Committee on the Impact of Social Media on the Health and Wellbeing of Adolescent Health
Meeting 4
Speaker Biosketches

Jeremy Bailenson

Jeremy Bailenson is founding director of Stanford University's Virtual Human Interaction Lab, Thomas More Storke Professor in the Department of Communication, Professor (by courtesy) of Education, Professor (by courtesy) Program in Symbolic Systems, a Senior Fellow at the Woods Institute for the Environment, and a Faculty Leader at Stanford's Center for Longevity. He earned a B.A. cum laude from the University of Michigan in 1994 and a Ph.D. in cognitive psychology from Northwestern University in 1999. He spent four years at the University of California, Santa Barbara as a Post-Doctoral Fellow and then an Assistant Research Professor.

Bailenson studies the psychology of Virtual and Augmented Reality, in particular how virtual experiences lead to changes in perceptions of self and others. His lab builds and studies systems that allow people to meet in virtual space, and explores the changes in the nature of social interaction. His most recent research focuses on how virtual experiences can transform education, environmental conservation, empathy, and health. He is the recipient of the Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching at Stanford. In 2020, IEEE recognized his work with "The Virtual/Augmented Reality Technical Achievement Award". He has published more than 200 academic papers, spanning the fields of communication, computer science, education, environmental science, law, linguistics, marketing, medicine, political science, and psychology. His work has been continuously funded by the National Science Foundation for over 20 years.

Josh Golin

Josh Golin is Executive Director of Fairplay, the leading independent watchdog of the children's media and marketing industries. Fairplay holds companies accountable for their harmful marketing and platform design choices, and advocates for policies that both protect children when they are online and help young people get the offline time they need to thrive. Under Josh's leadership, Fairplay filed the Federal Trade Commission complaint that led to the FTC's settlement with Google for COPPA violations on YouTube and the international campaign that stopped Meta from releasing a version of Instagram for younger kids.

Josh has appeared on Good Morning America, NPR, and Fox & Friends and he's regularly quoted in major publications like The New York Times and The Washington Post. A father of a 14-year-old, Josh regularly speaks to parents, professionals, and policymakers about how to create a healthier media environment for children and teens.

Terry Jernigan

Terry Jernigan is Distinguished Professor of Cognitive Science, Psychiatry, and Radiology, and Director, Center for Human Development at the University of California, San Diego. For over 30 years, she has studied the human brain using noninvasive imaging. This work has focused on brain development and aging, neurodevelopmental disorders, neuropsychiatric and substance use disorders, and neurodegenerative disorders. For the last decade her central

research interest has been the developing human mind and brain, with a focus on the dynamic neurodevelopmental processes that give rise to human individuality—and on how these processes are affected by experience, substance exposure, genetic variation, and other factors. She is Co-Director of the Coordinating Center for the Adolescent Brain and Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study. She has served on the National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse and the Council of Councils of the National Institutes of Health. She currently serves on the NIH Helping End Addiction Long-term (HEAL) Multidisciplinary Workgroup, and on scientific advisory boards of several research organizations in the United States and Europe.

Mike Pappas

Mike Pappas is the CEO/Co-founder of Modulate, which works with game studios like Riot Games and Rec Room to foster safer and more inclusive online voice chat. Mike's work at Modulate ranges from developing new partnerships within the industry, monitoring trends and new opportunities for Modulate's unique technology to have a positive impact, and reinforcing an internal and external culture of passion, respect, and personal growth. Through this work, Mike also works closely with industry groups like the Fair Play Alliance, Family Online Safety Institute, and Anti Defamation League to share and refine best practices.

Mike graduated from MIT with a BS in Physics and Applied Mathematics in 2014. After graduating, he worked with a series of unique founders like Ray Dalio (Bridgewater) and Paul English (Kayak.com / Lola Travel), combining their lessons with his own research and experience to build an understanding of effective company cultures which he relies on in his work at Modulate.

David Yeager

David Yeager is an associate professor of psychology at the University of Texas at Austin, where he co-directs the Texas Behavioral Science and Policy Institute. He is a PI of the National Study of Learning Mindsets and the Texas Mindset Initiative, and he co-founded two major scholarly networks: the Mindset Scholars Network (now the Student Experience Research Network) and the College Transition Collaborative. His research examines the causes of and solutions to adolescent health problems, such as bullying, depression, academic achievement, cheating, trust, or healthy eating. He often focuses on adolescent transitions—the transition to middle school, the transition to high school, or the transition to college—as a place where there is great opportunity (and risk) for young people's trajectories.

Formerly, Yeager was a middle school English teacher in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Yeager holds a PhD and MA from Stanford University, and a BA and MEd from the University of Notre Dame. Yeager has been a Jacobs Foundation Advanced Research Fellow, a William T. Grant Foundation Scholar, a residential Fellow at Stanford University's Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS), and a Fellow at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. In 2020, he received the Distinguished Contribution Award from the American Psychological Association, the highest honor for early career developmental psychologists. He has received 21 other national awards since 2012, including from the Behavioral Science and Policy Association, the Society for Social and Personality Psychology, the American Psychological Association, and the American Educational Research Association.