

PATRICK SHEEHAN

Management Science and Engineering | Stanford University
psheehan@stanford.edu | 650-814-2545

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Post-doctoral Scholar, Stanford University, (2023-present)

- Center for Work, Technology and Organizations

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Sociology, University of Texas at Austin, 2023

- Dissertation: “To the Moon: Hype as Organizational Culture in a Silicon Valley Start-Up”
- Committee: Christine Williams (chair), Jennifer Glass, Ken-Hou Lin, Daniel Fridman, Elizabeth Keating

M.A. Sociology, University of Texas at Austin, 2019

B.A. Sociology, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2013

- Summa Cum Laude

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Work, Labor, and Orgs; Culture; Technology and Society; Economic Sociology; Expertise; Social Inequality; Qualitative Methods

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 Neely, Megan*; **Patrick Sheehan***; Christine Williams* (equal authorship). “Social Inequality in High-Tech: How Gender, Race, and Ethnicity Structure the World’s Most Powerful Industry” *Annual Review of Sociology*.
- 2023 **Sheehan, Patrick*** and Christine Williams* (equal authorship). “Unionizing High Tech: Opportunities and Obstacles,” *Work & Occupations*
- 2022 Sheehan, Patrick. “The Paradox of Self-Help Expertise: How Unemployed Workers Become Professional Career Coaches.” *American Journal of Sociology*, 127(4). <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/10.1086/718471>

**Winner, 2022 Richard A. Peterson Prize for Best Graduate Student Paper Award from the ASA section on Sociology of Culture*

**Winner, 2022 James D. Thompson Best Graduate Student Paper Award from ASA Section on Organizations, Occupations, and Work*

**Winner, 2022 Ronald Burt Best Graduate Student Paper Award from ASA section on Economic Sociology*

2021 Sheehan, Patrick. "Unemployment Experts: Governing the Job Search in the New Economy." *Work and Occupations* 48 (1): 470-497
<https://doi.org/10.1177/07308884211003652>

Papers in Progress

Sheehan, Patrick. "To the Moon: Hype as Labor Control in a Silicon Valley Tech Start-Up."

Sheehan, Patrick. "The Organizational Fountain of Youth: Age Regimes in the Tech Industry"

Sheehan, Patrick. "'This Changes Everything:' Imagined Futures and Firm Valuations in the 'Dot Com' Bubble."

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2022 Visiting Scholar, Max Planck Institute; Cologne, Germany (summer)
2022 Ronald Burt Graduate Student Paper Award, ASA section on Economic Sociology
2022 James D. Thompson Graduate Student Paper Award, ASA section on Organizations, Occupations and Work
2022 Richard A. Peterson Graduate Student Paper Award, ASA section of Sociology of Culture
2022 OGC Semester Fellowship Award, UT-Austin (\$10,000)
2021 University Graduate Continuing Fellowship, UT-Austin (\$44,000)
2020 Ethnography Lab Summer Research Fellowship, UT-Austin (\$5,000)
2019 Ethnography Lab Summer Research Fellowship, UT-Austin (\$5,000)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 “To the Moon: Hype as Labor Control in Silicon Valley Tech Start-Ups”
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles
- 2021 “Unemployment Experts: Governing the Job Search in the New Economy”
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York (online)
- 2020 “The Impossible Expert: How Unemployed Workers Become Professional Career Coaches.”
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco (online)
- 2019 “Career Coaching: Precarious Work as Identity Work for Older Professionals”
Work 2019 Conference, Helsinki, Finland.
- 2019 “Unemployment Expertise”
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, New York.

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY AND MEDIA PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 [“Where Did All the Coaches Come From?”](#) *ASA Work in Progress Blog*
- 2022 [“The New Economy as Multi-Level Marketing Scheme: Career Coaches and Unemployment in the Age of Insecurity”](#) *ASA Work in Progress Blog.*
- 2020 [“Job Market Astrology,”](#) *Public Seminar*
- 2020 [“Bosses in the US Have Far Too Much Power to Lay Off Workers Whenever They Feel Like it,”](#) *Jacobin Magazine.*
- 2019 [“The Unemployment Rate is Not a Fact,”](#) *Public Seminar.*
- 2019 [“In Defense of ‘Do What You Love,’”](#) *Public Seminar.*
- 2019 [“No, We Shouldn’t Force Older Americans to Work Longer Before Retiring,”](#) *Jacobin Magazine.*
- 2016 [“The Philanthropic Hypocrisy of Eli Broad,”](#) *In These Times.*
- 2015 [“Revitalization as Gentrification,”](#) *Jacobin Magazine.*

TEACHING AND COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

- 2017-2021 **Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin**
Courses: Introduction to Criminology, Health and Society, Introduction to Sociology
- 2018-2020 **Graduate Research Assistant, University of Texas at Austin**
College Students and Guns Research Project
PIs: Harel Shapira and Ken-Hou Lin

REFERENCES

Christine Williams
Professor of Sociology
University of Texas at Austin
cwilliams@austin.utexas.edu

Jennifer Glass
Professor of Sociology
University of Texas at Austin
jennifer-glass@utexas.edu

Ken-Hou Lin
Associate Professor of Sociology
University of Texas at Austin
kenhoulin@utexas.edu

Daniel Fridman
Associate Professor of Sociology
University of Texas at Austin
dfridman@utexas.edu