

AUSTIN FORUM

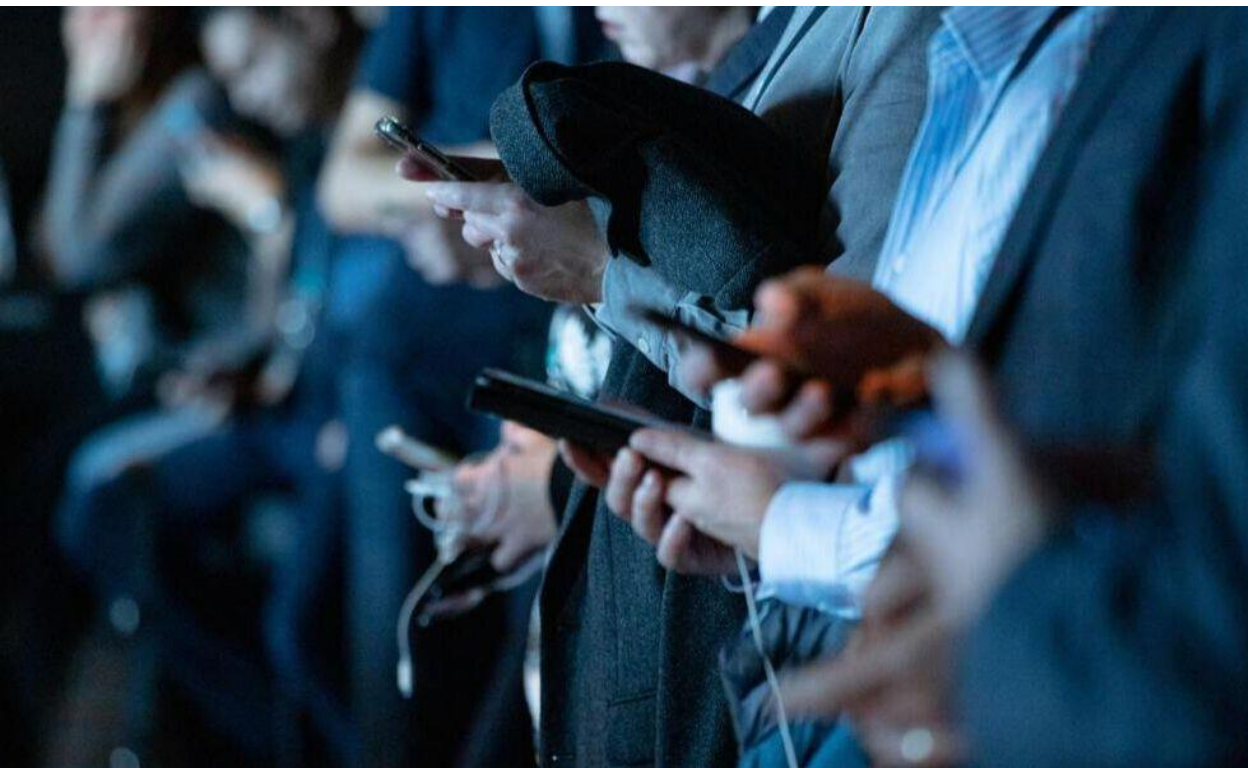
ON TECHNOLOGY & SOCIETY

Connect. Collaborate. Contribute.™

Welcome to the
Austin Forum on Technology & Society!

*We bring leaders, thinkers, builders, creators, and learners together to **connect, collaborate, and contribute!***

*Thank you for joining our community
online or in-person!*



The New Threats of Misinformation & Disinformation—and What We Can Do

July 11, 2023

Austin Forum Team!



Jay Boisseau
Executive Director



Allison Warner
Logistics



John Lockman
Tech Director



Mary Garza
Web/UX Designer



Delanie Majors
Communications

*Thanks for everything!
We'll miss you!*

Austin Forum Team!



Jay Boisseau
Executive Director



Allison Warner
Logistics



John Lockman
Tech Director



Mary Garza
Web/UX Designer



Julie Tomlin
Operations



Kenya Caines
Communications

Welcome Julie and Kenya!

Our Annual Partners Make This Possible!

A D A P T E R



Please contact us if you want to become an annual partner!

We have 6 ways to learn, share, connect!

Live monthly events	Online content
Presentation + Networking events • Expert presenter-focused • In-person and online—hybrid • Recording and slides posted online	Email List, Website, EventBrite & Slack • Get updates and register for events • Learn more about the Austin Forum • Ask questions, share, etc. (Slack)
Meetup discussion events • Participatory for everyone • In-person only • Never recorded—speak freely!	Podcasts – Austin Forum Upload (<i>new episodes weekly!</i>) • Audio only • Conversation formats • Hosted in all major podcast stores, AF website
Book discussion events • Participatory for everyone • Online only • Never recorded—speak freely!	Blog – Austin Forum Update (<i>July 2023</i>) • Web-based (on Medium) • Weekly(ish) articles • Multiple formats: “Techsplanations,” interviews, analyses/positions, and series

Before we get started, join our slack

Why join the Austin Forum Slack workspace?

1. Continue and deepen the conversation after Austin Forum events
2. Find new opportunities for collaboration, mentoring, working, and more
3. Promote local events and relevant Tech & Society opportunities
4. Because this gives *everyone* in our community—online and in-person—the *same* way to ask questions!

How?

1. Open a web browser
2. Go to: www.austinforum.org/slack
3. Click “Join the Austin Forum Slack Workspace”
4. Enter your email address
5. Check your email to confirm Slack invitation
6. Enter your name and click “Create Account”
7. You’re in! You can use the Slack mobile app now, too.
8. Add channels to your view using + **Add channels**)

Austin Forum Upload: New episodes out now!



New episodes!

- #63 - Tech Trends for 2023 Mid-year Review
- #62 - SXSW Sydney 2023: What Up Down Under, with Hugh Forrest
- #61 - Technology Companies and Diversity: Great for People, Companies, and Innovation
- #60 - Understanding and Realizing the Value of AR/VR/Metaverse

Soon, episodes with leaders in:

- Web 3.0 and Web3
- Women in Tech
- Quantum Computing
- Cybersecurity

Questions for
speakers?

Submit questions in
the AF Slack channel
#misinformation
for a chance to win a
SXSW 2024 badge!

*Must be in-person and
present at ~7:45PM to win!*

*Must use your name (first
and last) on questions!*



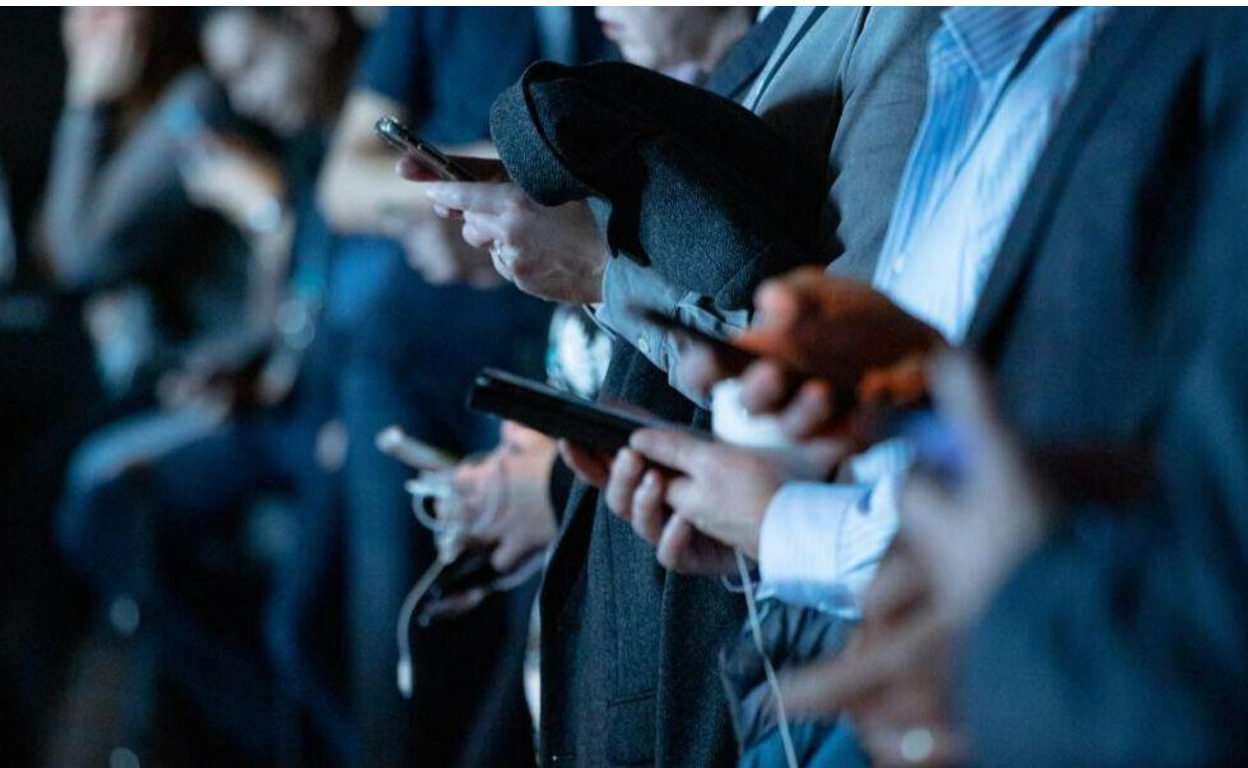
SXSW

And now, our featured presentation...

Please:

- ✓ *Respect our speakers & audience* by not talking during their presentation, and in your comments & questions
- ✓ *Ask questions* in the AF Slack in the [#misinformation](#) channel
- ✓ *Share key points* via Twitter and/or Threads and tag [@AustinForum](#)
- ✓ *Learn, think, and enjoy!*





The New Threats of Misinformation & Disinformation—and What We Can Do

July 11, 2023

The New Threats of Misinformation & Disinformation—and What We Can Do



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**Global Disinformation Lab UT
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CONTEST for a SXSW 2024 Badge

- **Objective:** understand how easy it is to generate misinformation online
- **Generate:** a non-political, non-harassing piece of misinformation or disinformation—not serious, preferably funny on your smartphone.
- **Submit:** to our Slack channel **#event-contest**
- **DO NOT:** be mean, but do realize how easy this would be (risk)
- **Note:** some GenAI tools have guardrails to prevent potentially damaging/harmful misinformation
- **Rules**
 1. only in-person submissions are eligible to win
 2. only one submission per attendee (multiple submissions make you ineligible)
 3. If you are mean, your submission will be ineligible and deleted
 4. All submissions due by 7:30pm—submissions at 7:31pm or later will not be eligible.

Example

Prompt (to ChatGPT-4): Write a press release about Jay Boisseau, Austin Forum director and founder, winning the 2023 Miss Universe pageant.

ChatGPT:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Austin Forum Director Jay Boisseau Crowned Winner of 2023 Miss Universe Pageant

Austin, TX – July 11, 2023 – In a remarkable turn of events, Jay Boisseau, known for his leadership as the director and founder of the Austin Forum on Technology & Society, has been crowned the winner of the 2023 Miss Universe pageant. The announcement was met with great excitement and surprise, marking a significant moment in the history of the pageant, known for its dedication to championing diversity, inclusion, and women's empowerment.

Boisseau, an Austin-based technology and society advocate, made history as the first male to participate in and win the Miss Universe pageant, shattering traditional norms and opening a new chapter in the pageant's story.

The Miss Universe Organization decided earlier this year to open the competition to all gender identities, with a renewed focus on championing inclusivity, equality, and empowerment. This historic decision aimed at broadening the scope of the competition, embracing a more holistic view of beauty that transcends physical appearance and includes intelligence, leadership, and social impact.

Boisseau, recognized internationally for his commitment to technology and social impact, set a new precedent in the competition with his impressive expertise and passion. He is best known for his role in founding the Austin Forum, a monthly speaker series that brings together Austin's tech, entrepreneurial, and broader community to learn about and discuss technology's impact on society.

"Winning the Miss Universe pageant is an honor I never could have imagined. I entered this competition to champion the cause of equality, diversity, and the powerful intersection of technology and society," said Boisseau. "I hope my participation can inspire people to break barriers, challenge norms, and embrace a more inclusive worldview." [full version on Slack]

The New Threats of Misinformation & Disinformation—and What We Can Do



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Ryan Williams

Deputy Director
Global Disinformation Lab UT

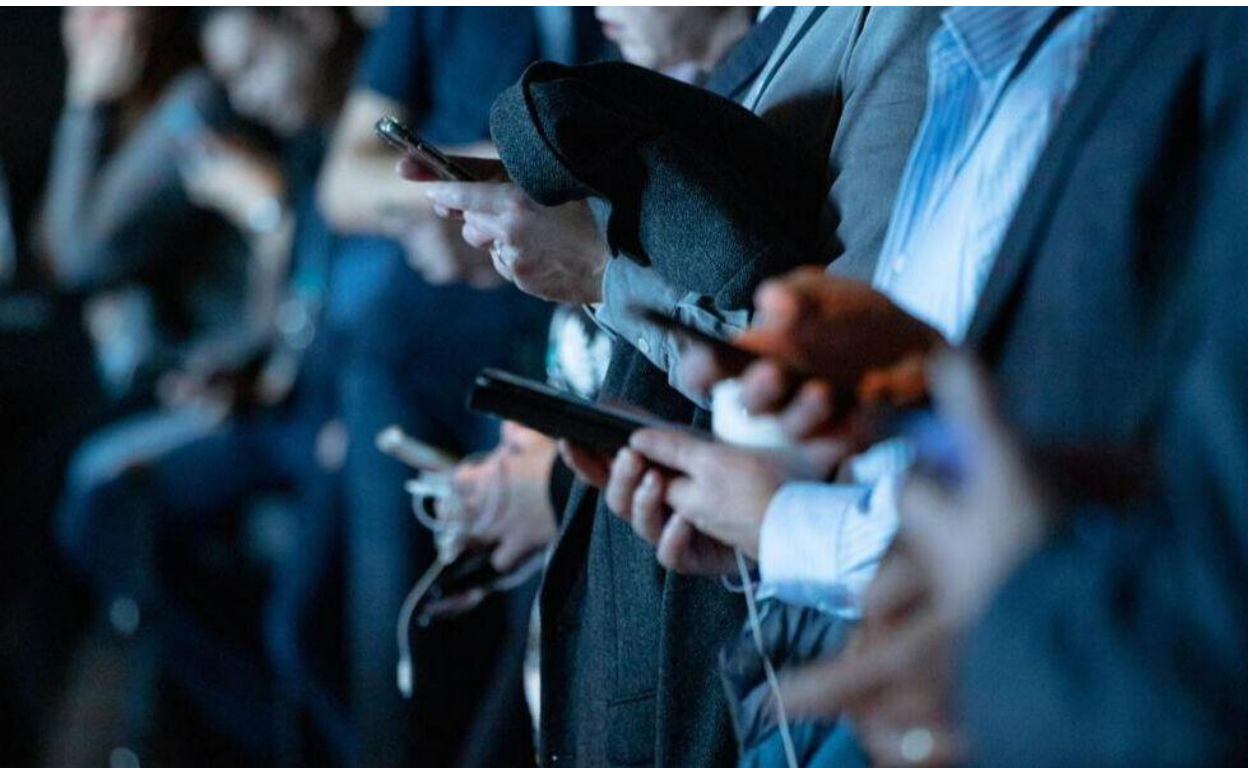
Austin

ryan_t_w@utexas.edu

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ON TECHNOLOGY & SOCIETY

@AustinForum
www.austinforum.org



**Q&A
for
The New Threats of
Misinformation &
Disinformation—and
What We Can Do**

July 11, 2023

Q: What is the best thing you learned tonight?

(30 seconds)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 

Our Annual Partners Make This Possible!

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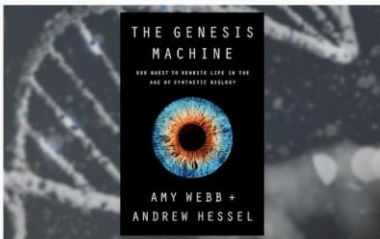
Please contact us if you want to become an annual partner!

Donate Your Unused Tech!

- If you have computers, tablets, or smartphones no longer being used, please help those in need
- Bring your devices to any in-person event, and we'll donate to our worthy charities!



Book Discussion: "The Genesis Machine"



July 26, 2023

Discussion of "The Genesis Machine: Our Quest to Rewrite Life in the Age of Synthetic Biology"

7:15 p.m. CDT | **Online**

REGISTER

Location

Online

Zoom (register for event to receive link)

Agenda

7:15 - 8:30 p.m. | **Discussion**

Moderator

Hugh Forrest, Chief Programming Officer, [SXSW](#)

Event Summary

For our July monthly online discussion, [SXSW](#) Co-President & Chief Programming Officer, Hugh Forrest, will lead us in a conversation about synthetic biology, genetic engineering, and how these advancements will affect our lives.

Amy Webb's and Andrew Hessel's book [The Genesis Machine: Our Quest to Rewrite Life in the Age of Synthetic Biology](#), acts as our springboard as we dive into this field and how computers are used to rewrite genetic code. This advancement opens a world of opportunities, ranging from

2nd Austin AI Ecosystem Meetup



July 27, 2023

Austin AI Ecosystem Initiative: Planning Meeting

6:30 p.m. CDT | **In-person**

REGISTER

Location

In-person

Capital Factory, Voltron Room
701 Brazos Street Austin, TX 78701

Agenda

6:30 - 8:00 p.m. | **Discussion**

Moderator

Jay Boisseau, Executive Director, Austin
Forum on Technology & Society

Event Summary

This is the second meeting for Austin AI professionals, companies, and organizations to discuss the formation of an Austin AI Ecosystem Initiative, including the opportunities, scope, possible goals, and more. The first meeting presented the reasons for coming together, potential benefits, and potential goals and benefits. The rationale for potentially creating this Austin AI Ecosystem Initiative is characterized by that event description. That first event concluded with a consensus to move forward and to schedule two more meetings: this second meeting on July 27 to draft the mission and scope, priorities and goals, governance and participation models, and working groups and communications, and a third meeting in September (details TBD) to make decisions on these topics. The Austin Forum on Technology & Society, a leading technology non-profit (501c3) organization in Austin, hosted the first meeting and will host this second, planning-focused meeting (as well as the third decision-focused meeting in September), providing the stakeholders a forum to form their own leadership and execution models.

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ON TECHNOLOGY & SOCIETY

@AustinForum
www.austinforum.org

August: Global Energy Trends & Transitions



August 1, 2023

Global Energy Trends and Transitions

6:15 p.m. CDT | **In-person** (including networking) and **Online** (Zoom)

REGISTER

Location

In-person

Austin Energy Headquarters
4815 Mueller Blvd, Austin, TX 78723

Online

On Zoom (register for event to receive link)

Agenda

5:15-6:15 p.m. - Networking
6:15-7:30 p.m. - **Presentation**
7:30-7:45 p.m. - Q&A
8:00 p.m. - Networking at [Trifecta](#)

Speaker

Dr. Michael E. Webber, CTO, [Energy Impact Partners](#); and Professor of Mechanical Engineering, [University of Texas](#)

Event Summary

The worldwide energy sector is going through dramatic shifts in energy demand, end-uses, and sources. Population growth and economic growth

Join Us for More Great Content in 2023

- **Schedule posted at www.austinforum.org**
- Additional presentation topics for 2023 will include
 - Quantum computing
 - 3D printing everything
 - Digital privacy, trust, ethics debate
 - Data and graphs
 - Gaming and e-entertainment
 - Cybersecurity
 - and more!



Plus:

- New podcast episodes **now**
- In-person meetups
- Online book discussions

Join us to learn, share, discuss!!



*Please share the upcoming events with your friends
and colleagues!*

Networking is back! Join us at:



Corner of 3rd St and Nueces St—an easy walk from here

KEEP YOUR NAMETAGS FOR FREE DRINKS!

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ON TECHNOLOGY & SOCIETY

Connect. Collaborate. Contribute.™