

Gender and Technology Minitrack

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Abstract

This short paper serves to introduce the minitrack on Gender and Technology and to summarize its constituent proceedings articles.

1. Introduction

This minitrack focuses on the interplay of Gender and Technology to examine the marginalization or empowerment of individuals in the technology space. Gender balance in the technology space is imperative to ensure that the future of work and life is not decided for individuals who are not well represented in this space. This minitrack is designed to give voice to such research to promote discourse and uncover deep and rich insight into the topic of gender in technology.

The conceptualization, theorization, and operationalization of the gender construct as a social identity and not just as a biological sex with a dichotomous category is a core objective of this minitrack. To this end, this minitrack is committed to advancing knowledge by building upon gender-based theories, including, the Individual Differences Theory of Gender and IT (Trauth & Connolly, 2021), Intersectionality (Joshi, 2021), Bourdieu's Theory of Capital (Bourdieu, 1986), Gender Role Theory (Eagly & Karau, 2002).

2. Summary of Articles

Four papers are accepted as a part of this minitrack. We introduce them briefly below.

The first paper, "*Just being a bit bitchy: The gendered valences of online anti-social behavior on Tattle Life*," explores the intriguing world of Tattle Life, a gossip website notorious for critiquing online influencers. This site, often labeled a "troll's paradise," has raised concerns about doxing, cyberbullying, and anti-social behaviors. How do Tattle Life participants justify their actions in the face of criticism? The paper investigates 920 posts from the "Tattle in the Press" forum, unveiling how this online community legitimizes itself through the

complex deployment of feminine gender identity, encompassing aspects of minimizing harm, moral justification, and claiming victimhood.

The second paper, "*The Critical Role of Race-related Stress and Racial Activism on STEM Graduate Students' Career Aspirations: An Intersectional Perspective*," ventures into the dynamic intersectionality of race, gender, and racialized experiences within STEM education. Aspiring underrepresented STEM students face a myriad of challenges, with racial activism influencing career interests while gender disparities persist. The study highlights the need for tailored support mechanisms to address the unique hurdles faced by female and Black students, ultimately aiming to foster equity in STEM fields.

In the third paper, "*Intersectionality Matters in Understanding the Effects of Gender Role Congruity, Individual Identity, & and IT Self-Efficacy on IT Career Choice*," the authors delve into the persistent gender imbalance within the information technology (IT) industry. Going beyond conventional group-level analyses, this study recognizes the importance of intersecting group membership and identity in shaping IT career choices. By examining the perceptions of thousands of undergraduate students, the research underscores the significance of intersectionality and advocates for more inclusive approaches to combat gender disparities in IT.

Lastly, the fourth paper, "*Effective Supports for Women Computer Science Academics: Practice Based Insights in an Irish Context*," focuses on the underrepresentation of women in computer science faculty and introduces the Athena SWAN intervention program embraced by Irish third-level institutions. This paper details four practice-based initiatives within the University of Limerick, demonstrating their effectiveness and emphasizing the need for both intervention programs and broader cultural shifts to support gender equity and remove barriers hindering the advancement and retention of women in computer science faculty.

3. Publication Opportunities

The papers presented in this mini-track will have the chance to be extended into full-length, high-quality articles. These articles will be considered for publication in journals such as *The Data Base for Advances in Information Systems* and *Foundations and Trends in Information Systems*.

4. References

- Bourdieu, P. (1986). The forms of capital. In J. Richardson (Ed.), *Handbook of theory and research for the sociology of education* (pp. 241–258). Greenwood.
- Eagly, A., & Karau, S. (2002). Role congruity theory of prejudice toward female leaders. *Psychological Review*, 109(3), 573–598.
- Joshi, K. D. (2022). Conceptualizing the marginalized context in information systems research: An intersectionality view. *ACM SIGMIS Database: The DATABASE for Advances in Information Systems*, 53(2), 7–10.
- Trauth, E., & Connolly, R. (2021). Investigating the nature of change in factors affecting gender equity in the IT sector: A longitudinal study of women in Ireland. *MIS Quarterly*, 45(4).