

2K: A new section of *Social Media & Society*

2K is a new section of *Social Media & Society*, edited by Adrienne Russell and Matthew Powers. It offers a space for short (2000 word) essays related to the study of media and technology. Each issue will be organized around a theme or question, and will invite scholars to reflect on some aspect of their work, whether it be the research topics they engage, the theories and methods that guide their inquiries, or the public relevance of their research efforts. By doing so, 2K aims to foster lively and timely conversation that can shape the ways scholars study media and technology.

First Issue Call for Abstracts: "Something I No Longer Believe"

Just a few years ago, many scholars celebrated digital technology for its potential to flatten hierarchies and strengthen civic life. Today, many of the same observers are writing about the darker sides of digital culture: about the pervasive surveillance to which individuals are subjected; about a public sphere marked by propaganda and misinformation; and about the difficulty of using technology to integrate individuals across various lines of social difference. In addition to changes in the world that invite scholars to develop alternative approaches to their objects of analysis, these marked shifts in orientation also suggest changes in scholarly beliefs about the nature of digital technologies and the role they can or do play in societies.

Based on the idea that intellectual progress depends in part on reflexive analysis of the conditions that make any belief possible, *Social Media & Society* invites 250-word abstracts on the topic: "Something I No Longer Believe." We welcome reflections on any belief once held but now questioned, tempered or rejected, either because of developments in the world or shifts in one's own thinking about the nature and impact of technology across various social fields. These beliefs could pertain to theoretical or normative frameworks for understanding and evaluating digital technology and its various roles in societies. Alternatively, they could address the epistemological and methodological approaches that scholars use in making sense of such technologies.

Abstracts should clearly identify: a) the belief once held, b) the reasons for questioning, tempering or rejecting that belief, and c) the conditions (i.e., scholarly, political, and cultural contexts) that enabled such a belief. Priority will be given to authors that engage with and reflect upon their own prior work, rather than general trends among scholars of technology and society. Accepted abstracts will be developed into 2,000 word essays and featured as part of special new open access section of *Social Media & Society* dedicated to reflection and debate among scholars on issues related to technology and society.

Deadline for abstracts: Jan 18, 2019

Deadline for essays: March 15, 2019

Please send abstracts and/or questions to Matthew Powers (mjpowers@uw.edu) and Adrienne Russell (adruss@uw.edu).