DEVIKA NARAYAN

Ph.D. Candidate
Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota
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EDUCATION

2021 (Expected) Ph.D. Sociology, University of Minnesota.

Dissertation: *Between the Cloud and a Hard Place: A Study of Industrial Transformation in the Platform Age.*

Committee: Michael Goldman (advisor), Rachel Schurman (co-advisor), Ronald Aminzade, Vinay Gidwani, George Henderson.

Minor: Development Studies.

2013 M.Phil. Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.

2011 M.A. Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.

2009 B.A. Sociology (Honors), St. Xavier's College, University of Mumbai.

AREAS OF RESEARCH & TEACHING

Economic sociology; work and employment; digital technology; organizations and management studies; political economy, urban studies; social theory; qualitative methods

ARTICLES

Goldman, Michael, and **Narayan, Devika**. 2019. "Water Crisis through the Analytic of Urban Transformation: An Analysis of Bangalore's Hydrosocial Regimes." *Water International* 44 (2): 95–114.

Narayan, Devika. 2017. "Decoding Disruption: Lay-Offs in the Software Industry." *Economic and Political Weekly* 52 (22): 16–19.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Goldman, Michael, and **Narayan, Devika**. "Water Crisis through the Analytic of Urban Transformation." In Rural–Urban Water Struggles: *Urbanizing Hydrosocial Territories and Evolving Connections, Discourses and Identities*, Eds. Hommes, Lenna., Boelens, Rutgerd., Harris, Leila, M., & Veldwisch, Gert, V. (New York: Routledge. 2020), 15-35. [Lead Chapter]

BOOK REVIEWS

Narayan, Devika. 2017."Book Review Essay". *Seminar*, 694.

Books Reviewed:

- Nagendra, Harini. 2016. "Nature in the City: Bengaluru in the Past, Present, and Future," Oxford University Press: New Delhi.
- Upadhya, Carol. 2016. "Reengineering India: Work, Capital, and Class in an Offshore Economy," Oxford University Press: New Delhi.
- Udupa, Sahana. 2015. "Making News in Global India: Media, Publics, Politics," Cambridge University Press: New Delhi.

POLICY BRIEFS

Narayan, Devika and Sajjanhar, Anuradha. 2019. "A Study of Bangalore's Water Crisis: Key Findings and Policy Suggestions." International Waters Network.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW & IN PROGRESS

"Through the optics of finance: Speculative urbanism and the transformation of markets." With Dr. Michael Goldman. 2020. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research.* Forthcoming.

"The Structural Liminality of Disposable Managers: An analysis of precarity." 2020. *Work, Employment and Society.* Revise & Resubmit.

"Theorizing Cloud Infrastructures." 2020. *EPA: Economy and Space.* Under Review.

"The Autophagic Imperative: How IT firms cannibalize themselves." Under Review.

"On-Demand Software and the New World of Offshoring." In Progress.

"From Products to Platforms: Revisiting the rise of an offshore industry." In Progress.

AWARDS & HONORS

Caroline Rose Best Graduate Student Paper Award. (Sociologists of Minnesota, 2020).

Don Martindale Award: For excellence in scholarship and achievement "throughout the sociology graduate student career." (University of Minnesota, 2020).

Best Graduate Student Paper, Section: Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology. (American Sociological Association, 2019).

Outstanding Graduate Research Paper, Sociology Research Institute. (University of Minnesota, 2018).
M.S.A. Rao. Memorial Medal: Academic Excellence in Research Methods. (University of Delhi, 2012).

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, 2020 (University of Minnesota, $25,000).

Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellowship at Charles Babbage Institute, 2019 (University of Minnesota, $25,000).

Graduate Research Partnership Program, 2019 (University of Minnesota, $4000).

Anna Welsch Bright Research Fellowship, 2016 (University of Minnesota, $3700).

International Waters Network fellowship, 2016 ($5000).

MA, Professional and Doctoral Award by Global Programs and Strategy Alliance, 2014 (University of Minnesota, $5000).

Mini Grant, Institute of the Environment, 2014 (University of Minnesota, $3000).

Professional Development Award Department of Sociology, 2013 (University of Minnesota, $3000).

Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change (ICGC) Fellowship ($20,000), research grant ($10,000) and pre-dissertation grant for international fieldwork ($4000), 2013 (University of Minnesota).

Krishna Raj Summer Research Fellowship with Chandana Anusha and Tanya Matthan, 2011 (University of Delhi, 12,000 INR).

INVITED TALKS & PANELS

Future of Work in India. Panellist and Participant. International Labour Organization (ILO) & Tandem Research, Goa, India, (September 12-13, 2017).

Lay-offs in the IT Industry: Why Should We Care? Guest Speaker. Thursday Talkies – Lecture Series St. Joseph's College, Bangalore, India (July 20, 2017).

What Is to Be Done? A Student Led Discussion about the State of Development Research. Panelist. ASA Development Sociology Section Conference, Brown University, Providence (March 13-15, 2015).

Marginalities: A Workshop. Panelist for closing session, Delhi School of Economics (March 25-26, 2010).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Industrial Change and the Logic of Corporate Cannibalization: The Re-Making of India's IT Sector", Annual Society for the Social Studies of Science (4S) Conference, New Orleans (2019).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS CONT.

"How New Computing Infrastructures Support Asset-Light Economies", American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Conference, New York City (2019).

"Platform Capitalism and the Restructuring of an Off-shore Economy: The Case of Middle Managers", Annual Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) Conference, New York City (2019).

"Creative Destruction in the Age of Platform Capitalism." Annual European Group of Organizational Studies (EGOS) Conference. University of Edinburgh (2019).

"Between the Cloud and a Hard Place: New Computing Infrastructures and the Rebirth of Just-in-Time Logics", Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, (SASE) Conference, New York City (2019).

"The Rise & Fall of the Middle Manager: An Analysis of Industrial Change in India's Technology Sector", Annual South Asia Studies Conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2018).

"The Promise and Perils of Creative Destruction in India's IT Sector", Annual American Sociological Association (ASA) Conference, Philadelphia (2018).

"Labor Disrupted: The Crisis and Reorganization in India's Software Industry", Annual American Association of Geographers (AAG) Conference, New Orleans (2018).

"Cashing Out the City: Speculative Urbanism through the Lens of India's Real Estate Industry" (co-author: Dr. Michael Goldman), Annual American Association of Geographers (AAG) Conference, New Orleans (2018).

"Between the Cloud and a Hard Place: The Re-making of India's Software Sector", International Conference on Labour History, Delhi (2018).

"Programmed Disruption: Examining Crisis and Reorganization in a Hi-tech Offshore Industry", Annual Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) Conference, Lyon (2017).

"Software-led Development: The Changing Politics of the IT Industry in India", ASA Development Sociology Section Conference, Cornell University, Ithaca, (2016).

"The Reconfiguration of India's Software Industry: Conceptualizing Labor Displacement in the Hi-tech Economy", ASA Economic Sociology Section Pre-Conference, Seattle, (2016).

"The Changing Terrain of Software Labor in India", Annual South Asia Studies Conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison, (2015).

"The Reconfiguration of India's IT Industry: Conceptualizing a new regime of productivity", ASA Development Sociology Section Conference, Brown University, Providence, (2015).

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS – UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

"In Search of the Cloud: A view from the world's back office", Just Code - A symposium on the Political Economy of IT, Charles Babbage Institute (2020).

"Organizational Autophagy: How IT firms are drawn to auto-disrupt", Department of Sociology Workshop Series (2019).

"Software Labor and the Internal Contradictions of Middle Management: The case of an offshore industry", ICGC Brown Bag Series (2019).

"The Changing Terrain of Software Labor in India", South Asia Seminar Series (2015).

"The Reconfiguration of India's IT Industry: Conceptualizing a New Regime of Productivity", Sociology Research Institute (2015).

WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION & PRESENTATIONS

Participant: Summer Institute in Economic Geography, Montreal (Postponed to 2021).

Participant: Winter School on the Digital Economy, International Institute of Information Technology, Bangalore (2017).

Participant & Presenter: "Bangalore's Great Transformation: Urban Expansion and Issues of Water Access." Presented at the Justicia Hídrica Alliance and International Waters Network Workshop, Wageningen University, Netherlands. Co-presenter: Anuradha Sajjanhar (2016).

Participant & Presenter: "The Financialization of Urban Infrastructure: A research agenda." Presented at the International Workshop on Comparative Urban and Regional Research, Indian Institute of Human Settlements, Bangalore, India (2014).

Presenter: "Re-thinking the State-Society Binary." Research Scholars Workshop, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi (2012).

Participant & Presenter: "Theorizing Global Political Economy: Themes and Debates." Final presentation at a two-month summer workshop: Researching the Contemporary, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi (2011).

Ford Foundation funded participant at summer workshop: Replenishing Democracy, Amherst College (2007).

DISSERTATION RESEARCH FEATURED (SELECT)

Basole, Amit. 2018. State of Working India. Centre for Sustainable Employment, *Azim Premji University*, Bangalore.

Ramanathan, Anuradha. 2018, May 16. 40 & Outdated. *The-Ken*.

Sturgeon, Timothy. 2017. The 'New' Digital Economy and Development, Technical Note, The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (*UNCTAD*). 8, 1-37.

Subramanian, Sumanth. 2017, October 24. India warily eyes AI. *MIT Technology Review*.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

Liberal Arts Technologies and Innovation Services (LATIS), UMN, *Core tasks: Curriculum support and resource creation for online teaching and research during Covid-19 Pandemic* (2020).

National Science Foundation funded project (# BCS-1636437): "Speculative Urbanism: Land, Livelihoods, and Finance Capital." Principle Investigator: Dr. Vinay Gidwani, University of Minnesota. (2017*). Core tasks: data collection (in-depth interviews, field trips), participant in project review meetings, workshops, and academic publishing.*

Dr. Janaki Nair (Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi), project: "Indian Urbanism and the terrain of the Law." (2013). *Core tasks: Collecting and synthesizing legal documents.*

Dr. Shilpa Phadke (Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai), project: "Women and Public Space in Mumbai." (2008). *Core tasks: data collection (in-depth interviewing).*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor:

New Digital Economy: Key Debates (Lifelong Learning Institute (Winter 2020).
SOC3701: Social Theory (University of Minnesota, Summer 2018) – Online.

Graduate Teaching Assistantship (UMN):

SOC 4966W: Senior Projects Seminar (Fall 2016)
SOC 4966W: Senior Projects Seminar (Spring 2016)
SOC1001: Introduction to Sociology - Discussion Section Leader (Fall 2015)
SOC 3251W: Sociological Perspectives in Race, Class and Gender (Spring 2015)
SOC3701: Social Theory (Fall 2014)

Course Co-Designer:

SOC 3421W: Sociology of Work (Summer 2019)

Training Completed:

SOC8011: Teaching Sociology (Spring 2016)

Guest Lectures (Select):

"Introduction to the Platform Economy"
"Interviewing and Qualitative Research"
"Debating the Future of Work"
"Introduction to Karl Polanyi"
"Global Value Chains"

SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Co-Chair: Graduate Students Organization, Sociology, UMN (2020-2021).

Session Organizer: "Entrepreneurial Labor," Society for the Study of Social Problems, labor division (2020, *cancelled*).

Awards Committee Member: Best Student Paper, CITAMS Section ASA (2020).

Graduate Student Mentoring Coordinator (2015-2016).

Co-Organizer Bangalore Research Network Summer Workshop (2016).

Manuscript Reviewer: *Work and Occupations*; *Environment and Planning E; Economic and Political Weekly; Capitalism Nature Socialism.*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Sociological Association (ASA)
Society for Advanced Socio-Economics (SASE)
American Association of Geographers (AAG)
Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)
European Group for Organizational Studies (EGOS)
Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)

REFERENCES

Michael Goldman
Associate Professor
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Rachel Schurman
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