Seolha Lee

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Informatics, University of California - Irvine, USA — 2021 - Jun 2026
Adviser: Dr. Paul Dourish
Dissertation Title: "The Hopes and Limits of Data-centric Reform in Public Governance"
Graduate Feminist Emphasis

Master of City and Regional Planning, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA — 2019 - 2021
Specialization: Urban Design

B.S., Civil & Environmental Engineering, Seoul National University, Korea — 2014 - 2019
College of Liberal Studies | Summa Cum Laude | Minor in Geography

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Senior Research Associate, Harvard University, USA — July 2026 -
Bloomberg Harvard Center for Cities
Research on city governance, focus: data-centric practices and innovation processes.

Research Fellow, University of California - Irvine, USA — 2024 - June 2026
UCI's Steckler Center for Responsible, Ethical, and Accessible Technology (CREATE)
Dissertation research on information system development in US public governance organizations.

Graduate Student Researcher, University of California - Irvine, USA — 2022 - 2024
Led research projects on data and tech practices in municipal governments.

Graduate Research Assistant, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA — 2019 - 2021
Friendly Cities Lab, School of City & Regional Planning
Designed and studied data visualizations and digital interfaces for public decision-making.

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Data Analyst Intern, Atlanta Regional Commission, Atlanta, GA, USA — May - Aug 2020
Department: Research & Analytics/Transportation & Mobility Services
Managed the data pipelines for federal census data on the regional open data hub.

Urban Planner & Design Researcher, YANGJI.CO, Seoul, South Korea — 2017 - 2019
Organized and led participatory planning and design workshops for urban regeneration projects.
Conducted spatial analyses for urban redevelopment and public space design projects.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed journal and conference publications

1. **Lee, S.** 2026. Beyond the Contract: How Institutional Conditions Shape the Distribution of Roles and Responsibilities in Cross-sector GovTech Partnerships. ***Government Information Quarterly*** *(under review).*
2. **Lee, S.** and Dourish, P. 2024. Reconfiguring Data Relations: Institutional Dynamics around Data in Local

Governance. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, **CSCW2**.

3. **Lee, S**. and Le Dantec, C. 2023. More Than a Property: Place-based Meaning Making and Mobilization on Social Media to Resist Gentrification. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, **CSCW1**.
4. **Lee, S.**, Warren, R., and Mazmanian, M. 2025. Efficient Service Provider or Committed Social Reformer?: Government Data Storytelling around City Data Projects. ***Big Data & Society***, 12(3).
5. Liang, X., **Lee, S.**, Chen, H., Peña, B. de la, and Andris, C. 2022. Characteristics of Jetters and Little Boxes: An Extensibility Study Using the Neighborhood Connectivity Survey. ***Social Inclusion***, 10(3), 221–232.
6. Chande, A., **Lee, S.**, Harris, M., Nguyen, Q., Beckett, S., Hilley, T., Andris, C., and Weitz, J. 2020. Real-time, Interactive Website for US-County-Level COVID-19 Event Risk Assessment. ***Nature Human Behavior*** 4, 1313–1319
7. Lee, D. and **Lee, S.** 2019. Inferring the Character of Urban Commercial Areas from Age-Biased Online Search Results: How Place Recommendation Data Can Reveal Dynamic Seoul Neighborhoods. *In **UbiComp/ISWC '19 Adjunct***.

Extended abstracts

1. LeDoux, R., **Lee, S.**, Tracey, P., Warren, R., Nielsen, T., Hamann, A. 2025. Governments as Design Contexts: Institutional Realities of Technology and Design in Government Settings. *In Companion of the Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing* (**CSCW Companion '25**). Bergen, Norway.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. **Lee, S.** 2026. "We Guide States": How Governance Work and Responsibility Take Shape in GovTech Partnerships. **4S 2026**, Toronto, Canada.
2. **Lee, S.** and Dourish, P. 2025. How Government Tech Platforms Remain Solutions in the Face of Failures. **4S 2025**, Seattle, USA.
3. **Lee, S.** and Dourish, P. 2024. The Anti-Racist Government Reform in the Accountability Trap: A Comparative Study of Equity-centered Initiatives in the US City Governments. **4S-EASST 2024**, Amsterdam, Netherlands
4. **Lee, S.** and Dourish, P. 2023. Data for Productive Friction: Institutional data infrastructure for social justice. **4S 2023**, Honolulu, USA
5. **Lee, S.**, Warren, R., and Mazmanian, M. 2023. Interrupting Governments' Data Performance: Critical Reading of Government Data Narratives as a Strategy to Empower Communities in Data-driven Cities. **Data Justice Conference**, Cardiff, UK
6. **Lee, S.** 2022. How Urban Activism Evolves with Social Media: A Case Study of Anti-Redevelopment Activism in Seoul, South Korea. **American Association of Geographers 2022 Annual Meeting**, New York, NY, USA
7. **Lee, S.** and Andris, C. 2021. Estimating Diversity at Points of Interest (POIs) in Atlanta, Georgia using Origin Destination Trip Data. **Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning** (**ACSP**) 2021 Annual Conference, Virtual.
8. Liang, X., **Lee, S**., Andris, C., Chen, H., and De La Pena, B. 2020. Characteristics of Individuals with Global, Local or Glocal Connectivity Patterns. **North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International** (**NARSC**), Virtual

WORKSHOPS & PANELS

1. Organizer. “Governments as Design Contexts: Institutional Realities of Technology and Design in Government Settings”. Organized with LeDoux, R., Lee, S., Tracey, P., Warren, R., Nielsen, T., Hamann, A. At **CSCW 2025**, Bergen, Norway.
2. Selected Participant. “Who Has an Interest in “Public Interest Technology”?: Critical Questions for Working with Local Governments & Impacted Communities”. At **CSCW 2022**, Virtual Event.
3. Selected Participant. The 2025 Summer Research Institute of the Consortium for the Science of Sociotechnical Systems Research (**CSST**). Long Lake, NY, USA.

INVITED TALKS

1. Invited Lecture. 2024. “Understanding and Designing Public Interest Tech.” At ICS 4 Human Factors for the Web. UC Irvine. Irvine, CA, USA.
2. Invited Talk. 2022. “Refiguring data work in city governments.” At The KAIST Interaction Lab (KIXLAB), KAIST. Seoul, Korea.

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant	INF133 User Interaction Software	Winter 2022
Teaching Assistant	ICS 5 Global Disruption and Information Technology	Fall 2021

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Reviewer 2023 -
CSCW 2026, CSCW 2024, CHI 2024, DIS 2023, Humanities and Social Sciences Communications.

Volunteer Data Specialist San Francisco, CA, USA 2022
Supported non-profits with planning and conducting data communication with stakeholders.
Organizations: Wah Mei School, APG Beacon (Youth and community development organizations).

Student Planning Association - Social Committee, Atlanta GA, USA 2019
Organized social events for the students in the city and regional planning program.

Volunteer Tutor, Seoul, South Korea 2019
Organization: Asian Hub
Developed education and job training materials for marriage-immigrants in Korea.

HONORS & AWARDS

Dissertation Writing Fellowship, UC Irvine	2025 - 2026
Graduate Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship, UC Irvine	2025
UCI’s Steckler Center for Responsible, Ethical, and Accessible Technology (CREATE) Fellow	2023 - 2024
Georgia Planning Association Fellowship, Georgia Institute of Technology	2019
Scholarship for Outstanding Grade, Seoul National University	2014 - 2017