

## ENGLISH SUMMARIES

### **Simone Anna Felding & Nete Schwennesen: Behind the Scenes of a Digital Platform. Artful Integrations and Emerging Configurations of Collaboration**

This article looks at the invisible articulation work behind the scenes of the digital platform called Venskabsportalen. Venskabsportalen is a private platform funded by Danish municipalities that aims to create connections between users of the platform, thereby strengthening social communities and preventing and alleviating loneliness. At first glance the platform appears to function automatically through algorithms that simply connect the unedited content posted by users through a random algorithm. Based on ethnographic studies of the company, the platform and its users, we show the vast amount of manual maintenance and repair work which is performed to make the platform function optimally. Specifically, we look at the online and offline promotion of the platform, the screening, editing and posting of the platform's content, and the different human and nonhuman actors who perform these actions. We analyze this work and the invisible valuations and ideologies that this articulation work inscribes into the platform. The users, the designers, the screeners and the municipalities, who fund the platform, the algorithms, the design, algorithms of other platforms used for marketing, etc. are all part of the socio-technical infrastructure which enables Venskabsportalen to function. Articulation work functions partly because of its invisibility – it makes the platform appear effortlessly functional and appealing to a wide range of actors, and it makes the platform a place that people trust. Paradoxically the invisible work, that enables the platform, risks becoming too extensive and visible, thereby breaking the illusion of functionality and appearing manipulative to the platform's users.

**Keywords:** private-public collaboration, digital platforms, loneliness, digital ethnography, digital infra-structure, artful integration, repair and maintenance

### **Lene Tegllus Kauffmann & Ulla Skjødt: Life Stories as Tools for Generating Dignity in Practice?**

The subject of the article is how life stories create meaning for people living with dementia in nursing homes, with no capacity of taking care of themselves and dependent on care day and night. We discuss how life stories help create the

basis of retaining dignity as well as help in organizing work tasks. While we view the life story as a technology of care, we also explore how the life story creates different approaches to the handling of identity and construction of reality in the nursing home context. The life story approach in the nursing home reflects a political ambition about promotion of dignity, and the article concludes that it is possible to meet this ambition, if the life story is used in ways that call for a focus on being and thereby creating a connection between past, present and future, thus, allowing the authenticity of the self to unfold, even under the difficult circumstances of dementia.

Keywords: life story, dementia, dignity, identity, construction of reality

### **Line Steenhold & Tom Børsen: From Behavioral Control to Individual Digital Mediation. A Critical Theory of Technology Analysis of the Danish Unemployment Benefit System's Digital Resources**

This Techno-Anthropological article analyzes the interaction between unemployed members of an unemployment fund and the digital tools of the Danish unemployment benefit system by employing a critical theory of technology approach. The empirical data consists of interviews and observations generated at Danish unemployment insurance funds and at Job Centres. The article reveals that unemployed people perceive the unemployment benefit systems' digital platforms as uncoordinated, onerous to navigate, useless, meaningless, governing and controlling. Unemployed people's perception of the functions of the digital tools is explored. The analysis helps to elucidate how digital tools affect the behaviour and practices of unemployed people, thus examining how digitalization and behaviour are intertwined. It is a subject becoming more relevant as digitalization increases and personal meetings diminish. The threat of financial sanctions mediated through digital management tools make unemployed people fear that they are not doing as well as expected or that they will make mistakes. This causes unemployed people to develop strategies that only meet the systems' requirements but that do not target getting a job. The second part of the article presents the suggestions of unemployed users for improving the digital tools. It is argued that the digital resources should be re-designed away from the control functions they currently support, to mediate individual digital identity, thus digitally supporting the individual in their job search.

Keywords: unemployed, unemployment benefit system in Denmark, Jobnet.dk, techno-anthropology, critical theory of technology, individual digital mediation

## **Mia Krogager Mathiasen & Christina Vestergaard: Mini-Public as a Methodological Experiment in the Study of Technologies of the Future and Social Robots**

Based on own experiences as anthropologists working in the emerging research field of Social Robotics, this article raises the question: How can social anthropologists work with the future as a research subject when the subject you wish to investigate is not yet “out there” and therefore cannot be observed with classical anthropological methods? The purpose of the article is to present Mini-public as an alternative method for qualitative data collection and dissemination of knowledge in anthropological research of future scenarios. This is done by describing a mini-public event that was held for representatives from different community groups in Aarhus in the fall of 2018 as part of a multidisciplinary research project about the development and use of social robotics at Aarhus University.

Keywords: methodology, technologies of the future, experimental methods, social robots, “foreign entanglements”

## **Sophia Forchhammer Mortensen: Tools for community**

This article deals with a makerspace in Vancouver, Canada. Through empirical examples from my fieldwork in the fall of 2017, I explore the social meanings that tools have for the users of Vancouver Tool Library. I argue that besides being a material technology, the tools also become a social technology when my interlocutors use them to create meaning and self-awareness. I conclude that the tools are attributed value because they are used in the context of the makerspace Vancouver Tool Library and that this influences how the users understand and use them. The tools come to play an important part in an everyday political project that the users continuously engage in through their involvement in the makerspace.

Keywords: tool library, maker space, social technologies, North America, access-based consumption

## **Mads Skovgaard og Søren Elias Bendixen: Inclusion in the Digital Community**

Hacking of Open Source-Software and Progressive Politics in New York City Centered on a local hacker community in Manhattan in New York City this article explores the social and political circumstances that unfold around the development of politically motivated software. The hacker community defines itself as a part of The Progressive Movement; a leftist movement, which is inspired by institutionally independent and decentralized political movements

such as Occupy Wall Street, but nonetheless endeavors to get politicians with progressive values properly elected for established political offices. The hacker community meets to (re)create open source-software that can contribute to the progressive political project. Anthropological literature has previously described how open source-software hacker communities are guided by a specific liberalist inspired hacker ethic, but at the Political Hack Night the participants introduce a progressive ideal of “inclusion” as an important part of the event. This article examines what happens when a hacker community emerges by virtue of a leftist political agenda and therefore is being configured at the intersection between open source-software hacking and progressive politics. The article also argues that this form of politically motivated hacking is to be understood in the light of Claude Lévi-Strauss’ concept of “bricolage”, as it unifies seemingly contradictory ideals in a total repertoire that creates the framework for the social and political activity around the hacker community. Moreover, our analysis illustrates how the political and moral parts of the participants’ repertoire is negotiated along the way and continuously evolves in relation to each other, within the framework of the existing bricolage.

Keywords: hacking, politics, progressivism, inclusion, open source-software, bricolage