nairobi. **Division top paper plenary session.**

- Forde, S. L., & Melton, B. (2021, June). Metabolism versus Energy: Gender Representation in Multivitamin Packaging. Presented at Congress 2021 in the Canadian Communication Association Annual Conference hosted by the University of Alberta.
- Forde, S. L., Gutsche, R. E. & Pinto, J. (2021, May). The Times, Are They Changing?: An Analysis of New York Times Online (Revisionist?) Updates of Police and Protestors. Presented in Journalism Studies Division at the 71st Annual ICA Conference.
- Zhong, B., Sun, T., Forde, S. L., & Jackson, S. (2020, November). Hierarchical Impact of Need for Cognition on Voters' Attitude toward Attack Ads: Testing a Moderated Mediation Model. Presented at American Behavioral Scientist 2020 U.S. Presidential Election Retrospective hosted by Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts.
- Forde, S. L. (2019, December). Compromised Freedom: US News Media's Fear of Anti-Semite Accusations. Paper presented at Alternative Realities: New Challenges for American Literature in the Era of Trump hosted by the UCD Clinton Institute in Dublin, Ireland.
- Forde, S. L. (2019, December) Climate Salience Across Partisan News Media. Paper presented in Media Representations of Risk Panel at the Society for Risk Analysis 2019 Annual Meeting in Arlington, Virginia.
- Forde, S. L. (2019, November) Media Literacy Across Borders: A Canada-US Comparison. Paper Presented at the 25th biennial conference of the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS) hosted in Montreal, Quebec.
- Forde, S. L. (2019, June) Diverging Media: US and Canadian Representations of Immigrants and Refugees. Paper presented at Congress 2019 at the Canadian Communication Association Annual Conference hosted by the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia.
- Forde, S. L. (2019, March). Mediated Political Perceptions: The Relationship Between Right-Wing News Media and Unnatural Conservatism. Paper presented at the Intersections | Cross-sections Conference hosted by Ryerson University and York University in Toronto, Ontario.
- Forde, S. L. (2019, March) Diverging Media: Representations of Terrorism, Refugees and Immigration. Presented first chapter of Major Research Project at the 2019 Crossing Borders International Conference hosted by Niagara University in Lewiston, New York.
- Forde, S. L. (2019, February). Discussions of Conservatism and Credibility: The Need for Media Literacy Education. Paper presented at the 2019 Rundle Summit Conference hosted by the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta in Banff, Alberta.
- *Forde, S. L. (2018, March). Right Over Reason: Unnatural Voting in the Age of Populism. Paper presented at Crossing Borders: Multi-Disciplinary Student Conference on the United States, Canada and Border Issues hosted by Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. **Top paper award.**

Workshops

- Forde, S. L. (2025, September). Complicating Neoliberalism as the Perversion of State: A Historical Materialist Policy Analysis of Journalism Antitrust Exemption Acts. Accepted to the International Summer School Political Economies of the Media: Theories and Methods in Šibenik, Croatia.
- Forde, S. L. (2023, October). Denaturalizing Broadband Policy Silences in President Biden's Infrastructure Act: The Need for a Democratic Internet and Policymaking Process. Presented at AoIR 2023 Doctoral Colloquium in Philadelphia.

Forde, S. L. (2022, September). Rethinking Peltzman's Economic Model of Regulation Through Ownership Consolidation and Digitized Media Communication Landscapes. Presented at the Graduate Student Workshop at TPRC 50, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, DC.

Other Presentations

Forde, S. L. (2024, May). Arguing from Within: Foregrounding Immanent Critique in the study of Communications. Presentation at the Institute for Social Research (IfS), Frankfurt Germany.

Solis, E., Forde, S. L. & Beykont, Y. (2022, August). Digital Disregard: A Case for Amending Quebec's Children Advertising Legislation. Ranking Digital Rights Brownbag, Washington, DC.

Forde, S. L. (2022, July). News Literacy - Penn State, Resource Proposal for Commonwealth News Literacy Initiative. Presented at the National Association of Media Literacy Education, Virtual due to Covid-19.

Forde, S. L., Pinto, J., & Gutsche, Jr., R. E. (2021, April). Digital palimpsests: Exploring "ideological correction" in online news updates of Portland protests & police violence, Bellisario Research Brownbag, Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications, Penn State University.

Forde, S. L. (2019, February). Diverging Media: Representations of Terrorism, Refugees and Immigration. Research in progress presented at the Brock University Faculty of Graduate Studies Research Café at Brock University's Goodman School of Business.

IN THE MEDIA

Bellisario College Scholars Showcase Research, Win Awards at National Conference. (2026). https://www.psu.edu/news/bellisario-college-communications/story/bellisario-college-scholars-showcase-research-win-awards?utm_id=97757_v0_s00_e0_tv2_a1dennhavlwxcb

Why Are There So Few Wireless Carriers in the United States? A New Study Says "Performative Competition". (2026).

<https://www.asc.upenn.edu/news-events/news/why-are-there-so-few-wireless-carriers-united-states-new-study-says-performative-competition>

The Annenberg School Welcomes New Visiting Scholars and Postdoctoral Fellows for 2025-26 (2025). <https://www.asc.upenn.edu/news-events/news/annenberg-school-welcomes-new-visiting-scholars-and-postdoctoral-fellows-2025-26>

Doctoral candidates find opportunities and support in the Bellisario College. (2024). <https://www.psu.edu/news/bellisario-college-communications/story/doctoral-candidates-find-opportunities-and-support/>

Penn State COMMversations Podcast: Ph.D. Candidate Sydney Forde. (2024). <https://penn-state-commversations.simplecast.com/episodes/ep-84-phd-candidate-sydney-forde-ACe6nQnN>

WPSU Board Member Spotlight: Sydney Forde. (2024). Penn State Outreach. <https://www.outreach.psu.edu/news/wpsu-board-member-spotlight-sydney-forde/>

Bellisario College doctoral student earns scholarship to support dissertation. (2024). Penn State. <https://www.psu.edu/news/bellisario-college-communications/story/bellisario-college-doctoral-student-earns-scholarship/>

The Mission to Get Pennsylvanians Online. (2024). Hailey Reissman, Annenberg School for Communication, The University of Pennsylvania. <https://www.asc.upenn.edu/news-events/news/mission-get-pennsylvanians-online>

CRTC-CCA Prize for Excellence in Policy Research. (2023). Government of Canada. <https://crtc.gc.ca/eng/acrtc/prx/2023fordsolisbeykont.htm>

News Over Noise Podcast. (2023). Protecting Public Interest: The Role of Regulation in Media. Special Guests: Commissioner Michael Copps and Sydney Forde. Hosts: Leah Dajches and Matt Jordan. WPSU and The Pennsylvania State University. <https://newsliteracy.psu.edu/podcasts/episode-109-protecting-public-interest-the-role-of-regulation-in-media>

Graduate Student Spotlight in the Fall 2022 Cultural and Critical Studies Division of AEJMC Newsletter. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1syt2JSC713Ss3z-wY9xJFbOVZQ8xR7M4/view>

Red-pilling the Pink Pill: Why gendered vitamins have different priorities. Joseph Brean (2021, May 31). National Post. <https://nationalpost.com/health/red-pilling-the-pink-pill-why-gendered-vitamins-have-different-priorities>

SERVICE & COMMUNITY

Annenberg Marxist Reading Group

Planned and organized a bi-weekly Marxist reading group amongst Annenberg School for Communication graduate student, postdoctoral fellow, and faculty member community.

Pennsylvania Broadband Research (PBR) Institute

Assisted in founding the collaborative PBR Institute between the Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications and the Annenberg School for Communication.

Bellisario Marxist Reading Group

Planned and organized a weekly Bellisario College student and faculty Marxist reading group.

Lippmann-Dewey Reading Group

Planned and organized a weekly reading group in the Annenberg School for Communication.

WPSU (2022-2025)

Nominated as WPSU's first student member on the board of representatives (Government Relations Committee)

News Over Noise Podcast

Assist with research, planning and production of the News Over Noise radio show and podcast created through a collaboration between the Penn State News Literacy Initiative and WPSU. <https://newsliteracy.psu.edu/podcasts>

GSIC Lecture Series

Founded and organized the inaugural annual lecture series for the Graduate Students In Communications (GSIC) in the Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications at the Pennsylvania State University.

News Literacy Penn State

Core Committee Member on project led by Dean Marie Hardin of Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications that aims to implement news literacy education initiatives throughout the Pennsylvania State Commonwealth. <https://newsliteracy.psu.edu/>

Peabody Awards Reviewer (2022)

Reviewer for Public Service Category

Policy Activities

Whitepaper

The Cost of Inaction: Pennsylvania's Broken Broadband Governance and the Path Forward. A Pennsylvania Broadband Research (PBR) Institute whitepaper.

https://www.asc.upenn.edu/sites/default/files/2026-06/Cost%20of%20Inaction_final.pdf

NTIA Grant

PBR Institute received federal grant (\$1.2 million) through the Office of Innovation and Technology (OIT) for evaluating the impact of the \$11.9 million grant from the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Innovation Administration (NTIA) to the City of Philadelphia to promote digital equity and inclusion (January, 2025). <https://www.asc.upenn.edu/news-events/news/mic-center-receive-12m-grant-city-philadelphia-support-digital-equity> [Grant revoked under Trump Administration's cancelation of Digital Equity Act funding initiatives].

Special Consultant - Quebec National Assembly

Special Consultant in parliamentary hearing by Committee on the Impacts of Screens and Social Media on Young People's Health and Development, Quebec National Assembly. (February 4th, 2025).

CRTC Presentation

Presentation to CRTC Commissioners for CRTC-CCA Prize for Excellence in Policy Research. (January 31, 2024). Digital Disregard: A Case for Amending Quebec's Children Advertising Legislation.

PSU Extension & Rockefeller Foundation Event

BEAD (Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment) Broadband Navigator: Empowering Tomorrow's Digital Nation Through Local Projects hosted by Penn State and The Rockefeller Foundation (November 13, 2023). Attended at The Rockefeller Foundation, New York City.

BEAD Summit

BEAD (Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment) Implementation Summit hosted by Broadband Breakfast (September 21, 2023). Attended at Clyde's of Gallery Place, Washington D.C.

UK Bargaining Code Roundtable

UK Publisher-Platform Bargaining Code Expert Roundtable, hosted by the Public Interest News Foundation (May 17, 2023) – Invited by Dr. Robert Picard to observe a roundtable made up of a small group of experts from the academy, various regulatory bodies, and the news industry to discuss international perspectives on the UK News Media Bargaining Code.

APTS 2023/2024 Public Media Summit

Attended two annual APTS conferences in February 2023 and February 2024 as a representative of WPSU and participated in public media lobbying efforts on Capitol Hill.

FCC Comments

Walter, J., Getachew, Y., & Forde, S. L. (2022, July 1). Comments of Common Cause, Communications Workers of America, and United Church of Christ Media Justice Ministry, WC Docket No. 22-69. <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/filing/10630036819082>

Reviews

Reviewer, Democratic Communiqué

Reviewer, American Sociological Review

Reviewer, Journal of Information Policy

Reviewer, Union for Democratic Communications

Reviewer, Norteamérica.

Review of book proposal about the advertising and communication industries,
for Polity [collaborative review with Matthew P. McAllister and Yasemin Beykont].

Reviewer, Journalism Practice.

Reviewer, International Communication Association.

Honours Societies

Initiated

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi (Penn State University Chapter)

2021

Golden Key International Honours Society (Brock University Chapter)

2017

Professional Associations

Initiated

European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA)

2024

International Institute of Communications (IIC)

2023

Union for Democratic Communications (UDC)

2023

Media Inequality & Change (MIC) Center

2023

Information Policy Research Group at the Pennsylvania State University

2021

Qualitative Research Group at the Pennsylvania State University

2020

National Communication Association (NCA)

2021

International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR)

2021

International Communication Association (ICA)

2021

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC)

2021

Canadian Communication Association (CCA)

2019

National Association for Media Literacy Education (NAMLE)

2019

Association for Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS)

2019

REFERENCES

Matthew P. McAllister

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