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Joseph Seering

Contact

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Affiliations

Mar 2026-Present	Associate Professor in the School of Computing, **KAIST**
Aug 2023-Feb 2026	Assistant Professor in the School of Computing, **KAIST**
Oct 2020-July 2023	Postdoctoral Scholar in Computer Science, **Stanford University**

Education

Sep 2020	PhD in Human-Computer Interaction, **Carnegie Mellon University**
May 2018	MS in Human-Computer Interaction, **Carnegie Mellon University**
May 2013	BA in Social Studies, **Harvard University**

Publications & Presentations

Conference and Journal Papers:

- Hong, Y., Doszhan, Y., and **Seering, J.** (2026) Fostering Collective Discourse: A Distributed Role-Based Approach to Online News Commenting. In *Proceedings of the 2026 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM. **Best Paper Honorable Mention** 🎖
- LeeYouk, S., and **Seering, J.** (2026) Deepfake, Real Harm: A Participatory Approach for Imagining Infrastructures to Combat Deepfake Sexual Abuse. In *Proceedings of the 2026 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM.
- Kim, T.,* Lee, H.,* Lee, Y., **Seering, J.**, and Kim, J. (2026) Evalet: Evaluating Large Language Models through Functional Fragmentation. In *Proceedings of the 2026 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM. **Best Paper Honorable Mention** 🎖

- Kuo, T., Liu, S., Chen, Q., **Seering, J.**, Zhang, A., Zhu, H.,* and Holstein, K.* (2026) Botender: Supporting Communities in Collaboratively Designing AI Agents through Case-Based Provocations. In *Proceedings of the 2026 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM.
- Choi, Y., Zhunis, A., Dong, W., **Seering, J.**, Park, S., Cha, M., and Chin, H. (2025). Privacy disclosure to large language models: A large-scale study on awareness, benefits, and concerns in health contexts across three countries. In *Computers in Human Behavior Reports.* Elsevier. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chbr.2025.100841
- Lee, J., Doan, B., Jee, J., and **Seering, J.** (2025). Mapping Community Appeals Systems: Lessons for Community-led Moderation in Multi-Level Governance. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3757627
- Park, S., Kim, J., Choi, J., **Seering, J.**, Lee, U., and Lee, S. (2025). HateBuffer: Safeguarding Content Moderators' Mental Well-Being through Hate Speech Content Modification. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3757609
- Yoon, J., Zhang, A., and **Seering J.** (2025). "It's Great Because It's Ran By Us": Empowering Teen Volunteer Discord Moderators to Design Healthy and Engaging Youth-Led Online Communities. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3711114
- Doan, B., and **Seering, J.** (2025). The Design Space for Online Restorative Justice Tools: A Case Study with ApoloBot. In *Proceedings of the 2025 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3706598.3713598
- Lee, J., Kim, S., Park, Y., Kim, J., Jang, J., and **Seering, J.** (2025). Less Talk, More Trust: Understanding Players' In-game Assessment of Communication Processes in League of Legends. In *Proceedings of the 2025 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3706598.3714226
- Choi, Y., Choi, J., and **Seering, J.** (2025). Leveling Up Together: Fostering Positive Growth and Safe Online Spaces for Teen Roblox Developers. In *Proceedings of the 2025 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3706598.3713969
- Kim, H., Song, W., **Seering, J.**, and Kang, M. (2025). Understanding User Privacy Perceptions in Video Conferencing: Insights from a Feature-Specific User Study. In *Proceedings on Privacy Enhancing Technologies.* https://doi.org/10.56553/popets-2025-0096
- **Seering, J.**, Khadka, M., Haghighi, N., Yang, T., Xi, Z., and Bernstein, M. (2024). Chillbot: Content Moderation in the Backchannel. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 8, CSCW2. https://doi.org/10.1145/3686941 **Best Paper Honorable Mention** 🎖
- Jun, B., **Seering, J.**, and Jee, J. (2024) Algorithmic Spread of "Nationalist Kitsch": The Case of South Korea's Gukppong YouTubers. In *Digital Korea: Stories, Systems and Spaces of Connection.* http://hdl.handle.net/10203/324913
- Han, C., **Seering, J.,** Kumar, D., Hancock, J., and Durumeric, Z. (2023). Hate

Raids on Twitch: Echoes of the Past, New Modalities, and Implications for Platform Governance. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 7, CSCW1, Article 133. https://doi.org/10.1145/3579609 **Best Paper Award** 🏆

- **Seering, J.** and Kairam, S. (2023). Who Moderates on Twitch and What Do They Do? Quantifying Practices in Community Moderation on Twitch. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 7, GROUP, Article 18. https://doi.org/10.1145/3567568
- Park, J.S., **Seering, J.**, and Bernstein, M. (2022). Measuring the Prevalence of Anti-Social Behavior in Online Communities. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 6, CSCW2, Article 451. https://doi.org/10.1145/3555552 **Methods Recognition Award** 🎖
- **Seering, J.**, Dym, B., Kaufman, G., and Bernstein, M. (2022). Pride and Professionalization in Volunteer Moderation: Lessons for Effective Platform-User Collaboration. In *The Journal of Online Trust and Safety* 1(2). https://doi.org/10.54501/jots.v1i2.34
- **Seering, J.**, Kaufman, G., and Chancellor, C. (2022, March). Metaphors in Moderation. *New Media & Society*, 24(3), 621-640. https://doi.org/10.1177/1461444820964968
- Kim, S., Eun, J., **Seering, J.**, and Lee, J. (2021, Oct). Moderator Chatbot for Deliberative Discussion: Effects of Discussion Structure and Discussant Facilitation. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 5, CSCW1, Article 87. https://doi.org/10.1145/3449161
- **Seering, J.** (2020, Oct) Reconsidering Community Self-Moderation: the Role of Research in Supporting Community-Based Models for Online Content Moderation. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 4, CSCW2, Article 107. https://doi.org/10.1145/3415178
- Luria, M., **Seering, J.**, Forlizzi, J., and Zimmerman, J. (2020, April), Designing Chatbots as Community-Owned Agents. In *Proceedings of the 2nd Conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI '20).* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3405755.3406134
- **Seering, J.**, Hammer, J., Kaufman, G., and Yang, D. (2020, April), Proximate Social Factors in First-Time Contribution to Online Communities. In *Proceedings of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3313831.3376151
- **Seering, J.**, Luria, M., Ye, C., Kaufman, G., and Hammer, J. (2020, April), It Takes a Village: Integrating an Adaptive Chatbot into an Online Gaming Community. In *Proceedings of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3313831.3376708
- Yu, B., **Seering, J.**, Spiel, K., and Watts, L. (2020, April), "Taking Care of a Fruit Tree": Nurturing as a Layer of Concern in Online Community Moderation. In *Extended Abstracts of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3334480.3383009
- **Seering, J.***, Mayol, R.,* Harpstead, E., Chen, T., Cook, A., and Hammer, J. (2019, Oct), Peer Feedback Processes in the Game Industry. In *Proceedings of*

the Annual Symposium on Computer-Human Interaction in Play (CHI PLAY '19), Barcelona, Spain. ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3311350.3347176

- Harpstead, E., Rios, J.S., **Seering, J.**, and Hammer, J. (2019, Oct), Toward a Twitch Research Toolkit: A Systematic Review of Approaches to Research on Game Streaming. In *Proceedings of the Annual Symposium on Computer-Human Interaction in Play (CHI PLAY '19)*, Barcelona, Spain. ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3311350.3347149

- Flores-Saviaga, C., Hammer, J., Flores, J.P., **Seering, J.**, Reeves, S., and Savage, S. (2019, Sept), Audience and Streamer Participation at Scale on Twitch. In *Proceedings of the 30th ACM Conference on Hypertext and Social Media (HT '19)*, Hof, Germany. https://doi.org/10.1145/3342220.3344926

- **Seering, J.**, Fang, T., Damasco, L., Chen, M., Sun, L., and Kaufman, G. (2019, Apr), Designing User Interface Elements to Improve the Quality and Civility of Discourse in Online Commenting Behaviors. In *Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3290605.3300836

- **Seering, J.**, Luria M., Kaufman, G., and Hammer, J. (2019, Apr), Beyond Dyadic Interactions: Considering Chatbots as Community Members. In *Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3290605.3300680

- Yang, D., Yao, Z., **Seering, J.**, and Kraut, R. E. (2019, May), The Channel Matters: Self-disclosure, Reciprocity and Social Support in Online Cancer Support Groups. *Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.* ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3290605.3300261 **Best Paper Honorable Mention** 🎖

- **Seering, J.**, Wang, T., Yoon, J., and Kaufman, G. (2019), Moderator Engagement and Community Development In the Age of Algorithms. *New Media & Society*, 21(7), 1417–1443. https://doi.org/10.1177/1461444818821316

- **Seering, J.**, Ng, F., Yao, Z., and Kaufman, G. (2018, Nov), Applications of Social Identity Theory to Research and Design in Computer-Supported Cooperative Work. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 2, CSCW, Article 201. https://doi.org/10.1145/3274771 **Best Paper Award** 🏆

- **Seering, J.**, Flores, J.P., Savage, S., and Hammer, J. (2018, Nov) The Social Roles of Bots: Evaluating Impact of Bots on Discussions in Online Communities. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 2, CSCW, Article 157. https://doi.org/10.1145/3274426

- Glickman, S., McKenzie, N., **Seering, J.**, Moeller, R., and Hammer, J. (2018, Oct) Design Challenges for Livestreamed Audience Participation Games. In *Proceedings of the Annual Symposium on Computer-Human Interaction in Play (CHI PLAY '18)*, Melbourne, Australia. https://doi.org/10.1145/3242671.3242708 **Best Paper Honorable Mention** 🎖

- **Seering, J.**, Savage, S., Eagle, M., Churchin, J., Moeller, R., Bigham, J., and Hammer, J. (2017, June), Audience Participation Games: Blurring the Line Between Player and Spectator. In *Proceedings of the 2017 Conference on Designing Interactive Systems (DIS '17)*, Edinburgh, Scotland, ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/3064663.3064732

- **Seering, J.**, Kraut, R. E., and Dabbish, L. (2017, Feb), Shaping Pro and Anti-Social Behavior on Twitch Through Moderation and Example-Setting. In *Proceedings of the 2017 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW '17)*, Portland, Oregon. ACM. https://doi.org/10.1145/2998181.2998277 **Best Paper Honorable Mention** 🎖

- **Seering, J.**, Willcox, K., & Huang, L. (2015, June), Mapping Outcomes in an Undergraduate Aerospace Engineering Program. In *Proceedings of the 2015 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition*, Seattle, Washington. https://doi.org/10.18260/p.24467

Doctoral Colloquium:

- **Seering, J.** Building More Positive Online Communities through Improving Moderation and Strengthening Social Identity. ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW '19). Austin, TX, USA. Nov 2019.

Conference Presentations, Posters, and Workshop Papers:

- **Seering, J.** (2019, May), Chatbots for Engagement and Play on Twitch. Workshop paper presented at the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Glasgow, Scotland. ACM

- **Seering, J.**, and Kaufman, G. (2018, June), Experimenting with Harassment: Ethical Questions in Studying Bad Behaviors Online. Workshop paper presented at the the 12th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media, Stanford, California. AAAI.

- **Seering, J.**, and Kaufman, G. (2018, Apr), The Importance of Looking Closer: Understanding Motivations for Bad Behavior Online. Workshop paper presented at the 2018 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Montreal, Canada. ACM.

- **Seering, J.**, and Kaufman, G. (2017, Feb), Social Identity Theory and Computer-Supported Cooperative Work. Workshop paper presented at the 20th conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing, Portland, Oregon. ACM.

- **Seering, J.**, and Dabbish, L. (2016, March), Exploring Identity Signals on an Anonymous Mobile Posting App. Workshop paper presented at the 19th conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing, San Francisco, California. ACM.

- Lieberman, C., **Seering, J.**, and Willcox, K. (2014, June). Mapping of learning outcomes across the MIT undergraduate curriculum. Poster session presented at the 10th International CDIO Conference, Barcelona, Spain, June 15-19 2014.

Invited Book Reviews:

- Seering, J. (2019, June), Book Review: Custodians of the Internet: Platforms, Content Moderation, and the Hidden Decisions That Shape Social Media. Convergence.

Other Work:

- **Seering, J.** (2020). Supporting Volunteer Moderation Practices in Online Communities. Dissertation, Human-Computer Interaction Institute, Carnegie Mellon University.

- Willcox, K., Sarma, S., and Lippel, P. et al. (2016, May). Online Education: A Catalyst for Higher Education Reforms. Accessed at https://oepi.mit.edu/literature/reports/.
- **Seering, J.** (Unpublished, 2013). Practical Goals: A Case Study in Understanding and Judging Objectives in Higher Education. Senior Thesis, Harvard College.

Awards

- CHI 2026 Best Paper Honorable Mention (2 papers)
- KAIST 2025 Research Prize
- CSCW 2024 Best Paper Honorable Mention
- CSCW 2023 Best Paper Award
- 2021 CRA Computing Innovation Fellow
- K&L Gates Presidential Fellowship in Ethics and Computational Technologies
- Carnegie Mellon University Presidential Fellowship
- CHI 2019 Best Paper Honorable Mention
- CSCW 2018 Best Paper Award
- CHI PLAY 2018 Best Paper Honourable Mention
- CSCW 2017 Best Paper Honorable Mention
- High honors for undergraduate thesis, Harvard College

Funding

- 2026 KAIST–U.S. Joint Research Open Track Program – "Development of Generative Agent-Based Simulations for Large-Scale Social Prediction Tasks" (PI): KRW 15,000,000
- 2025 KAIST–U.S. Joint Research Open Track Program – "Development of Generative Agent-Based Simulations of Problematic Behaviors for Facilitating Large-Scale Online Community Moderation Design" (PI): KRW 20,000,000
- KAIST C2 Grant – "Constructing a Large-Scale Dataset of Collaborative Group Conversations to Support the Next Generation of Socially-Aware Conversational AI Models" (PI): KRW 40,000,000
- TTA Grant 2024 – "Building a Dataset and Roadmap for Multi-Domain AI Risk Safety Assessment" (Co-PI): KRW 100,000,000
- NRF Outstanding Young Scientist Grant 2024-2027 – "Development of Generative Agent-Based Simulations of Problematic Behaviors for Facilitating Large-Scale Online Community Moderation Design" (PI): KRW 550,527,000
- CI Fellow 2021 (PI): $253,328
- Brown Institute Magic Grant 2021-2022 – "Combating the Spread of Disinformation on Encrypted Messaging Apps" (Co-PI): $126,779
- Discord Inc. Research Gift (PI): $5,000

- K&L Gates Presidential Fellowship (PI): $46,721
- Carnegie Mellon University Presidential Fellowship (PI): $50,000

Graduate Students Advised

- Juhoon Lee (PhD) 2024 - present
- Braahmi Padmakumar (MS) 2025 - present
- Minju Yoo (MS, Co-advised) 2025 - present
- Heechan Lee (MS, Co-advised) 2025 - present
- Jeanne Choi (MS) 2024 - 2026
- Yoojin Hong (MS) 2023 - 2025
  - ➛ Post-MS: CRM at CELINE
- Yubin Choi (MS, Co-advised) 2023 - 2025.
  - ➛ Post-MS: PhD student at University of Michigan

Courses Taught

1. CS.50804, "Human-Computer Interaction," Graduate
2. CS.40703, "Introduction to Social Computing," Undergraduate
3. CS.30704, "Introduction to Human-Computer Interaction," Undergraduate
4. CS.49900, "Special Topics: Trust and Safety Engineering and Practice," Undergraduate

Work Experience

Jan 2014-Aug 2015 | Researcher in Online Learning
MIT, Aeronautics and Astronautics Department
Worked as a researcher for MIT's Online Education Policy Initiative, funded by a grant by the Carnegie Corporation. Performed an extensive review of the literature over several months to understand state-of-the-art perspectives on online learning from psychology, social science, and education, and presented the results of this review to the internal working group and to interested parties across MIT.

Jun 2013-Aug 2015 | Research Analyst
MIT, Office of the Provost
Performed extensive survey research by assisting with writing, deploying, and analyzing more than fifteen surveys including the MIT Community Attitudes on Sexual Assault survey. Used statistical analysis tools including SPSS on large sets of data to answer research and administrative questions about student learning and social experiences. Analyzed and coded large volumes of textual responses to survey questions, both manually and with natural language processing algorithms written in Python.

Jun 2012- | Research Intern

Aug 2012	*Harvard University, Office of Institutional Research* Explored terminology used in learning objectives and used Python, MATLAB and statistical software to model linguistic relationships between a variety of terms in the relevant literature.
Jun 2011- Aug 2011	Quality Analyst Intern *QinetiQ North America* Worked to validate and verify reports on procedures related to quality control in a complex manufacturing environment.
Oct 2008- Jun 2009, Jun 2010- Aug 2010	Intern in Statistical Engineering *Bose Corporation* Used statistical tools to validate manufacturing processes and suggest assembly specifications. Focused specifically on minimizing failures by recommending proper torque settings for driving screws into different materials. Designed an 'intern curriculum,' specifying a progression of skills an intern would learn while in the department.