

Committee on Understanding and Addressing Misinformation about Science

Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (DBASSE) Board on Science Education (BOSE)

Meeting #2 - February 22, 2023

Speaker Biographies

KELLY BORN is the inaugural Director of the Democracy, Rights, and Governance initiative at the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. In this role, she leads the organization's emerging grantmaking in support of a thriving, pro-equity democracy in the United States. Prior to joining the foundation, Kelly served as the Director of the Cyber Initiative at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, overseeing a \$150M grantmaking portfolio to bolster tech policy, in order to improve the impact of technologies on democracy, and society. Previously, Kelly was the founding director of Stanford University's Cyber Policy Center, where she focused on the global impacts of technology on democracy. Before Stanford, in an earlier period of time with the Hewlett Foundation, she helped launch and lead the foundation's U.S. Democracy Program, leveraging grantmaking to build public trust in U.S. democracy, combat disinformation, and strengthen American electoral and governing institutions. Earlier in her career, Kelly worked as a strategy consultant with the Monitor Group where she supported strategic planning efforts with nonprofits, private sector companies, philanthropies, and governments in Africa, Asia, Europe, and North and South America. Kelly holds a bachelor's degree in business with a minor in economics from Pepperdine University and a master's degree in international policy studies from Stanford University.

SACHA ALTAY is a postdoctoral research fellow working on misinformation and (mis)trust at the University of Oxford. Before coming to Oxford, Sacha completed a Ph.D. in experimental psychology at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris. Fascinated by (apparently) irrational beliefs, he tried to understand why despite people's cognitive abilities to resist misinformation, some false beliefs are so widespread. Sacha also tested novel communication techniques to correct people's misperceptions and fight misinformation. He draws inspiration from theories in social psychology, media studies, and evolutionary psychology. So far, most of his work falls at the intersection of communication and reputation management. Sacha is a dedicated science communicator. He frequently gives talks to the general public and enjoys writing science popularization articles for journals or scientific blogs. For ethical and epistemic reasons, Sacha is a strong advocate of open science practices. His research has been published in academic journals such as Nature Human Behaviour, New Media & Society, Digital Journalism, Evolution & Human Behavior and Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied. Sacha holds a bachelor in sociology from Paris Diderot University and a master in Cognitive Science from the École Normale Supérieure in Paris.