

Kurt Luther

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Education

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Ga.

Ph.D. Candidate (August 2006 – Present, Expected 2012)

- Specialization: Social Computing
- Dissertation: *Supporting and Transforming Leadership in Online Creative Collaboration*
- Advisor: Amy Bruckman

Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.

Bachelor of Science with Honors and Highest Distinction (August 2002 – May 2006)

- Major: Computer Graphics Technology
- Minor: Art & Design

Research Interests

Social computing, online collaboration and crowdsourcing, human-computer interaction

Work Experience

GVU Center at Georgia Tech, Atlanta, Ga.

Graduate Research Assistant (August 2006 – Present)

YouTube, San Bruno, Calif.

User Experience Research Intern (Summer 2010)

Newgrounds.com, Glenside, Pa.

Web Development Intern (Summer 2009)

Microsoft Research, Redmond, Wash.

Research Intern, Social Computing & VIBE Groups (Summer 2008)

IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Hawthorne, N.Y.

Research Intern, Social Computing Group (Summer 2007)

Envision Center for Data Perceptualization at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.

Undergraduate Research Assistant (May 2005 – March 2006)

Department of Computer Graphics Technology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.

Web Development Intern (April – October 2005, June – July 2006)

Grant Writing

Pilot: Supporting and Transforming Leadership in Online Creative Collaboration

Grant Proposal Co-Writer (2009)

- Awarded **\$460,548.00** (fully funded) by National Science Foundation CreativeIT program (#0855952)
- Project period August 2009 through July 2012 (estimated)
- Grant proposal co-written with PI, Amy Bruckman, received all “excellent” ratings (highest possible) and overall panel rating of “synergistic/transformative”

Publications

Conference Papers (Peer-Reviewed)

- [1] P. André, M. Bernstein and **K. Luther**. (In press). “Who Gives a Tweet: Evaluating Microblog Content Value.” To appear in *CSCW '12: Proceedings of the 2012 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work*. (9% acceptance rate for top-tier submissions)
Best Paper Award honorable mention (top 5% of submissions)
- [2] **K. Luther**, K. Caine, K. Ziegler and A. Bruckman. (2010). “Why It Works (When It Works): Success Factors in Online Creative Collaboration.” In *GROUP '10: Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Supporting Group Work*, pp. 1–10, New York: ACM Press. (36% acceptance rate)

- [3] **K. Luther**, N. Diakopoulos and A. Bruckman. (2010). "Edits & Credits: Exploring Integration and Attribution in Online Creative Collaboration." In *CHI '10 (alt.chi): Proceedings of the 28th International Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, pp. 2823–2832, New York: ACM Press. (Invited submission)
- [4] B. Magerko, W. Manzoul, M. Riedl, A. Baumer, D. Fuller, **K. Luther** and C. Pearce. (2009). "An Empirical Study of Cognition and Theatrical Improvisation." In *C&C '09: Proceedings of the 7th ACM Conference on Creativity and Cognition*, pp. 117–126, New York: ACM Press. (24% acceptance rate)
- [5] **K. Luther**, S. Counts, K.B. Stecher, A. Hoff and P. Johns. (2009). "Pathfinder: An Online Collaboration Environment for Citizen Scientists." In *CHI '09: Proceedings of the 27th International Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, pp. 239–248, New York: ACM Press. (25% acceptance rate)
- [6] **K. Luther** and A. Bruckman. (2008). "Leadership in Online Creative Collaboration." In *CSCW '08: Proceedings of the 2008 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work*, pp. 343–352, New York: ACM Press. (23% acceptance rate)
- [7] J.B. Ellis, **K. Luther**, K. Bessiere and W.A. Kellogg. (2008). "Games for Virtual Team Building." In *DIS '08: Proceedings of the 7th ACM Conference on Designing Interactive Systems*, pp. 295–304, New York: ACM Press. (34% acceptance rate)
- [8] Y. Kang, J. Stasko, **K. Luther**, A. Ravi and Y. Xu. (2008). "RevisiTour: Enriching the Tourism Experience with User-Generated Content." In *ENTER '08: Proceedings of the 2008 International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies in Tourism*, pp. 59–69, Vienna: Springer.
- [9] N. Diakopoulos, **K. Luther** and I. Essa. (2008). "Audio Puzzler: Piecing Together Time-Stamped Speech Transcripts with a Puzzle Game." In *MM '08: Proceedings of the 16th ACM International Conference on Multimedia*, pp. 865–868, New York: ACM Press. (18% acceptance rate)
- [10] N. Diakopoulos, **K. Luther**, Y."E." Medynskiy and I. Essa. (2007). "The Evolution of Authorship in a Remix Society." In *Hypertext '07: Proceedings of the 18th Conference on Hypertext and Hypermedia*, pp. 133–136, New York: ACM Press. (34% acceptance rate)

Research Posters, Videos & Demonstrations (Lightly Reviewed)

- [11] M. Bernstein, P. André, **K. Luther**, E.T. Solovey, E.S. Poole, S.A. Paul, S.K. Kane and J. Grudin. (2009). "CHIstory." In *CHI '09: Proceedings of the 27th International Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, pp. 3493–3494, New York: ACM Press.
Most Entertaining Video Award
- [12] **K. Luther**, K. Ziegler, K.E. Caine and A. Bruckman. (2009). "Predicting Successful Completion of Online Collaborative Animation Projects." In *C&C '09: Proceedings of the 7th ACM Conference on Creativity and Cognition*, pp. 391–392, New York: ACM Press.
- [13] **K. Luther**, M. Flaschen, A. Forte, C. Jordan and A. Bruckman. (2009). "Provelt: A New Tool for Supporting Citation in MediaWiki." In *WikiSym '09: Proceedings of the 5th International Symposium on Wikis and Open Collaboration*, no. 43, New York: ACM Press.

Doctoral Consortia (Lightly Reviewed)

- [14] **K. Luther**. (April 2010). "Supporting and Transforming Leadership in Online Creative Collaboration." Presented at the *CHI '10 Doctoral Consortium*, Atlanta, Ga. (26% acceptance rate)
- [15] **K. Luther**. (May 2009). "Supporting and Transforming Leadership in Online Creative Collaboration." Presented at the *GROUP '09 Doctoral Consortium*, Sanibel Island, Fla.

Workshop & Position Papers (Lightly Reviewed)

- [16] **K. Luther**. (2011). "Fast, Accurate, and Brilliant: Realizing the Potential of Crowdsourcing and Human Computation." Presented at the *CHI '11 Workshop on Crowdsourcing and Human Computation*, Vancouver, Canada.
- [17] P. André, m.c. schraefel, A. Dix, R.W. White, M. Bernstein and **K. Luther**. (2010). "Designing for Schadenfreude (or, how to express well-being and see if you're boring people)." Presented at the *CHI '10 Workshop on Microblogging: What and How Can We Learn From It?*, Atlanta, Ga.
- [18] **K. Luther** and A. Bruckman. (2010). "Flash Collabs: Collaborative Innovation Networks in Online Communities of Animators." Presented at the *COINs '09 Conference on Collaborative Innovation Networks*, Savannah, Ga.
- [19] S. Yardi, **K. Luther**, N. Diakopoulos and A. Bruckman. (2008). "Opening the Black Box: Four Views of Transparency in Remix Culture." Presented at the *CSCW '08 Workshop on Tinkering, Tailoring, & Mashing: The Social and Collaborative Practices of the Read-Write Web*, San Diego, Calif.
- [20] J.B. Ellis, **K. Luther**, K. Bessiere and W.A. Kellogg. (2008). "Games for Virtual Team Building." Presented at the *CSCW '08 Workshop on Supporting Distributed Team Work*, San Diego, Calif.
- [21] **K. Luther** and N. Diakopoulos. (2007). "Distributed Creativity." Presented at the *C&C '07 Workshop on Supporting Creative Acts Beyond Dissemination*, Washington, D.C.

Organized Workshops, Panels, & Roundtables (Lightly Reviewed)

- [22] E. Cook, **K. Luther**, D. Perkel and J. Bardzell. (February 2011). *The Creativity Agenda in the iSchool Context*. Roundtable at iConference 2011, Seattle, Wash.
- [23] D. Perkel, L. Grant, B. Herr-Stephenson and **K. Luther**. (February 2010). *Rules of Engagement in Participatory Cultures: Negotiating Feedback, Audiences and Critique in Online Communities*. Panel at the 2010 Conference on Digital Media and Learning, La Jolla, Calif.
- [24] D.A. Shamma, D. Perkel and **K. Luther**. (October 2009). *Understanding the Creative Conversation: Modeling to Engagement*. Workshop held at Creativity & Cognition 2009, Berkeley, Calif.
- [25] J. Thom-Santelli, E. Cook, **K. Luther**, A. Bruckman, J. Bardzell and D. McDonald. (May 2009). *Approaching 'Amateur.'* Workshop held at GROUP 2009, Sanibel Island, Fla.

Book Chapter

- [26] A. Bruckman, **K. Luther**, and C. Fiesler. (In press). "When Should We Use Real Names in Published Accounts of Internet Research?" To appear in *Research Confidential, Second Edition* (E. Hargittai, editor).

Magazine Article

- [27] **K. Luther** and A. Bruckman. (September/October 2011). "Leadership and Success Factors in Online Creative Collaboration." *IEEE Potentials* 30:5, pp. 27-32. (Invited submission)

Technical Report

- [28] N. Diakopoulos, **K. Luther**, Y. "E." Medynskiy and I. Essa. (2007). *Remixing Authorship: Reconfiguring the Author in Online Video Remix Culture*. Georgia Institute of Technology Technical Report GIT-IC-07-05. <http://hdl.handle.net/1853/19891>

Software Developed

Pipeline

Project Lead and Developer (August 2009 – Present)

- PHP/MySQL-based tool for organizing web-based collaborative multimedia projects
- Released as free/open-source software (GPL) on GitHub

- Team (past and present) includes two software developers and one UI designer
- URL: <http://pipeline.cc.gatech.edu/>

ProveIt

Project Lead and Developer (August 2008– Present)

- JavaScript/jQuery-based tool for managing references in Wikipedia articles
- Released as free/open-source software (GPL) and integrated into the English Wikipedia as a “gadget”
- Team (past and present) includes one software developer and one UI designer
- URL: <http://proveit.cc.gatech.edu/>

Who Gives a Tweet?

Co-Developer/Researcher (December 2009 – Present)

- PHP/MySQL-based tool for giving and receiving feedback on Twitter updates (tweets)
- Responsible for integration with the Amazon Mechanical Turk API
- Team (past and present) includes three co-developers/researchers
- URL: <http://wgatweet.com/>

Invited Talks

“Leadership and Online Creative Collaboration.” NSF Advisory Board Meeting, **MIT Media Lab**, October 27, 2011.

“YouTube Video Embedding: A Religious Experience.” Tech Talk, **YouTube/Google**, August 2010.

“Predicting Successful Completion of Online Collaborative Animation Projects.” Brown Bag Lecture Series, **GVU Center at Georgia Tech**, October 22, 2009.

“Pathfinder: An Online Collaboration Environment for Citizen Scientists.” Brown Bag Lecture Series, **GVU Center at Georgia Tech**, March 12, 2009.

“Leadership in Online Creative Collaboration.” Brown Bag Lecture Series, **GVU Center at Georgia Tech**, November 20, 2008.

Teaching & Guest Lectures

“Supporting & Transforming Leadership in Online Creative Collaboration.” Guest lecture, User Interface Design undergraduate class (41 students). **Georgia Tech**, Instructor: Edward Clarkson. November 30, 2011.

“Introduction to Online Creative Collaboration.” Guest lecture, Introduction to Personal Computing undergraduate class (151 students). **University of Georgia**, Instructor: Chris Plaue. November 15, 2010.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Design of Online Communities graduate class (22 students). **Georgia Tech**, Instructor: Amy Bruckman. Spring 2009.

“Leadership in Online Communities.” Guest lecture, Design of Online Communities graduate class (22 students). **Georgia Tech**, Instructor: Amy Bruckman. March 5, 2009.

“Experiment-Free Research Methods.” Guest lecture, Research Methods undergraduate class (46 students). **Georgia Tech**, Instructor: Kelly Caine. November 18, 2008.

Student Mentoring

Boris de Souza, M.S. in Computer Science, Fall 2010 – Spring 2011
 Matthew Flaschen, B.S. in Computer Science, Fall 2008 – Fall 2010
 Terris Johnson, B.S. in Computational Media, Spring 2010 – Fall 2010
 Kevin Ziegler, B.S. in Computer Science, Fall 2008 – Spring 2010
 Chris Howse, M.S. in Human-Computer Interaction, Fall 2009
 Summers Pittman, M.S. in Human-Computer Interaction, Spring 2009
 Pamela Griffith, M.S. in Human-Computer Interaction, Fall 2007 – Spring 2008

Service & Volunteering

Conference Program Committees

General Submissions & Late Breaking Juror, **SIGGRAPH 2012**
 Program Committee Member (Works-in-Progress and Videos), **CHI 2012**
 Program Committee Member, **WikiSym 2011**

Program Committee Member (Works-in-Progress and Videos), **CHI 2011**

Conference Organizing Committees

Posters Coordinator, **SIGGRAPH 2013**
Posters Coordinator, **SIGGRAPH 2012**
Local Co-Chair, **Creativity & Cognition 2011**
Webmaster & Graphic Design Chair, **CSCW 2011**
Webmaster & Graphic Design Chair, **CSCW 2010**
Student Volunteers Co-Chair, **CHI 2010**
Presentations Coordinator (XSV), **SIGGRAPH 2009 Computer Animation Festival**
Local Arrangements Coordinator, **Computation & Journalism Symposium 2008**

Conference Student Volunteering

R&D Intern for Weta Digital, **SIGGRAPH 2011**
Student Volunteer Team Leader, **SIGGRAPH 2010**
Student Volunteer, **CHI 2009**
Student Volunteer Team Leader, **SIGGRAPH 2008**
Student Volunteer Team Leader, **SIGGRAPH 2007**
Student Volunteer Team Leader, **SIGGRAPH 2006**
Student Volunteer Team Leader, **SIGGRAPH 2005**
Student Volunteer, **SIGGRAPH 2004**
Student Volunteer, **SIGGRAPH 2003**

Conference Paper Reviewing

ACE 2008, 2009
Creativity & Cognition 2007, 2009
CHI 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012
CSCW 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012
GROUP 2009
SIGGRAPH 2009
UIST 2010

Journal Article Reviewing

Games and Culture
Transformative Works and Cultures

Georgia Institute of Technology

Member, **School of Interactive Computing Faculty Search Committee**, 2010 – 2011
Lab Manager, **Electronic Learning Communities (ELC) Lab**, 2007 – Present
Judge, **Undergraduate Research Spring Symposium**, 2010, 2011
Reviewer, **President's Undergraduate Research Awards**, 2011
Creator, **HCC Ph.D. Student Directory** (<http://hcc.cc.gatech.edu/>)

Purdue University

President and Co-Founder, **Purdue Film Club**, 2005
Member, **Department of Computer Graphics Technology Industrial Advisory Board**, 2005
President, **ACM SIGGRAPH Purdue Student Chapter**, 2004
Representative, **Computer Graphics Student Council**, 2002 – 2004

Other Volunteering

Volunteer, **Dad's Garage Theatre Company**, 2009 – 2011

Awards & Honors

Foley Scholar (\$5,000 gift, awarded for “overall brilliance and potential impact”), **GVU Center at Georgia Tech**, 2011 – 2012
Foley Scholar Finalist (one of eight), **GVU Center at Georgia Tech**, 2010 – 2011
Golden Mouse Award (for most entertaining video), **CHI 2009 Video Showcase**, 2009

Travel Grant to CHI 2009 (\$2,000), **Microsoft Research Alumni Network**, 2009
Perfect 4.0 GPA Recognition Award, **Purdue University**, 2006
Academic Success Award (\$1,000/year for four years), **Purdue University**, 2002 – 2006
Dean’s List and Semester Honors, **Purdue University**, 2002 – 2006
Commencement Student Responder (only student invited to speak at Spring graduation ceremony),
Purdue University, 2006

Selected Press

M. Garber. (January 31, 2012). “Be Better at Twitter: The Definitive, Data-Driven Guide.” **The Atlantic**.
<http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/12/01/be-better-at-twitter-the-definitive-datadriven-guide/252273/>

J. Preston. (October 29, 2011). “Teamwork Redefined: Foley Scholar Enables Success of Online Collaborative Communities and Leadership to Sustain Them.” **GVU Center at Georgia Tech**.
<http://www.gvu.gatech.edu/node/5494>

A. Bartz and B. Ehrlich. (January 12, 2011). “4 Online Services to Satisfy Your Vanity.” **CNN**.
http://www.cnn.com/2011/TECH/social.media/01/12/vanity.netiquette/index.html?eref=ib_technology

B. Ehrlich. (December 30, 2010). “Are Your Tweets Boring or Beneficial?” **Mashable**.
<http://mashable.com/2010/12/30/who-gives-a-tweet/>

A. Tsotsis. (December 30, 2010). “Who Gives a Tweet: Researchers Build a ‘Hot Or Not’ for Twitter.” **TechCrunch**. <http://techcrunch.com/2010/12/30/who-gives-a-tweet/>

Citizenship

United States of America

References

Amy Bruckman, Ph.D.

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Scott Counts, Ph.D.

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