**Call for Chapter Abstracts**

Working Title: Digital Technology and Sustainability: Acknowledging Paradox, Facing Conflict and Embracing Disruption

Edited collection to be published by Routledge

**Editors:**

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**Important dates**

28 May 2016 – Extended chapter abstracts due (2,500 words, plus references)

30 June 2016 – Acceptance notification

31 August 2016 – First full draft of chapters due (5,000-6,000 words)

Sept-Oct 2016 – full review phase

Nov 2016 – discussion between chapter contributors and reviewers (see Unique Process below)

Dec-Jan 2016 - editing of the chapter by the author

Jan-March 2017 – Book workshops (see Unique Process below)

21 April 2017 – Final drafts of all chapters, responses, etc.

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Digital technologies are hailed as revolutionary solutions to the problems of environmental sustainability; smarter homes, more persuasive technologies, and a robust Internet of Things hold the promise for maintaining our lifestyles and sustaining our ecosystems. Yet, deployments of interactive technologies for such purposes often lead to a paradox: the tools algorithmically "optimize" heating and lighting of houses without regard to the dynamics of daily life in the home; they collect and display data that allows us to reflect on energy and emissions, while raising our expectations for comfort and convenience; we can share ideas for sustainable living through social networking and online communities, yet these same systems enable entirely new forms of consumerism. By acknowledging these paradoxes we make room for critical inquiry into digital technology’s longer-term impacts on ideals of sustainability.

Over the past ten years, challenges in sustainable human computer interaction have been laid out, poked, and prodded across numerous workshops, special interest groups, and panels (at least eight in the past three years, alone). Although the field has benefited from the outputs of these activities there remains much work to be done to disrupt underlying assumptions about what sustainability

means and how engagements with digital technologies inform and support (or not) these conceptualizations.

This text brings together diverse scholars, researchers and practitioners willing to study, critique, and reorient dominant narratives and approaches to designing interactive digital technologies that support sustainability.

**Objectives**

* To articulate and address the conundrums (theoretical, methodological, practical) for digital technology, and sustainable HCI in particular, in a single definitive volume;
* To advance an iterative, interactive process (e.g., virtual workshops and one-to-ones) between scholars in the field;
* Create a touchstone that scholars, students and interested members of the broader public can use to develop their understandings of sustainability in a digital future;
* To initiate accessible and engaging modes of broad dissemination to coincide with the release of the book (e.g., video shorts and animations).

**Content Areas**

Content areas have been developed in collaboration with a confirmed group of authors, who are developing specific chapters in “conversation” with the other chapters in their area. Through this call we are soliciting submissions from additional areas of keen interest, including but not strictly limited to the following:

Critical Ethical Reflections - Who Are We To Decide What Is Of Value, What Is Worth Sustaining?

Politics/Economics – Fundamental To Any New Tool, Yet Rarely Explicitly Addressed

Shifting Orientations: Lengthening Temporal Scales/Accepting The Unknown: With The Uncertainty And Unpredictability Of Effecting Change.

Shifting The Norms Of IT Development/Practice: Developing Ways Of Fundamentally Shifting Current Trajectories Of ICT Development And Education

Proxies For Sustainability (Emissions, Energy, Reliance On Natural Resources), And Approaches For Addressing These Infrastructure Considerations

The Role Of Activism In Scholarly Work Tied To Environmental Concerns

Relationships Between Sustainability And Social Justice

Criteria of Excellence: Development of a broad set of expectations for future research in sustainable HCI. By what criteria do we wish to be judged for venues such as TOCHI, OzCHI, NordiCHI, ICT4S, and CHI? By what criteria would we be judged for established sustainability venues like Environment and Planning A, Journal of Consumer Culture, Journal of Industrial Ecology, and others?

**Unique Process**

Rather than an edited book of stand-alone contributions, we are designing a process whereby contributors are invited to create new writing on particular aspects of sustainability and digital technology. Draft chapters will be circulated between authors. In person and virtual workshops will take place where authors can debate and respond to one another in detail, with further rounds of editing, writing and responding as needed. The Advisory Board of eminent scholars (see below) are well positioned to provide feedback, and potentially critique to chapters. Framing the text as an instigation and guide to future inquiry, we are exploring complementary modes of scholarly dissemination about the issues, ideas, and authors involved in the project (e.g., video shorts, podcasts, and animations).

**Instructions to Authors**

Please send enquiries and submissions to lisa.nathan@ubc.ca and m.hazas@lancaster.ac.uk

**Confirmed Contributors:**

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**Advisory Board Members**

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**References**

Hronn Brynjarsdottir, Maria Håkansson, James Pierce, Eric Baumer, Carl DiSalvo, and Phoebe Sengers. 2012. Sustainably unpersuaded. Proceedings of the 2012 ACM annual conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI ‘12), ACM, 947.

Bran Knowles, Lynne Blair, Mike Hazas, and Stuart Walker. 2013. Exploring sustainability research in computing: where we are and where we go next. Proceedings of the 2013 ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive and Ubiquitous Computing (UbiComp ‘13), ACM, 305–314.

M. Six Silberman, Lisa Nathan, Bran Knowles, et al. 2014. Next Steps for Sustainable HCI. Interactions, 66–69.

Bill Tomlinson, M Six Silberman, Don Patterson, Yue Pan, and Eli Blevis. 2012. Collapse informatics: Augmenting the sustainability & ICT4D discourse in HCI. Proceedings of the 2012 ACM Annual Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI ‘12), ACM, 655–664.